



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)  
11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020

## Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

Presbytery: 1, Kirkwick Avenue, Harpenden AL5 2QH Tel: 01582 712245  
Email: [anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk)

## Parish Administrator Mrs Melanie Armitage

The office is presently closed, but the Parish Priest and Administrator can be contacted by telephone: 01582 712245 or email: [harpenden@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:harpenden@rcdow.org.uk)  
Website: [parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden) twitter: @RC\_OLOL  
Facebook: Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

## Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

Email: [harpensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:harpensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) Tel: 07881 785 299

Today's gospel is difficult. Stories of judgement, weeping and gnashing of teeth just do not appeal to most people. We hear about a King whose invitations to his son's wedding banquet are repeatedly refused. In some instances, his messengers are killed. One interpretation of this parable is that it is an allegory for the Jesus story, God's invitation to the Messianic banquet has been refused by those who are expected to embrace it. This banquet is therefore opened up to the unexpected, the Gentiles, the poor, those on the margins, the outcast.

Going deeper again, we can hear that God wants to be in a relationship with each of us. We are all invited to this banquet. Yet, sometimes we exclude ourselves from being in fellowship with God. We may be hurt, suffering, or preoccupied, in a way that prevents us from accepting the invitation to experience God's love and hospitality. We simply don't hear the invitation. The host, we notice persists. God does not give up on us.

And what about that person who did come but was not suitably dressed? If we accept the invitation, we should be ready for change and not just change of an outer garment, real change. Because any real experience of God in our lives transforms us in some way or another. Parables are meant to make us think, even to make us uncomfortable. Otherwise, what changes for us? We can sit around and listen to nice gentle passages that keep us comforted, or we can be challenged and moved to experiencing something real, something which requires us to show up and be transformed. It is up to us whether or not we accept this invitation.

## MASSES

Masses are now being celebrated 6 times a week: **Saturday**, the Vigil Mass at 5.00pm, and on **Sundays** at 9.00am and 10.30am. On **weekdays** Masses are celebrated on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9.15am. If you wish to attend Mass, for up to two people, you can book via the parish website: [parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden), for three, or more, please email or telephone the parish office. If you are unsure about attending please be reassured that social distancing is strictly observed, that face masks **must be worn** and that the distribution of Holy Communion is carefully organised.

## STILL A NEED

Every time the church is used we have a responsibility to clean it, before it is used again. A number of parishioners have been helping with this important task, and their help is much appreciated. But, the need remains for more helpers. Please do think if you could give a



little time to do this, it is not onerous or time consuming. If you can help please contact the parish office. This need reminds us of a basic truth about the celebration of Mass, that, while the priest has a particular role, there are other roles to be filled also, it is about what we do together. Keeping our church safe and clean, is similar, it is a responsibility many of us can share together.



## CONFIRMATION

This weekend we begin our celebrations of Confirmation. 26 of our young people will be Confirmed at two Masses, and a further 13 candidates will be Confirmed next weekend. Usually we welcome one of the Bishops for this celebration, but this year the Cardinal has delegated priests, who work in parishes, to celebrate this Sacrament, so Canon Dwyer will be presiding at these Masses. Confirmation, is a special moment, as



the Holy Spirit descends on our young people, so, let us pray especially for them.

## CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS

Congratulations to the 66 children who made their First Holy Communion over the last two weekends. We had five, albeit restricted, but happy celebrations. Thank you to everyone who prepared the children, and assisted with the celebrations. Thanks are due to the Catechists who, not only prepared the children, but also cleaned the church after each of the Masses. Thank you too, to the choir and those who arranged the live-streaming. We continue to pray for the children, that they will grow in their love of Jesus in the Eucharist.



## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Normally registration for First Communion and Confirmation next year, would have taken place but, as you will appreciate, given the unpredictable situation we find ourselves in, it is difficult to plan ahead at the moment. Once Confirmation has been completed, we hope to look at what might be possible, and will keep you informed.



