



OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (A)
22ND NOVEMBER 2020

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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The office is presently closed, but the Parish Priest and Administrator can be contacted by telephone: 01582 712245 or email: harpenden@rcdow.org.uk
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Today's gospel leaves us in no doubt as to what Jesus expects of his followers. It is a gospel of contrasts. It begins with a scene of judgement, with Jesus in the role of king, sitting on the throne of glory. It would have been a familiar image to the people of the time, who were expecting a great Messianic king. In the time of Jesus, kings were powerful rulers, and some were tyrants. We know from earlier in Matthew's Gospel that kings, like Herod, were capable of brutal acts. It is an image that remains familiar to us today, thanks to popular fairy tales, movies and TV shows - the all-powerful ruler sitting on their throne, passing judgement on their subjects.

But the king that Jesus talks about here turns these images upside down. He is not focused on riches or power, or inciting terror or fear. Instead, he is a fair judge, a shepherd who knows his flock. He invites all those who have acted with justice and generosity to take their place in his kingdom. He is in solidarity with the 'least' of his people - a king whose main concern is those who are hungry, displaced, sick or imprisoned. He refers to them as 'brothers'.

Jesus' kingdom is centred around charity, compassion and forgiveness. He expects us to treat everyone we encounter with welcome. There are simple acts of kindness we can carry out each day. Such love for others is love for God: 'In so far as you did this to the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.'

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, from Saturday 14th, between 5.00pm and 6.00pm, when the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed, and this will be live-streamed, see 'Livestreaming'.

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY

Today, the Feast of Christ the King, the Church in England and Wales celebrates National Youth Sunday (NYS). On this day, we celebrate the young people in our parish and community and all the gifts and talents they share with us. The theme for this year's NYS is 'Together'. Whilst the Parish Community can't be together physically, we are still united together in prayer; and this weekend our prayer is especially for the young people of our Parish.

Follow @NationalYouthSunday and for more information, please go to www.nationalyouthsunday.com

ADVENT SERVICE

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. Regrettably, due to the current Government guidelines, it will not be possible for our annual Advent Service to take place. We live in hope that we will be able to have our Carol Service, in one form or another!

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, commenced two weeks ago. 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 has begun. Due to constraints during the pandemic open mornings will not be possible this year. Please see the school website for details, 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.

PARISH OFFICE

Melanie will be back, working from home from Monday. For all Parish enquiries please email the parish office 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, every evening at 7.30pm, 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 like to participate, it will last no longer than 10 minutes. For the link: see 'Livestreaming'

The Zoom link is: 845 3209 5805

JIGSAW FESTIVAL

We, and High Street Methodist Church, are working together to arrange this festival next June, with all the proceeds going to two local charities, Azalea and Workaid. The response from you, and Harpenden as a whole, has been tremendous, with 294 jigsaws made (at 17 November) and nearly 7 months to go! You can see some of the wide variety of completed jigsaws and read the stories behind them from their 'assemblers', on Facebook. NB You don't need a Facebook account to view the page, simply search for Facebook (Harpenden Jigsaw Festival). Please see Facebook, or our website (harpendenjigsawfestival.co.uk), or email us on harpendenjigsaws@gmail.com, to find out more on getting involved by donating unmade jigsaws, making them etc. But a big thank you for what you have already done.



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>

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/>

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Teresa Newham would like to thank those people who bought linocut Christmas cards this year. The total raised for the building fund is £165.

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 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 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>
<p>MONDAY 23RD NOVEMBER</p>	<p>Feria Mary Byrne RIP</p>
<p>TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">9.15AM</p> <p align="center">7.30PM</p>	<p>St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and Companions, Martyr Holy Souls Zoom Code 880 6396 4591</p> <p>PRAYING TOGETHER Zoom Code 845 3209 5805</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">10.00AM - 11.00AM</p>	<p>Feria Margaret Foulds RIP</p> <p>CHURCH IS OPENED FOR PRIVATE PRAYER</p>
<p>THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">9.15AM</p>	<p>Feria Victor Newham RIP Zoom Code 830 9683 2001</p>
<p>FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER</p>	<p>Feria</p>
<p>SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">5.00PM - 6.00PM</p>	<p>Feria Erroll Yates RIP (Anniv)</p> <p>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CHURCH IS OPENED FOR PRIVATE PRAYER Live Streamed Via YouTube</p>
<p>SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER</p> <p align="center">10.30AM</p>	<p>1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</p> <p>Cornelius Dennehy RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 860 9226 9193</p>



CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER

