



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
17TH JANUARY 2021



VirginMoneyGiving

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

Presbytery: 1, Kirkwick Avenue, Harpenden AL5 2QH Tel: 01582 712245
Email: 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
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden twitter: @RC_OLOL
Facebook: Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden

Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

Email: harpendensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Tel: 07881 785 299

Hospitality, sharing our homes, perhaps food and drink is a distinctive sign of what it is to be a Christian, a particular sign of living our faith. Today we hear how Jesus invites two of his disciples to 'come and see' where he lives. He welcomes them into his home and they stay with him for the rest of the day, no doubt eating and drinking and conversing with him. Jesus' invitation is simple, yet intimate.

We don't know where he lived or what his living arrangements were, but we know he wanted his friends to spend time with him and get to know him. This precious early time with Jesus must have set his friends up for a lifetime of discipleship. We too are invited to 'come and see', to spend time with the Scriptures and in prayer to get to know Jesus. He welcomes us with open arms.

As we reflect on the inviting love of Jesus, we are also encouraged to extend a warm welcome to others in a spirit of friendship. Pope Francis has often spoken of our responsibility, as individuals, communities and church, to welcome everyone - including those who are homeless or who have been forced to leave their home or country. Our welcome is a response to the Lord's supreme commandment to love the other, the stranger, as ourselves. We all have opportunities to do this in our communities.

'Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age.' - Pope Francis

MASS TIMES

Masses continue to be celebrated, as follows: Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm, Sunday 9.00am and 10.30am*, Tuesday*, Wednesday and Thursday* at 9.15am. *These Masses are live-streamed, for details see below. If you wish to attend one of the Masses on Saturday or Sunday, you can request up to two places via the parish website, for three, or more places, please email, or telephone, the parish office.

Starting next Tuesday, it will no longer be necessary to request a place at the weekday Masses. If you are attending a weekday Mass you will be asked your name as you arrive, or you can use the NHS Track and Trace App to record your presence.

OPEN FOR NOW!!

As the restrictions increase, but places of worship are allowed to remain open, so it puts an additional responsibility on everyone who is attending Mass to ensure the safety, and well-being, of themselves and others. While churches haven't been instructed to close, either by the Government or the Diocese, some parishes have made the decision to do so. For ourselves, it is a matter of remaining open for now, while we continue to have sufficient helpers but, we will be guided by what is in everyone's best interests, parishioners, stewards and Parish Priest. If you do decide to come to church please follow the guidance of the stewards, wear a mask, sanitise your hands when entering and leaving, and do not mingle with



anyone outside of your household or support bubble. If you suspect you may have Coronavirus symptoms, have been in touch with anyone who has, or if you are feeling unwell, do not come to church.

PARISH OFFICE

In line with current government advice, our office administrator, Melanie is working mainly from home. This means that the phone may not always be answered during parish office hours



(9.30am-12.30pm), Monday to Thursday, and you may not get a response to a voicemail immediately. The best way for parishioners to contact the parish office at the moment is by emailing harpenden@rcdow.org.uk

YOUR SUPPORT

Once again, a big 'thank you' to everyone who has continued to support the parish since the first lockdown. Like many of you we continue to have expenses, that we have to cover. The familiar ways in which you can support the parish are by using the offertory envelopes, or by setting up a standing order with the parish, this is especially helpful. Like many other parishes in the Diocese, we now have another way in

which you can give your support, and



that is via Virgin Money Giving. Below is the link to the Parish Website if you would like to donate to the parish using Virgin Money Giving, <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden/donate/> or use the QR code at the top of the newsletter.

WRAP UP

One of the guidelines for trying to keep safe is to ensure that the church is well ventilated. With the present very cold weather, having to leave the doors open, even with the heating on is not ideal! So, if you are coming to Mass, it is probably a good idea to wrap up warm, with some extra layers.



IN OUR INTERESTS

It seems at this time that we are being subjected to all manner of rules and guidance, which we know is in all our interests. Regarding the celebration of Mass, we are advised that this should not be unduly prolonged, at this time, which is why the second reading and the intercessions are being omitted.

TOGETHER IN PRAYER

Although only a comparatively small proportion, of the parish, can attend one of the six Masses celebrated each week, we can still be united, in prayer. While the threat of the Coronavirus continues, we can continue to pray for everyone who is affected by it. And we might think of doing that

each evening, at 7.30pm. Just pausing, either individually, or as a family, and offering a prayer for everyone who is affected, in any way by Coronavirus, and to pray for everyone in our parish also. Every Tuesday, starting this week, we will resume praying together via Zoom.

The code is: **893 2503 5739** and passcode **607760**.

This will be for a short time, not more than ten minutes.



DO SAY!

With this further lockdown, I am very conscious that there may be parishioners, of various ages, who are living alone, perhaps distanced from family, or who have little contact with other people. For such people this may not be the happiest or easiest of times. If this is the case, and particularly if you are in need of help or support, or simply would just like to have a chat, 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.



CATHOLIC PAPERS

For quiet some the sale of the weekly Catholic Papers has steadily decreased, and until recently only three or so parishioners were purchasing a copy. Although, those who read these papers, pay for them, there are other expenses, as we are required to take a minimum number, all of which we don't sell, but have to pay for. So, from January we have decided not to stock these

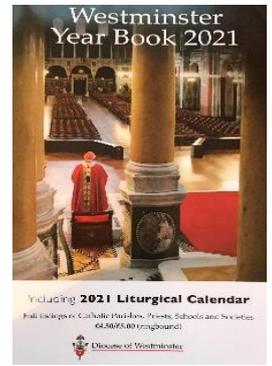


papers. We know that this will be disappointing for the regular readers, but the papers can be ordered directly, and will be posted free of charge from 'The Universe'. Please click:

<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.



LIVESTREAMING

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

DAY	TIME	ZOOM CODE
Sunday - Mass	10.30am	835 0841 8205
Tuesday - Mass	9.15am	859 0668 7104
Tuesday - Praying Together	7.30pm Passcode	893 2503 5739 607760
Thursday - Mass	9.15am	876 2019 6525

FIRST COMMUNION 2021

Thank you to those parents who have registered their children for First Holy Communion in 2021. Registration for this year's 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 this month.

NO TICKETS! NO BOOKING!

The Mass on Fridays at 12.00noon St. Albans Abbey resumed last Friday. Because this Mass is celebrated in the Nave, which can accommodate 150 people socially distanced, there is no need to pre-book to attend. You just need to wear a face covering. The Mass has been celebrated at the Abbey now for 37 years. Do give it a try if you have not already done so. You enter by the Welcome Centre.

PEACE SUNDAY

Peace Sunday 17 January 2021

Today is Peace Sunday, the time we commit to doing our bit to bring peace to the world. The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have welcomed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons coming into force on Friday 22 January. They said " this is an historic milestone on the path to nuclear disarmament and an opportunity to refocus on

genuine peacebuilding rooted in dialogue, justice, respect for human dignity, and care for our planet. We urge support for the Treaty and repeat our call for the UK to forsake its nuclear arsenal. The resources spent on manufacturing, maintaining and upgrading these weapons of mass destruction, should be reinvested to alleviate the suffering of the poorest and most vulnerable members of our society, for the Common Good of all peoples". Pax Christi ('the Peace of Christ') works ceaselessly internationally for peace. You can Join Pax Christi on zoom to pray, share and reflect on Pope Francis' message 'A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace'. You can explore what this message calls us to do as peacemakers and how we respond to the call to live nonviolently. If you have any questions or problems registering for this event, please contact the office at

admin@paxchristi.org.uk
[Register with Eventbrite](#)

At the same time, we implore the government to strengthen its arms control regulations, tackling the manufacture and sale of other weaponry, which continues to destroy so many lives throughout the world.

ST DOMINIC NURSERY - ADVANCE NOTICE

On the 1st February 2021, the application process for Nursery places will open for children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018.

Sadly, due to the continuing constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we have decided not to hold conventional open mornings this year.

We are very sorry that we cannot welcome new parents into the school in the usual way, but hope you will enjoy taking a look at our virtual tour which can be found on our Admissions page -

Virtual tour -

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

Please visit the school website for further information on Nursery Applications

<https://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk/Nursery-24012018155225/>

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>

LET US PRAY

For those throughout the world who are suffering from the impact of coronavirus. May the Lord of Mercy bring them health and healing.
Lord in your mercy Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for those who have died recently especially Jim Gallacker, John Warren and Margaret Friel and also, for those whose anniversaries occur at this time particularly, Caitronia Kelly, Sheila Dorsett and Pauline and Ted Coakley. **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.**

We place in God's hand our personal needs and prayers.

We pray together our parish prayer. God our Father, pour forth your spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of power, a new faithfulness to your word and a new consecration to your service, so that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Lourdes Pray for us.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 16TH JANUARY

Feria

VIGIL MASS 5.00PM

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Caitronia Kelly RIP

SUNDAY 17TH JANUARY

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00AM
10.30AM

Jim Gallacker RIP
Pauline & Ted Coakley RIP (Anniv)

Zoom Code 835 0841 8205

MONDAY 18TH JANUARY

Feria

John Warren RIP

TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY

Feria

9.15AM

Sr Dolores (Jubilee Ints)

Zoom Code 859 0668 7104

WEDNESDAY 20TH JANUARY

Feria

9.15AM

Sr Nora (Spec Ints)

THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY

St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

9.15AM

Margaret Friel RIP

Zoom Code 876 2019 6525

FRIDAY 22ND JANUARY

Feria

SATURDAY 23RD JANUARY

Feria

VIGIL MASS 5.00PM

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Oonagh Lynch RIP

SUNDAY 24TH JANUARY

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.00AM
10.30AM

People of the Parish
Rosa McPherson RIP

Zoom Code 835 0841 8205

CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER