



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

12TH SEPTEMBER 2021

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)



VirginMoneyGiving

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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The Parish Office is open Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 12.30pm

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Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden

twitter: https://twitter.com/rc_olol?lang=en

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The Gospel today invites us to explore the challenges confronting all disciples on their journey of faith. The first challenge is to clarify the nature of our commitment as disciples of Jesus. If we fail to understand who Jesus is, then we have little chance of understanding the nature of our own call to follow him. Jesus poses two questions: "Who do people say that I am?" and "Who do you say that I am?". We are invited to hear these questions anew. Do we simply share what "the people" say about Jesus? Or do we have the wisdom to seek a deeper understanding of the identity of Jesus?

In response to Jesus' second question "Who do you say that I am?", Peter gets the words right: Jesus is the messiah, the Christ, God's anointed messenger. It becomes clear, however, that Peter has a very different notion from Jesus of what it means to be the messiah or the Christ. This is understandable since diverse expectations of the Messiah existed. Many expected a royal militaristic figure who would drive out the Roman occupiers and restore Israel's status as an independent nation. Jesus, as God's messiah, refuses the way of violent action. His way is to be true to his mission of bringing God's empire, even if it brings the most intense personal suffering.

Peter refuses to accept a suffering Messiah. He is severely reprimanded for his refusal and instructed to get out of the way, to get back to where a disciple should be, namely behind Jesus, following him, and not in front obstructing the path.

We have the opportunity to grow in knowledge and insight about Jesus, so as to respond to the question: 'who do you say I am?' Who is Jesus for me?



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MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm

Sunday 9am and 10.30am*

Monday, Tuesday*, Wednesday and Thursday*

Mass this week at 9.15am.

There is 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.

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



The Parish Office, is now open Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 12.30pm. Please wear a mask if you are visiting. As with coming to church, if you suspect you may have

Coronavirus symptoms, have been in touch with anyone who has, or if you are feeling unwell, please do not come to the office.

CHURCH TOILETS



The toilets in church are now open again. Anyone using them is asked to **use the wipes provided to clean any surfaces that are touched. If children use the toilets, parents must accompany them**, and ensure that anything touched, is wiped after use.

HARPENDEN'S FIRST JIGSAW FESTIVAL

The Festival, which our Developing World Group and High Street Methodist Church (HSMC) organised, took place on 27, 28 and 30 August. Virtually all the 1,400 completed jigsaws were displayed, chosen, broken up and sold to visitors, raising £8,225.



This sum will be divided equally between the DWG's chosen charity, Workaid and HSMC's. Workaid's share, £4,113, will go towards the cost of a container to carry refurbished tools to vocational centres, prisons etc in Africa; and to training vocational centre staff in Tanzania in sewing machine maintenance/repair, so that students leaving with refurbished sewing machines can maintain them. Many



of our parishioners donated unmade jigsaws to, or completed jigsaws for the festival; and volunteered to help during it or came to view it. A huge thank you goes out to all concerned.



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.



LIVE-STREAMING

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

DAY	TIME	ZOOM CODE
Sunday - Mass	10.30am	836 6789 4285
Tuesday - Mass	9.15am	882 6349 6596
Thursday - Mass	9.15am	852 5159 5807



Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

The humanitarian situation in Afghanistan is deteriorating, as tens of thousands more Afghans flee their homes, compounding an existing crisis following decades of conflict and drought. Afghan families displaced inside the country and those who have reached neighbouring countries need humanitarian assistance - the basics of life: food, water and shelter.

Please help us to help them with a donation, your prayers or by speaking out:

[Cafod Afghanistan-crisis-appeal](https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Laudato_Si)

CAFOD THE SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation runs from 1st Sept (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4th October (the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) each year, when we give thanks for all that God has made, repent for the damage that we have caused and commit ourselves to take action to protect the earth our common home. As well as prayer, one action we can all take is to sign CAFOD's petition card on climate change to the Prime Minister ahead of the COP 26 Conference in November. There are cards available in the church porch. Please sign one and return it to CAFOD, or you can find out more and sign on-line at [https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Laudato Si](https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Laudato_Si)

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAY FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

There will be a pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 23rd October 2021 led by Bishop Mark Davies. A coach will be leaving Harpenden at 7.30am and tickets cost £17.50 for an adult and £8 for a child (Includes Priory entrance) please contact Geraldine Ward on 07971028415 if you would like to book a

place. For more details visit www.prolifepilgrimage.org

FOR THE CHILDREN

While the obligation to attend Mass remains suspended, it falls to us, 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>

HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS NEED TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE WATFORD HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY.

If you would be willing to consider offering an hour or two a week to visit our patients in hospital and would like more information please email: westherts.spiritualcare@nhs.net



ST SCHOLASTICA'S RETREAT - OPEN DAY

Is this for you OR for someone you know? St Scholastica's Retreat - Open Day - Saturday, 25th September. The Retreat offers sheltered housing to Catholics aged 60 or over in 36 self-contained flats at £562pcm - more information on the poster in the porch and from The Warden: Deacon Seán Duffy - Princes Risborough (01844) 344437. Email: info@stscholasticas.co.uk www.stscholasticas.co.uk

JOIN A COURSE RUN BY HARPENDEN LEARNING FOR LEISURE (HLFL)

If you are interested in the world, keen to keep your brain active and want to participate in an activity with likeminded people then a HLFL course may be just what you are looking for.

HLFL is a not-for profit organisation run by local people. It runs courses on a wide range of topics. Each course comprises 10 weekly daytime sessions, each session lasting 1 ½ or 2 hours. No qualifications are required to attend; there is no homework and no exams. Fees are payable, but are set at a level to only cover costs. Our participants find their HLFL courses an affordable, friendly, informal and enjoyable experience. With many returning every year.

The courses are now run from the Function Room of the Plough and Harrow pub in Southdown. It is a spacious, well ventilated room with its own entrance. Ample parking is available at the Co-op car park nearby. There is a break for the schools' half term. In the event of a 'lockdown' most courses move to Zoom, but participants are offered a refund if this is not possible.

Courses run in the Autumn and Spring terms. The courses for the Autumn term starting week commencing 20th September are as follows:

Tuesdays 10am - 12pm Making Sense of Modern Art

From Impressionists to the present day

Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm Ten London Houses

Looking at the History of London

Wednesdays 10-11.30am Current Affairs / Talking

Politics Lively discussion about contemporary issues

Wednesdays 2-4pm The Dutch Golden Age

Art history focusing on the age of Rembrandt

Thursdays 2pm - 4pm Interesting Lives

Explorations in Autobiography

If you would like to find out more about any of these courses please visit our web site:

www.harpendenlearningforleisure

or contact Bob Spence:

- by phone on 01442-254375

- by email: robertspence@ntlworld.com

LIVESIMPLY LITURGY SEPTEMBER QUOTE

Pope Francis

"It makes me very happy to see that young people have the courage to undertake projects for environmental and social improvement, since the two go together.

Let us advance with young people towards lifestyles that are simpler and more respectful of the environment."

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<p>Saturday 11th September</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 5.00pm</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Alice Gelling RIP (4th Anniv)</p>
<p>Sunday 12th September</p> <p>9.00am 10.30am</p>	<p>24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) People of the Parish Phillip Porter RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 836 6789 4285</p>
<p>Monday 13th September</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor Mary McGarry RIP (Anniv)</p>
<p>Tuesday 14th September</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</p> <p>Luton Circle Catenians (Sp Ints) Zoom Code 882 6349 6596</p>
<p>Wednesday 15th September</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>Our Lady of Sorrows</p>
<p>Thursday 16th September</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>Ss Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs John Moran RIP Zoom Code 852 5159 5807</p>
<p>Friday 17th September</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p>Saturday 18th September</p> <p>11.30am & 12.30pm</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 5.00pm</p>	<p>feria Baptisms Taylor & Rodourn Families 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Tom Carey RIP</p>
<p>Sunday 19th September</p> <p>9.00am 10.30am</p>	<p>25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) People of the Parish Elizabeth Wang RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 836 6789 4285</p>

CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER