



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

13TH JUNE 2021



VirginMoneyGivin

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: harpندن@rcdow.org.uk

Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpندن 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

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

Something we may not often think about is Jesus' earthly relationship with creation. Jesus walked everywhere, went to quiet places to pray, preached from mountains, from boats on the water; his followers included fishermen in tune with the rhythm of the sea. In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si' - On Care for Our Common Home*, he reminds us that Jesus 'was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attention full of fondness and wonder' (*Laudato Si'*, 97). Jesus' parables are full of imagery from the natural world and in today's Gospel we have an example of this in the parable of the mustard seed.

People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over wherever it is planted and attracts unwanted birds. This mustard seed image of God's dream for this world is one which suggests that it will grow even in places where it is not wanted, putting cracks in seemingly mighty structures.

The New Testament not only tells us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout all of creation. 'The very flowers of the field and the birds which [Christ's] human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence' (*Laudato Si'*, 100). As we watch out for traces of the mustard seed kingdom this week, let us also embrace the joy of Christ in all of creation.



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.

AT MASS

Please note:

- Holy Communion is now being given at the usual time.
- Holy Communion will be brought to you in your places.
- At the end of Mass, please remain in your places, until the stewards direct to leave. This enables everyone to leave safely, and for the stewards to begin cleaning, in readiness for the next Mass.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding, with all the guidelines. Your patience is much appreciated.

IN OUR INTERESTS

It does seem that there are lots of restrictions at the moment, even when we come to Mass! Overall, though, I'm sure we can all see that they are in our interests. The reason why Holy Communion is brought to you in your places, is so that there is no excessive

moving around in the church. You are also guided out of church so that you can depart in a safe manner and, as well, so that our helpful volunteer stewards, can begin sanitising the church as soon as possible, ready for the next Mass

STEWARDS FOR MASS

Thank you again to those who continue to assist as Stewards. Not only are you keeping the church safe and clean, but you are enabling Mass to continue to be celebrated. When we think of celebrating Mass, we may think of what the priests does, and of course he does have a particular role. But this pandemic, with the need to ensure cleanliness and safety, reminds us that others are essential also. So, another 'thank you' to those who have recently volunteered to assist, particularly on weekdays. The time commitment isn't great, it is just an hour or so, and the tasks are not onerous. Over the last few weeks the request for more helpers, seems to have gone **largely unheard.**

If you can assist, particularly on weekdays please let the parish office have your details.

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH

Thank you to everyone, who has continued to support the Parish, financially, since the first lockdown in March 2020. For some, circumstances will have changed, and it will not have been possible to offer any support, which is understandable. You can give your support by Standing order, or by using planned giving envelopes. For details please contact the parish office. It's also possible to make a contribution, using the 'Contactless' machine in church and to register your offering for Gift Aid following the simple instructions on the screen or via Virgin Money giving through the Parish Website.



LET US KNOW

It's good to see that, slowly, the numbers attending Mass are increasing. In recent weeks we have been unable to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend Mass. So, it's quite disappointing to see that quite a number, who request a place, don't always take them up, or let us know. If you are unable to use the place/s you have requested, please let us know before 3pm on Thursdays. It does matter because you could be depriving someone else of the opportunity to attend Mass.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Most of the children preparing for First Communion, later in the year, will be making their First Reconciliation next Saturday. This is an important moment for the children, and their parents. Please remember a prayer for all involved.

ERIC HARBER RIP FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Eric's funeral will be on Tuesday 15th June at 10 am in Ss Alban and Stephen Church, Beaconsfield Rd St Albans AL1 3RB. Mary has been informed that the church can currently hold 120-150 so there should be ample space for anyone who would like to attend.

HELP YOURSELF

In the porch, are books authored by the late Elizabeth Wang, on the priesthood and the Trinity, as well as cards designed by her. If you would like either, or both books, or some cards, they are free to take. Last few copies remaining.

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

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.

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>

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.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 12TH JUNE VIGIL MASS 5.00pm	The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) John Moran RIP
SUNDAY 13TH JUNE 9.00am 10.30am	11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) People of the Parish Beryl Vasquez RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 894 6908 9284
MONDAY 14TH JUNE 9.15am	feria Elizabeth Mullins RIP
TUESDAY 15TH JUNE 9.15am	feria Tom Carey RIP Zoom Code 872 7923 9813
WEDNESDAY 16TH JUNE 9.15am	feria Angela & Peter MacConnell RIP
THURSDAY 17TH JUNE 9.15am	feria Joe Bearpark RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 837 5376 6231
FRIDAY 18TH JUNE	feria
SATURDAY 19TH JUNE 11am VIGIL MASS 5.00pm	feria First Reconciliation 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
SUNDAY 20TH JUNE 9.00am 10.30am	12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) People of the Parish Zoom Code 894 6908 9284

CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER