



OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
15TH NOVEMBER 2020

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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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
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden twitter: @RC_OLOL
Facebook: Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

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It is hard not to feel sorry for the third servant in today's gospel. The first two servants are praised for making the most of the 'talents' given to them by their master. In return, they are promised even greater things. The third man, paralysed by uncertainty, buries his small amount of money in the ground instead of doing something with it. His actions are based in fear - he has heard the master is tough and he does not want to take any risks. At least he is able to return what he has been given; he reasons.

But he is shocked to learn that instead of praise, or even a neutral reaction to match his own neutral actions, he is reprimanded as 'wicked and lazy' and cast out. This parable has been described as a story of 'tragic miscalculation'. The servant didn't do anything awful - which is why we tend to have some sympathy for him - but he didn't do his best either. The real tragedy is not that he didn't make any more money; it is that he failed to appreciate the opportunity he had been given and to make the most of it.

We are all dealt different cards in life, and undoubtedly some are much tougher than others. We are like the servants in the parable who are given different amounts of money to look after. The point is not the amount of 'talents' given to each. It is not the circumstances of our lives or our natural gifts that are important, but how we use them. Jesus was cautioning against playing it safe. Instead of turning inwards or living in fear, we are called to meet challenges head on and discover what wonderful things might happen.

MASS AND PRAYER

With public worship banned it is, sadly, not possible to celebrate Mass with a congregation. However, Mass will be live-streamed on Sundays at 10.30am, and on Tuesdays and Thursday at 9.15am. We are permitted to open the church for private prayer. The church will be open Wednesday's between 10.00am and 11.00am; and it will also be open on Saturdays, between 5.00pm and 6.00pm, when the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed, and this will be live-streamed, see 'Livestreaming'.

LIVESTREAMING

Masses and Services will be live-streamed on Zoom, and YouTube this coming week:

DAY	TIME	ZOOM CODE
Sunday - Mass	10.30am	860 9226 9193
Tuesday - Mass	9.15am	880 6396 4591
Tuesday Praying Together	7.30pm	845 3209 5805
Thursday - Mass	9.15am	830 9683 2001
Saturday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	5pm- 6pm	YouTube Only

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new Planned Giving envelopes, started last weekend. Unfortunately, as we are not celebrating public Masses at the moment, there are still almost 200 to be collected! It would be a great help if you could collect your own set of envelopes. If you would like to do so please advise the parish office, otherwise they will have to be posted, which will be expensive.



ST DOMINIC SCHOOL - ENTRY TO RECEPTION CLASS SEPTEMBER 2021

The application process begins on 2nd November. Due to constraints during the pandemic open mornings will not be possible this year. Virtual meetings with the Headteacher will be held on 11th November at 1.30pm and 19th November at 10 am - please see the school website for details about how to book onto one of the sessions, and

for further information about making an application <https://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk/Our-School/Admissions/>

RECEPTION REFERENCES

Parents who need the Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) completed, are asked to drop the form into the presbytery, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Canon Dwyer will complete the forms, as appropriate, and, will as necessary, make contact by telephone or virtually. A copy of the CCP can be provided but, for it to be completed, parents will need to provide the full name, address and date of birth of the child.

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION

With the lockdown, last weekend, we were prevented from making the annual collection for the Sick and Retired Priests fund. Thank you to those who have sent in contributions. Given the importance of this fund, to provide care and support, for our sick and retired priests, it would be much appreciated, if those that can, would make a contribution. If you have a donation



envelope, that can be returned to the presbytery. Otherwise, probably the easiest way to contribute is online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill.

PARISH OFFICE

Since the first lockdown, the Office Administrator has been working from home. For the next week, however, Melanie will be on holiday. Messages can still be sent to harpenden@rcdow.org.uk, or telephone 01582 712245.



MASS INTENTIONS

Mass continues to be celebrated, sometimes in private, and at others times, this will be livestreamed. As far as possible Masses already requested will be celebrated on the date requested but, because of the reduction in the number of

Masses, some may have to be moved to other dates. If you would like to move a Mass Intention please contact the parish office by email or telephone.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Thought is still being given to preparation for First Holy Communion, and Confirmation next year. With the unpredictable situation, it is hard, at the moment, to be definite about what the arrangements might be. Once, we have some definite information, we will let you know.

PRAYING TOGETHER

It has been good to hear from parishioners that they have taken up the invitation to pray together as a family and, so for those unable to attend

Mass, to still be united. It has been suggested that Canon Dwyer, and others, might lead this prayer once a week. This week it will be on Tuesday at 7.30pm. You might to participate, it will last no longer than 10 minutes.



The Zoom link is: 845 3209 5805

CHRISTMAS STAMPS

Christmas stamps are now on sale at the Post Office. This year they are liturgical, featuring stained glass windows from various churches. While churches do not benefit from such stamps, it is nonetheless good to request the 'religious' stamps. If they are not purchased it may be the case that commercial, not religious, stamps will be produced, and a little opportunity to maintain the message of Christmas is lost.



FOR THE CHILDREN

With the suspension of public Mass, it falls to each of us to do what we can, to nourish our faith. Parents may find the following links, useful to do something with the children, particularly on Sundays:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

<https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/catechesis/childrens-liturgy/>

<https://www.facebook.com/colourandshapeonline>



SCHOOL GOVERNORS

St Dominic RC Primary school is currently recruiting Foundation Governors, and would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in joining our team. Governors give their service voluntarily and no formal qualifications are necessary, although there are eligibility criteria - specifically Foundation Governors must be a practising and committed Catholic. Governors are ordinary people, aged over 18, with a special commitment to the education and well being of children. If you are interested in the role, then please do look at our



school website and specifically [this link](#) for further information about both the role that Governors play in supporting Catholic education, and also the other Governors with whom you would be working.

ST DOMINIC'S ADMISSION POLICY

The Governors are consulting on a proposed change to the Admission Policy for September 2022. The consultation will run for 6 weeks from Monday 26 October 2020 to Sunday 6 December 2020. Any responses should be sent to the Governing Body by the closing date. Please see the school website for further details -

<https://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk/Our-School/Admissions/>

LINOCUT CHRISTMAS CARDS

Hand printed linocut Christmas cards by Teresa Newham are now available at a cost of £2 each or three for £5.

All proceeds to Our Lady of Lourdes Building Fund.
Our Lady of Lourdes Building Fund.

Six designs to choose from.

For further details please call Teresa on
(01582) 766403 or email

marbretherese@googlemail.com.



TOILETRIES REQUEST

Please would you consider making donations of toiletries to The Hygiene Bank, Harpenden, St Albans and Luton. We support the foodbank and many children via the school's partnership and other charities locally ensuring that those

in need can have access to toiletries but are finding that we need more donations every day as there are more and more calls on our services. We collect in toiletries from our



yellow donation points (in Harpenden these are at Emmaus, Boots in the High Street, and Manor Pharmacies in Leyton Road and Southdown). We also have a just giving page and an amazon wish list so that people can help us without going into a shop. Details of all the drop offs etc are here:

<https://linktr.ee/Thbharpendenandstalbans>

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 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>

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<p>SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">5.00PM - 6.00PM</p>	<p>Feria Frank McConnachie RIP</p> <p>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Live Streamed Via YouTube</p>
<p>SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">10.30AM</p>	<p>33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>Paul Murphy RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 860 9226 9193</p>
<p>MONDAY 16TH NOVEMBER</p>	<p>St Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop Eddie Quinn RIP</p>
<p>TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">9.15AM</p> <p align="center">7.30PM</p>	<p>feria Sadie Beirnes RIP Zoom Code 880 6396 4591</p> <p>PRAYING TOGETHER Zoom Code 845 3209 5805</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">10.00AM - 11.00AM</p>	<p>feria Holy Souls</p> <p>CHURCH IS OPENED FOR PRIVATE PRAYER</p>
<p>THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">9.15AM</p>	<p>feria Patrick Hickey RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 830 9683 2001</p>
<p>FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER</p>	<p>Feria</p>
<p>SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">5.00PM - 6.00PM</p>	<p>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Winifred Nichollas RIP (Anniv)</p> <p>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CHURCH IS OPENED FOR PRIVATE PRAYER Live Streamed Via YouTube</p>
<p>SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">10.30AM</p>	<p>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (A)</p> <p>Ignatius Nathan RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 860 9226 9193</p>

CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER