



OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

Ss PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES (A)
28TH JUNE 2020

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Today, we celebrate SS Peter and Paul, who were beacons of the early Church, instrumental in evangelization and leadership. Both gave their lives as martyrs, sowing the seed of the Church. And both underwent radical conversions after personal encounters with Christ.

Peter's story in the Gospels is one of constantly trying, failing, and persevering. He is somewhat of a hapless apostle, trying to please Jesus but constantly making mistakes in the process. His sincere love for Jesus is fully apparent, alongside his flawed humanity, and through this combination he models for us how to fall upon the great mercy of God. If someone like Peter can not only be forgiven for his denial and betrayal of Jesus but also be named the first pope—well, then there's hope for all of us, isn't there?

Paul has perhaps the most famous conversion story of all time, the dramatic encounter on the road to Damascus. He too is a prime example of a flawed saint; before Jesus dramatically intervened, Paul was literally murdering Christians. Not a typical path to holiness. But Jesus took even that unlikely path and redirected it toward sainthood. Paul always recognized that it was only through God's grace that he was able to carry out his good works; he had no illusions of his own inherent goodness.

Just as Peter and Paul persevered despite their flaws and sins and mistakes, may we too find the courage to get up when we fall and keep moving forward. May we recognize that it is far better to stumble along the right road than to speed down the wrong one—for even if the wrong one is smoother and easier, it won't take us where we need to go, and there is only one Way that leads to everlasting life.

PREPARING TO CELEBRATE MASS TOGETHER

Please take a few moments to read the attached message from Canon Dwyer, about Masses resuming again.

Cardinal Nichols has prepared a video message about the resumption of Masses, and the help that will be needed. Please listen to it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CLsyL5yggVI&feature=youtu.be>

The four Archbishop's in England have written a letter about our return to Mass. It accompanies this message; it is worth taking the time to read.

PARISH LIFE CONTINUES

How good that we can open our church again, albeit for short periods, and of course Mass continues to be celebrated. The church, to some degree, being used what it is there for. The life of the parish continues in, albeit, different ways. Some groups are meeting virtually, and others are giving support to some of those who are confined to their homes. Canon Dwyer continues to be available to parishioners, via telephone or email, or to meet virtually, and is happy to be in contact with anyone who wishes to be in touch.

CHURCH OPEN

It is good that we are now able to open the church,

albeit for short periods, each week. With Mass, not having been celebrated for such a long time, it might have been assumed that many people would want to make a visit, sadly that hasn't been the case. Between Monday 15th and Sunday 21st just 66 people visited our

church, and that is not easy to understand. The church will continue to be open, at the same times this coming week, but will, almost certainly change, next week, once we begin to celebrate Masses again. I continue to hope, very much, that this opportunity

will be taken up, to come and pray in church. You'll find the opening times with the Mass details at the bottom of this newsletter. When you do come to church, do please, follow the guidelines which are there for your benefit, and so that our church is a safe place.

LIVESTREAMING

Mass will be live-streamed on Zoom, and You Tube this coming week:

Day	Time	Zoom Code
Sunday 28 th June	11.30am	849-6412-0824
Tuesday 30 th June	10.00am	811 -7131 -0842
Thursday 2 nd July	10.00am	826-6240-6032
Sunday 5 th July	10.30am	849-6412-0824

The best way of using YouTube is via your internet browser of choice, navigate to www.youtube.com and search 'Our lady of Lourdes Harpenden' or use this link https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=our+lady+of+lourdes+harpden

Livestreaming the Mass is a very recent, and unexpected, initiative for us, and it has been good to hear the many, appreciative, comments that have been made. Occasionally, even with good technology, things go wrong which are beyond our control, and that is disappointing for all concerned, in these unprecedented times, we are doing our best.

HAPPY TO HELP

With the 'lockdown' reducing, it is still the case that there are many people still in isolation, and that will not be a very easy, time. If you are in this situation and would appreciate a little help, or just a phone call, from time to time, do please let us know. If we don't know we can't help, and we do have willing volunteers, happy to make contact. Just telephone, or email, your details.



LET US PRAY TOGETHER

As a parish, let us unite ourselves in prayer each evening at 7.30pm.

We pray for everyone affected by Coronavirus, Using whatever prayer is familiar to ourselves and our family.

SEEKING WORK

A parishioner is seeking work as a Carer, or carrying out domestic work. Very experienced and good references. For further information, please contact Canon Dwyer.

GET INVOLVED -

JOIN THE PARISH VIRTUAL COLLABORATION!



If you follow the parish on Facebook ([facebook.com/OLoLHarpenden](https://www.facebook.com/OLoLHarpenden)) you may have seen videos posted by the music group of some virtual collaborations they have

recorded during lockdown.

Now everyone is invited to sing in a parish-wide collaboration of "Shine, Jesus Shine". You don't need to be a singer and you don't need any fancy equipment. Just a phone/tablet or laptop with a camera and we will provide the backing track, words and instructions. You can join in as an individual, a family group or if just the children want to do it that's fine too. Musicians are welcome to play and parts can be provided for strings, woodwind, brass, piano and guitar. This is a great way to bring the parish together at this time, so to get involved email ololmusicgroup@gmail.com. Don't be shy - the more the merrier!

Please note: The final video will only be posted on the parish Facebook page. It is posted via YouTube, but will not be visible or searchable on YouTube itself.



NEWSPAPERS & DAY BY DAY BOOKS

Over the last few weeks we have placed the Catholic Newspapers, Day by Day books & Bible Alive Books in a storage box in the Presbytery Garden. Due to very low sales we need to rethink our ordering so we are not left with lots of unsold items. If you would like Melanie to order you a copy of The Universe Newspaper or a copy of either Day by Day, or Bible Alive please contact her via email or telephone the Parish Office. Then your surname will be written on the chosen periodical ready for you to collect from the Presbytery Garden. The newspaper



costs £1.50, Day By Day books are £1 on a monthly basis and the Bible Alive booklet is £3.50 per month. The JUNE editions of Bible Alive and Day by Day are in the box, please come and help yourselves. The booklets and papers are stored in a clear plastic box



on the right-hand side in the presbytery front garden behind the gate and there is an honesty box for your payment.

CATENIAN MEETING

University of the 3rd Age. Why was it formed. Eric Midwinter, OBE, co-founder of the University of the 3rd Age, was due to give an after-dinner talk to the Luton Circle of the Catenians, on Wednesday 8th of July he will now give this by Zoom. Our usual circle meeting will commence at 7.30pm followed by Eric's talk (15 to 20 minutes followed by discussion) If any parishioners wish to join us, please contact Jon Newham who will forward Zooming details nearer the time.



{ jonathan.newham@googlemail.com }

POPE FRANCIS ON BBC RADIO 4'S TODAY PROGRAMME

In an interview broadcast on BBC Radio 4 Today programme last Monday 21st June Pope Francis spoke about why he sees Covid-19 as a potential turning point in history. Intrigued?

To read more go to:

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/39868>

Laudato Si



SAVE THE DATE - AND YOUR JIGSAWS!

Please could you hold onto to any jigsaws you have including those which have kept you busy in the lockdown. We will need as many as possible next year for a Jigsaw Puzzle Festival on 4-5 June 2021 at High Street Methodist Church. The proceeds will go to charity including a Developing World Group project. We and our Methodist friends are working together to organise this festival where lots of completed jigsaws will be displayed for sale, along with refreshments. We will be seeking donations of



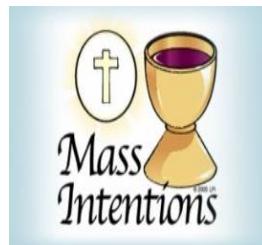
jigsaws from parishioners and their friends, including jigsaws that are not finished which we will find jigsaw lovers - 'dissectologists' - to complete.

All kinds wanted, the more the merrier. Please email jonlcarr@gmail.com to let us know if you would like to get involved in any way, eg by donating jigsaws or by making those donated to us. Further details to follow in the Parish Newsletter/website. Thank you.

WHILE MASSES ARE SUSPENDED AND THE CHURCH CLOSED, YOU MAY WISH TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass continues to be celebrated, sometimes in private, and at other times, this will be livestreamed. As far as possible Masses already requested will be celebrated on the date requested, but Sunday Mass Intentions have to be moved to other dates. If you would like to move a Mass Intention, or arrange for Mass to be celebrated, please contact the parish office by email.



MASS READINGS

If you would like to have the readings for Mass, you will find them at:

<https://www.universalis.com/mass.htm>
and <https://us.magnificat.net/free>.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In the present circumstances, we cannot receive Holy Communion but we can make a **Spiritual Communion**. Set aside some time either alone, or better with your family. Turn off the tv or radio.

Firstly: Make the sign of the Cross.

Then: Make an act of Contrition.

Then say: *My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*



Finish by making the **Sign of The Cross**

'THE GOD WHO SPEAKS'

In this time of pandemic when we can't reach out to the Sacraments, we can always reach out to the word; and indeed it is through the word that the Word is always reaching out to us, even in the darkest and most challenging of situations. '**The God Who Speaks**' website continues to provide a range of information, ideas and resources encouraging a greater exploration of Holy Scripture, including:

Word at Home - ideas to help you create a prayerful, scriptural and reflective time at home.

'Top Tens' - from parables to paintings, from animals to films, the '**'Top Tens'**' features creative ways to help us engage with Scripture.

Word 3600 - Prayers, thoughts and resources for Celebrating, Living and Sharing God's Word in today's world.

To view these and other resources provided by CBCEW in partnership with the Bible Society, see the regularly updated '**The God Who Speaks**' website:
<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/>

FAMILY EXAMEN - a prayerful way for a family to look back together on their day:

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/player/prayer%20tools/anexamenforthefamily>

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - A short reflection on nurturing good communication in this time of confinement:

<https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/marriage-and-family-life/news/how-to-grow-your-relationship-under-lockdown/>

FOR THE CHILDREN

For families with children of primary school age Top Ten Resources has been created to help enable Sunday prayer and worship during the period of church closures.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/prayers-for-home/dailyprayers-for-home> Other resources include '**Wednesday Word**', and offers activities that families can do at home:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/>

CAFOD also offer suggestions for marking Sundays:
<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

NEWSLETTER

If you would like the newsletter sent to you electronically please send your email address to 'harpenden@rcdow.org.uk'. If you know someone who doesn't have a computer, please pass on a copy of the newsletter. We are also happy, if you let us have their details, to post out a copy.

The Church Doors are open once again
this week for opening times see page 6



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 27th June St John Southworth, Priest & Martyr
Church is open for Private Prayer 10.00am - 11.30am & 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Sunday 28th June SS PETER & PAUL APOSTLES (A)
St Peter, Prince of Apostles, Patron of the Diocese

11.30am People of the Parish
MASS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AT 11.30AM ZOOM CODE 849-6412-0824
Church is open for Private Prayer 8.30am - 10.30am

Monday 29th June feria
Frances Smith RIP
Church is open for Private Prayer 9.00am - 10.30am

Tuesday 30th June feria
10.00am Cindy Gallagher RIP (Anniv)

MASS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AT 10.00AM ZOOM CODE 811-7131-0842
Church is open for Private Prayer 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Wednesday 1st July Dedication of the Cathedral
Church is open for Private Prayer 9.00am - 10.30am

Thursday 2nd July feria
10.00am PJ Lynch-Kelly RIP (Anniv)
MASS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AT 10.00AM ZOOM CODE 826-6240-6032
Church is open for Private Prayer 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Friday 3rd July St Thomas, Apostle

Saturday 4th July feria
Church is open for Private Prayer 10.00am - 11.30am & 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Sunday 5th July 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
10.30am People of the Parish
MASS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AT 10.30AM ZOOM CODE 849-6412-0824

CONFESIONS - There will be no Confessions