## QUIET PRAYER

If you wish to visit the church, other than for Mass, please note that it opens for 30 minutes before the beginning of each Mass. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 8.45am, you are welcome for some quiet time.



## MONTH OF THE ROSARY

October is the month of the Rosary. Normally, during this month, the Rosary is prayed after the weekday Masses. Unfortunately, this year, with having to clean the church immediately after Mass, this is not possible. Perhaps you might think of praying, some or all of, this Gospel prayer with family and friends, at home or virtually.



## PARISH OFFICE

The Office Administrator is continuing to work from home, coming into the office, each week, from time to time so, while the office remains closed. Please note that calls and emails will be responded to during the regular office hours: Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.00pm. **If you wish to request places at Mass please do so no later than Thursday 3.00pm.**



## 'TEST & TRACE'

Places of worship and halls are now expected to display a QR code which people can use to 'check in' and which will be used by Test & Trace.

Below is the government link to download the app

<https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/nhs-covid-19/>

**If you have a smart phone please use the NHS app to scan the QR code and check in as you enter the church.**



## SECONDARY TRANSFER

Parents seeking to have the Certificate of Catholic Practice, or the St George's church form, completed, in connection with applications for secondary transfer are asked to drop the form, with the child's name and address, included at the top of the form, through the Presbytery Letterbox (1 Kirkwick Ave) along with a stamped Addressed envelope, so the signed form can be returned to you. Canon Dwyer will contact you, if necessary, by telephone or virtually



## KATHLEEN MOONEY RIP

The Funeral of the late Catherine, Cathy, Mooney takes place on 19<sup>th</sup> October. Due to the current restrictions, this Mass is only for those invited by the family.

**FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER** Last Friday was Family Fast Day, please return your CAFOD envelope this weekend, with your donation and contribute to the second collection which will take place at the end of all Masses.

If you are watching Mass at home, and would like to support CAFOD, please visit the CAFOD website <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Coronavirus-appeal>

Click on Donate Now and follow the instructions, which are very simple and it takes less than a minute to donate. Or you may like to donate Using Text Giving is easy! All you need is your mobile phone - no credit cards or bank transfers are involved. By texting the word 'CAFOD' to 70085, you will donate £10 to our Coronavirus Appeal. Your donation will then be added on to your phone bill. To donate more than £10, you can text more than once, but there is a £30 limit per mobile number per day.

Or you may pop your envelope marked CAFOD donation through the Presbytery Letterbox (1 Kirkwick Ave) Thank you.

Follow the link below to find out how the money is used for CAFOD's Coronavirus

Appeal: <https://youtu.be/5GagOhIBb8Y>

## HEALING THE WORLD:

An evening of prayer and reflection with Bishop John Arnold online on Sunday 11 October from 7.00 - 8.00 will be the culmination of the CAFOD Family Fast day weekend. The link is :

<https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/prayer>

## LIVESTREAMING

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



DAY	TIME	ZOOM CODE
Tuesday	9.15am	892-0506-4664
Thursday	9.15am	868-8669-7097
Sunday	10.30am	872-9131-5005

## CELEBRATE BACK TO BASICS

### 21ST SEPT - 14TH DECEMBER

The Catholic Charismatic Community CELEBRATE

will be hosting five "CELEBRATE Together evenings" via Zoom where everybody is invited.

Participants will be joining local Regional team to pray, worship and be inspired by a short presentation from a keynote

speaker on one of the following topics.



## SAVE THE DATES!

**Monday 5th October:** Baptism in the Holy Spirit;  
The Power of a Personal Encounter

**Monday 19th October:** Family; How can we receive  
the Kingdom of God more like a child?

**Monday 2nd November:** Unity; The Importance of  
Unity for the Kingdom

**Monday 16th November:** Formation; The Call to Ever  
Deeper Discipleship

**Monday 30th November:** Mission; Taking Risks and  
Stepping out in Faith to Pursue God's Mission  
The sessions will run from 7:30-8:30pm.

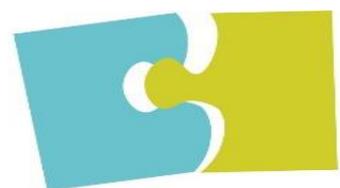
Please find below the link to register.

<https://www.celebrateconference.org/back-to-basics-2020>

## HARPENDEN JIGSAW FESTIVAL

We continue to work with  
High Street Methodist  
Church to prepare for this  
event next year, the proceeds  
of which will be split between  
two charities Azalea and  
Workaid (chosen by DWG).  
While we now have over a  
hundred completed jigsaws,

which is a very good start, we need to make a great  
deal more over the autumn and winter months. We  
would welcome any help you can provide, in particular



**HARPENDEN  
Jigsaw Festival**

by donating jigsaws to us

(whether already assembled or not); making

up those we have received

without being assembled;

and by spreading the word

amongst your friends so  
that others can help us too.  
To help, please contact the  
festival organisers by email  
at [harpندنjigsaws@gmail.com](mailto:harpندنjigsaws@gmail.com) or on 01582  
713068. To find out more, visit our  
website <http://harpندنjigsawfestival.co.uk> or  
follow us on our Facebook page - Harpenden Jigsaw  
Festival. Thank you.

## LIVESIMPLY

### HOMELESSNESS SUNDAY

Please spare a thought, a prayer, and support  
however you can, those without family, food, shelter,  
warm clothing, and often friendship and love.



## CHRISTMAS CARDS: DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP



A picture of our beautiful crib  
(2019) features on  
the DWG's Christmas card.

Proceeds support projects which  
promote sustainability in areas overseas where the  
need is acute. The Group has recently agreed to  
pledge funds to Workaid with local partners in  
Zambia, to train young people in using donated  
equipment so that they can develop small businesses.  
As funds will be sent in December, purchase of the  
cards will enable us to help Workaid further. Due to  
current restrictions, they cannot be sold in church;  
however, should you wish to buy some cards, a Pack of  
10 cards for £5, please contact  
Julia Roche 01582 760295 /  
[juliaandnigel057@gmail.com](mailto:juliaandnigel057@gmail.com)  
Grateful thanks as always for your continuing  
support.



## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<p><b>SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>  11.00AM  2.00PM    5.00PM</p>	<p><b>FERIA</b>  <b>CONFIRMATION MASS (1)</b>  <b>CONFIRMATION MASS (2)</b></p> <p><b>VIGIL MASS</b>  Margaret Foulds RIP</p>
<p><b>SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>  9.00AM  10.30AM</p>	<p><b>28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b>  People of the Parish  Peter Blessing RIP (Months Mind)  <a href="#">Zoom Code 872-9131-5005</a></p>
<p><b>MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b></p>	<p><b>Feria</b>  Peter Cox (Spec Ints)</p>
<p><b>TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>  9.15AM</p>	<p><b>ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, Patron of the Diocese</b>  Paul Turnbull RIP  <a href="#">Zoom Code 892-0506-4664</a></p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>  9.15AM</p>	<p><b>Feria</b>  John Timlin RIP (Months Mind)</p>
<p><b>THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>  9.15AM</p>	<p><b>ST TERESA OF JESUS, Virgin &amp; Doctor</b>  Kitty O'Grady RIP  <a href="#">Zoom Code 868-8669-7097</a></p>
<p><b>FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b></p>	<p><b>Feria</b></p>
<p><b>SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>  11.30AM  12.30PM    2.30PM    5.00PM</p>	<p><b>ST IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, Bishop &amp; Martyr</b>  Baptism  Baptism</p> <p><b>CONFIRMATION MASS (3)</b></p> <p><b>VIGIL MASS</b>  Maggie Mary Quinn RIP</p>
<p><b>SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>  9.00AM  10.30AM</p>	<p><b>29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b>  People of the Parish  Frank Flanagan RIP (Anniv)  <a href="#">Zoom Code 872-9131-5005</a></p>

**CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER**