



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

9TH MAY 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](https://twitter.com/RC_OLOL)

Facebook: [Our Lady of Lourdes Harpenden](https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyofLourdesHarpenden)

Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

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Much is spoken in the name of love. In films, on TV and in music, it's not unusual to hear about love. In the church, we speak frequently about love. In fact, as Oliver sings in the musical based on the Charles Dickens' story, "Where is love?" And what is love? Love is not only the centre of Christian living but needs to be at the centre of any kind of life.

The love that Jesus speaks about is very different from the love of popular music, or what we see on TV, or in films. Sometimes when we love, it will bring happiness, and sometimes it can be challenging, even painful. Love is not a question of simply keeping rules and commandments. Love is a way of life. It is an internal attitude which influences everything we do and say and think. Christian love is unconditional. Sometimes people will love us back; sometimes they will not. If others reject us, we need not necessarily think that we have done wrong. Not everyone can show love, or is capable of loving. All the more reason why we need to reach out to them. People can learn to love by being loved.

The most important thing is not that I am very clever, very successful, very rich, very famous... The most important thing is that I am someone who really loves. When I genuinely love others, there will always be some who cannot love me back, but there will be others who will really respond in love. And it may be that my love has empowered them to be loving too. To be able to reach out in love and to experience being loved is God's greatest grace.

MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm

Sunday 9am and 10.30am*

If you wish to attend one of the above Masses you can request up to two places via the parish website, for three or more places, please email, telephone, the parish office.

Monday, Tuesday*, Wednesday and Thursday* Mass this week at 9.15am.

No need to request a place in advance.

*These Masses are live-streamed, for details see below.

When you come to Mass:

Please follow the guidance of the stewards,
wear a mask, sanitise your hands when entering and leaving,
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.



FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Next Thursday is the feast of Ascension of the Lord, and is, usually, a holyday of obligation. It is though one of the great feasts of the Easter Season, and so a good day, if we can, to attend Mass. Masses will be celebrated at 9.15am and 6.00pm. The 9.15am Mass will be live-streamed, but If you would like to attend either Mass please request a seat in the usual way.



the Catechist are leading, the other important aspect of preparation is attending Sunday Mass, coming to know and love Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. We look forward to seeing the children, and their parents, attending Mass on Sunday.

PRIEST'S TRAINING FUND

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the recent collection for the Priest Training Fund. The fund remains open, so if you haven't yet done so, and can do so, it is not too late to make a donation. You can do so by dropping your contribution at the presbytery; or you can donate online through the Diocese's website. To date £1,371.00 has been donated, via the parish. The formation of priests is of top priority, and this fund provides for the training of those preparing to serve as priests in our diocese.

FIRST COMMUNION



At last preparation for First Communion has begun. With the children and parents, we look forward to the First Communion days in the autumn. As well as the sessions, which

CELEBRATING MASS TOGETHER

Over the past year, especially when it was not possible to celebrate Mass together, it was very good that we could participate via the live-streaming. Now though, as we begin to return to some sort of normality, it's very important that, unless we're prevented from doing so for health reasons, that we begin to gather together again for the celebration of Mass.

The Bishop's of England and Wales have written about the need to celebrate Mass together, included in their reflection:

"It is the Eucharist, the celebration of the Mass, that makes the Church; and it is the Church, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the lifeblood of the Church. It requires our active participation and, to be fully celebrated, our physical presence.

"At this moment, then, we need to have in our sights the need to restore to its rightful centrality in our lives the Sunday Mass, encouraging each to take his or her place once again in the assembly of our brothers and sisters.

"We face the task of seeking to nurture the sense of Sunday as 'a weekly gift from God to his people', and

something we cannot do without; to see Sunday as the soul of the week, as giving light and meaning to all the responsibilities we live out each day; to see the Sunday Eucharist as food for the unique mission with which we have been endowed."

- For the full message please click here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-encourage-catholics-to-place-sunday-mass-at-the-heart-of-their-post-pandemic-lives/>

LIVESTREAMING

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

DAY	TIME	ZOOM CODE
Sunday - Mass	10.30am	894 6908 9284
Tuesday - Mass	9.15am	872 7923 9813
Thursday - Mass	9.15am	837 5376 6231

CONFIRMATION

Plans are almost complete for this years Confirmation preparation, and we hope to be sending out the necessary information, to parents and candidates very shortly.



CAFOD - CRISIS IN INDIA

As coronavirus brings devastation across India, CAFOD is working with experienced local Church agency, Caritas India, to provide vital support to poor and marginalised communities. Donations to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India distribute PPE kits to frontline health workers, promote COVID & vaccine awareness campaigns, and set up safely run isolation & quarantine centres. **You can donate online here:** cafod.org.uk/give. Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic.

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



PARISH NEWSLETTER

As the pandemic continues so, the weekly newsletter will only be available electronically. Parishioners on the newsletter distribution list or parish database will continue to receive an electronic copy of the bulletin each week. It is also available on our website and can be accessed here. For anyone who cannot access it electronically, it is possible to have a copy posted, if you request one from the Parish Office. Alternatively, if you are aware of anyone without a computer, or internet access, you might think of printing off a copy for them.

DAY BY DAY AND BIBLE ALIVE BOOKLETS

For quite some time the sale of the monthly booklets Day by Day and Bible Alive has steadily decreased, and now only one or two parishioners are purchasing a copy. Although, those who read these booklets 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 be paid for. So, from June we have decided not to stock these booklets.

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>

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT

As a parish contribution to #SustFest21, the LiveSimply Environment Group are organising an online quiz night at 7:30 pm on Friday 28th May on the theme of "Climate and the Environment". The quiz will be conducted via Zoom and Kahoot, so participants will need to have one PC or tablet to connect to Zoom and one mobile phone with the Kahoot app. The quiz should last about an hour and is free to join. The questions will vary from easy to hard so anyone can join, either individually or as a family group. It should be a fun event for all! If you are interested in participating in the quiz or have any



questions, please email Hugh Kelliher at hugh.m.kelliher@gmail.com.

HARPENDEN JIGSAW FESTIVAL - PLEASE DIARISE!

This will now take place between 8am-8pm, on Friday 9 July and Saturday 10 July at High Street Methodist Church, along with refreshments. There will be more than 1000 completed jigsaws on display over the two days. The proceeds will be split between two charities - Workaid (a Chesham-based charity that our parish has supported before); and Azalea. We and our Methodist counterparts will be organising a rota of volunteers to run the festival, once we have decided the jobs that need to be done. We hope very much that our fellow parishioners can help us by

doing short stints over the two days, and will be grateful for any home-made cakes you can provide too! Thank you for all your support so far, including by helping to make such a huge number of jigsaws. For more information, please see our website

harpendenjigsawfestival.co.uk, our Facebook page (Harpenden Jigsaw Festival) or email harpendenjigsaws@gmail.com



OPEN GARDEN ON SATURDAY 17 JULY - PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

You are warmly invited to this year's open garden which will take place between 10am and 3pm on 17th July. It will provide a great opportunity to relax with friends in a lovely setting after what has been such a difficult year. There will be plants for sale and ample refreshments including coffee, tea and delicious cakes. Any donations of plants for the sale would be most welcome so do get those seed trays going! All proceeds will go to the DWG's current project. Further information to follow.



LAUDATO SI' SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Catholics across the globe will take part in celebrations that will serve as the crowning moment of the Laudato Si' special anniversary year, May 16th to 24th. The weeklong event will celebrate the great progress the global Church has made in its ecological conversion journey during the past six years and offer a clear road map for the decade ahead. We know that much remains to be done, but we rejoice and celebrate the steps we have taken so far, and we look to the future with hope. A brilliant selection of global workshops, trainings, and events, all live streamed via [Global Catholic Climate Movement](https://www.globalcatholicclimate.com) social medial channels will help us explore many themes. For more information visit www.journeyto2030.org

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 and also, for those whose anniversaries occur at this time particularly John Ramswell, and Francis Taylor.
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 8TH MAY

VIGIL MASS 5.00pm

Easter feria

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

Brian Armitage RIP

SUNDAY 9TH MAY

9.00am

10.30am

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

People of the Parish

Kathleen Moran RIP

Zoom Code 894 6908 9284

MONDAY 10TH MAY

9.15am

Easter feria

John Ramswell RIP (Anniv)

TUESDAY 11TH MAY

9.15am

Easter feria

Martin Stears-Handscomb (Spec Ints)

Zoom Code 872 7923 9813

WEDNESDAY 12TH MAY

9.15am

Easter feria

Marie Herlihy RIP

ASCENSION



THURSDAY 13TH

MAY

9.15am

6.00pm

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Francis Taylor RIP (Anniv)

Zoom Code 837 5376 6231

People of the Parish

FRIDAY 14TH MAY

St Matthias, Apostle

SATURDAY 15TH MAY

VIGIL MASS 5.00pm

Easter feria

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

Vincent Nathan RIP (Anniv)

SUNDAY 16TH MAY

9.00am

10.30am

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

People of the Parish

Tom Carey RIP

Zoom Code 894 6908 9284

CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER