



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)  
20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 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



*May this Christmas, be a time of peace, joy and many blessings!*

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2020.

This week Masses will be celebrated on Tuesday\* and Wednesday at 9.15am.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm and 7.30pm. Vigil Masses of Christmas  
10.00pm\* Mass During the Night

### Christmas DAY

9.00am, 10.30am\* & 12noon Masses of Christmas Day

\* These Masses will be live-streamed, see below.

**THERE ARE NO PLACES REMAINING AT ANY OF THE MASSES, EXCEPT FOR A FEW AT THE 12NOON MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY. TO CHECK IF A PLACE IS AVAILABLE, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE -**

If, for any reason, you find you are unable to use the places, you have requested, please be sure to inform the Parish Office, as soon as you can. The demand for places is high, and it would be a great shame if any were to go unused.

### PLEASE NOTE

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey, asking whether you plan to attend a Christmas Mass, here or not? Please note that this was just a survey, **not a booking for any of the Christmas Masses.**

Requests for places can only be made via the website or parish office.

Details of everything taking place, in church, until the New Year, will be found in the Christmas leaflet. If you receive the newsletter by email, hopefully you have received a copy. If not, you can collect one from the church porch, or a copy can be emailed, or posted, if you contact the parish office.

### DON'T FORGET

When you come to Mass, you are asked to:

- Wear a mask, or face covering
- Follow the stewards' instructions
- Sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the church
- Observe social distancing of 2m
- Follow the one-way system around the church
- Sit in a pre-allocated seat
- Avoid touching surfaces
- Limit interactions with anyone you are not attending church with.

## CAROL SERVICE

Our Parish Carol Service takes place this evening at 6.00pm, albeit a little differently this year, with just the Choir and Readers in church. The service will be live-streamed, **Zoom Code 883 0772 7862.**

## EPIPHANY

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord takes place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, returning to its traditional place, Twelfth Night. Usually this would be a Holyday of Obligation, but not this year as the obligation is presently suspended. However, there will be two Masses on that day, 9.15am and 6.00pm.



## VISITS TO THE CRIB

Usually around Christmas it is possible to leave the church open and, whoever wishes, can come and visit the crib. This year, that is not possible.



However, in order to allow individuals and families to make such visits, the church will be open, outside of Mass, on three occasions. Please see the Christmas leaflet for details.

## CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The offering on Christmas Day contributes towards the upkeep of priests who work in parishes. For many of us this is a strange year, and particularly for those who may have lost jobs, or had income reduced; as happened to parish clergy last Easter when, because of lockdown, the collection was significantly less than usual. Those who support the parish, using the planned giving envelopes, will find a 'Christmas offering envelope', amongst their envelopes. Parishioners who support the parish in other ways, may wish to use one of the Christmas envelopes that will be found in the church porch. Contributions will be collected at the Christmas Masses, and can also be dropped into the presbytery letter box. Your support, in so many ways, is much appreciated.



## FIRST COMMUNION 2021

Thank you to those parents who have registered their children for First Holy Communion in 2021. Registration for next years preparation, and celebration is now complete. Dates for preparation, and First Communion celebrations, have still to be decided, and will be advised, with further information, during January.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Thank you very much to everyone who supported the collection for the Christmas flowers, over the last two weekends. Through your generosity, and with the skills of our flower arrangers, our church will, as always be beautifully decorated, for this great feast.



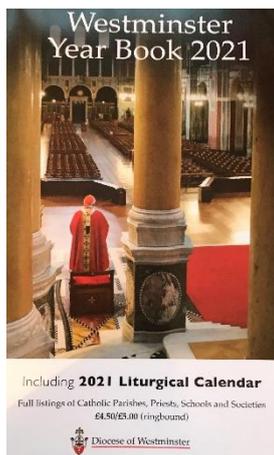
## CATHOLIC PAPERS

For quiet some the sale of the weekly Catholic Papers has steadily decreased, and now only three or so parishioners are purchasing a copy. Although, those who read these papers, pay for them, there are other expenses, as we are required to take a certain number, all of which we don't sell, but have to pay for. So, from January we have decided not to stock these papers. We know that this will be disappointing for the regular readers, but the papers can be ordered directly, and will be posted free of charge from 'The Universe'. Please click:

<https://thecatholicuniverse.com/product-category/subscriptions/> to place an order.

## WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK

The Diocesan Directory for 2021 has now arrived. This contains details of all the parishes and priests in the Diocese, as well as other useful information. As the repository is closed, if you would like a copy, price £4.50, please contact the parish office.



## STAYING IN TOUCH

A group of parishioners have been attempting to make contact with as many parishioners as possible. And it has been good to hear how much this has been appreciated. Keeping lists up to date is a constant challenge, so it's possible not everyone has received a call. If that is the case, and particularly if you are in need of help or support, don't be afraid to get in touch. There's nothing wrong in asking for a little support. If that is the case please contact the parish office.

## KATHLEEN CALLINAN RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Kathleen Callinan who died this week. Kathleen's Requiem Mass is on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 10am and will be family invited guests only, due to the current restrictions. We remember Kathleen's family in our prayers at this time.

## 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
Carol Service	6.00pm	883 0772 7862
Tuesday - Funeral	10.00am	880 6396 4591
Christmas Eve 24 <sup>th</sup>		
Thursday - Mass	10.00pm	843 1078 4177
Christmas Day 25 <sup>th</sup>		
Friday - Mass	10.30am	838 6380 5671
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	860 9226 9193

## CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

For those unable to come to Mass, and indeed for others to, there is an opportunity to journey through the days of Christmas, with the programme: 'A journey through the Christmas Octave', which provides prayer, scripture and reflections. Click on this link, for details:

<https://rcdow.org.uk/att/files/faith/evangelisation/booklet%20-%20a%20journey%20through%20the%20christmas%20octave%202020.pdf>

## PARISH OFFICE

Melanie is, working from home for all Parish enquiries please email the parish office [harpenden@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:harpenden@rcdow.org.uk), or telephone 01582 712245.



## NEWSLETTER

The next Newsletter will be on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> January. Keep an eye on the web-site, and the parish Facebook page, for any news.

## THE DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

The Developing World Group has recently donated £1650 to the International Refugee Trust (IRT) to enable the Sacred Heart Sisters who run the Moyo Babies' Home on northern Uganda to replace machinery and equipment ( a paste grinding machine , strimmer and chain saw) which were beyond repair. This will save the costs of hiring equipment and labour. It will thus release funds to help the babies and children in the home, who have been displaced from South Sudan and other parts of northern Uganda. We appreciate your ongoing support which has enabled us to continue the longstanding association we have with the home, and indeed your generosity in donating to the DWG's various projects throughout the year. Thank you,



## FOR THE CHILDREN

While the obligation to attend Mass remains suspended, it falls to each, if we are not attending Mass, 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 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/>

## CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

World Gifts, CAFOD's range of virtual gifts, make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. While we have the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown here, we can still be good neighbours to our sisters and brothers overseas by giving World Gifts as Christmas presents to family and friends. The Keep Clean Kit gift for £6 and the Vegetable Garden gift for £10 are just two gifts that will help vulnerable families affected by the pandemic to protect and feed themselves. Let's spread joy and hope around the world this Christmas. Visit [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](https://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts) for more details and pick up a booklet from the Church Porch.

## COVID-19 VACCINATION - CALL FOR LOCAL VOLUNTEERS.

The Harpenden Trust has just been asked by the local GP Federation to coordinate volunteer support for them during the forthcoming Covid-19 vaccination programme across the local Harpenden community. This will take place at a central Harpenden location with effect from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December, requiring two outdoor marshals, six indoor patient support volunteers and four administration support personnel each day, for up to six days per week. The programme will be stretching into Spring next year. Viewed in "half days" - it is anticipated that 100 and approaching 150 volunteers will be needed each week to support our local community Covid vaccination programme.

There is some immediate time pressure, as it needs to be established if this volunteer workforce can be established. If you feel able to help, please respond to this message by EITHER emailing [vaccine@theharpentrust.org.uk](mailto:vaccine@theharpentrust.org.uk) OR by telephoning the main Harpenden Trust office (01582 460457 weekdays between 10am and 1pm).



## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

**SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
11.00AM - 12.00NOON

**Advent Feria**  
Confessions in the Undercroft

**VIGIL MASS 5.00PM**

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)**  
John McKenna RIP (Anniv)

**SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)**

9.00AM  
10.30AM

People of the Parish  
Peter Blessing RIP  
**Zoom Code 860 9226 9193**

6.00PM

**Parish Carol Service**  
**Zoom Code 883 0772 7862**



**MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER**

**Advent Feria**  
Joan Power RIP

**TUESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER**  
10.00AM

**Advent Feria**  
Requiem Mass for Kathleen Callinan  
**Zoom Code 880 6396 4591**

**WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER**  
9.15AM

**Advent Feria**  
Mike Gaire RIP (Anniv)

## CHRISTMAS SEASON

**THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
VIGIL MASS 5.00PM  
VIGIL MASS 7.30PM  
MASS DURING THE NIGHT 10PM

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
People of the Parish  
People of the Parish  
People of the Parish\*



**FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
9.00AM  
10.30AM  
12.00 NOON

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
People of the Parish  
People of the Parish\*  
People of the Parish



**SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
VIGIL MASS 5.00PM

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY & JOSPEH**  
Teresa Newham (Spec Ints)

**SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**  
9.00AM  
10.30AM

Janet Figg RIP  
Maura & Derek Grimshaw RIP (Anniv)  
**Zoom Code 860 9226 9193**

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

\*Live-streamed Masses please see page 3 for the Zoom Codes