



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

10TH OCTOBER 2021

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)



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The young man in today's gospel is clearly a good person. He was most deferential to Jesus, and he was in search of eternal life. He had kept all the commandments since his youth, and Jesus looked on him with love. To all appearances, he was an ideal person. And yet, without condemning, Jesus just had to show him something about himself of which he may have been totally unaware. He was so attached to his wealth; it had a stronger grip on him than he had on it. Jesus invited him to freedom, but the cost was too much for him.

There is nothing wrong with wealth, or with being wealthy. Some of the world's greatest people, who have done great things for the welfare of humanity, have been wealthy people. There is a narrow entrance at the side of the temple called the "needle." It is wide enough for a camel to pass through, only if the entire burden is removed from the camel's back. With the satchels of goods, the camel carries down either side, it would not be possible for it to pass through the needle. It is difficult for someone who is weighed down with worldly riches and cares to enter the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom belongs to children. It belongs to the poor in spirit; not the poor, but those who are detached in their spirit from riches.

And then there are those who give up everything to follow Jesus, they are among the most blessed of people. We celebrate the lives of Padre Pio, Mother Teresa, and many other great people of our time. Jesus took first place in their lives, and they were blessed with enormous riches of grace, and were sources of much blessing in the lives of others.



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MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) 6.00pm

Sunday 8am, 9.45am and 11.30am*

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 PASTORAL COUNCIL

It's very good this week to be able to announce the formation of a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). Details were sent with this week's newsletter, and I hope you will take time to read through the information. It is some years since there was a Parish Council here, and it is important that as we look to the future, and plan our mission, that Parish priest and people do so together. A number of parishioners have been enquiring when a Parish Council would be re-established, and many who completed the parish survey, asked the same question. It is encouraging that the need for such a group is recognised.

The PPC will be comprised of 12 parishioners, four of whom will be elected, so, do think about serving as a member. Further details will be available next week. Once again, do take a few moments to read through the information, which has been sent.

SYNOD 2023

As many of you will have heard last week, in the letter from the Cardinal, Pope Francis has asked that every parish be involved, in the preparation for the Synod of Bishops in 2023. Cardinal Nichols writes: "The Holy Father is offering us the opportunity to



participate in a time of listening and reflecting. He hopes this will help us to discern how God's presence comes into our lives and what the Spirit of God is prompting us to do anew, so that we might be more alive and creative in our response to the call of Jesus, our Way, Truth and Life." Each parish has been asked to name someone who can coordinate the response in each parish community and, I hope next week, to let you know who has agreed to take on this task. In the coming weeks there will be information about the opportunities to engage with the listening process.

FIRST COMMUNION

This, Sunday, afternoon we have the start of our First Communion celebrations for this year 24 children will be receiving Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time, and a further 24 children next Saturday. These are lovely moments for the children and their families, as well as for the Catechists and the parish. Please keep the children, and their families, in your prayers at this special time.



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.



HARVEST FAST DAY

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day collection, either in church or via online or text. If you haven't yet done so, it's not too late to add your contribution. You can place your contribution in a CAFOD envelope, and drop it through the presbytery letter box, or you can donate online through the CAFOD website or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also easily give via text. Text CAFOD10 to 70580 to donate £10*. Or choose to give any whole amount between £1 and £20 by texting CAFOD, followed by the amount you would like to donate, to 70580. *Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text CAFODNOINFO to 70580.



SINGING IN CHURCH

It's now permitted for the congregation to join in the singing at Mass, but to wear a mask when doing so. You are invited, encouraged, to join in the hymns and Mass parts. If we were revert to the previous practice of printing the hymns, that would require an individual leaflet, for those attending the three Masses, where there is singing. In view of this, and to continue to reduce the amount of printed paper used, the words of the hymns will be included on the sheet, with the readings, that is sent out each week. If you are coming to one of the Masses, at which there is singing, please remember to bring the leaflet with you.

SCHOOL FORMS - A CHANGE OF DATE!

Parents whose children are due to transfer to secondary school in September 2022, are invited to meet the Parish Priest next month. Canon Dwyer will be available in the undercroft, between 5.30pm and 6.30pm, on Monday 11th October, and **Monday 18th October. Please note the change of the second date.**



CHURCH TOILETS

The toilets in church are open. 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.

COFFEE MORNING AND BRING & BUY:



This Wednesday after the 9.15am Mass please join us in the Undercroft for a Coffee Morning & Bring & Buy. Proceeds will go to Open Door. Everyone is very welcome.

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

It's that time of year again. Reception for children starting in September 2022. Open days at St Dominic's school are in the morning 9.30am to 10.30am on Thursdays 11th November, Tuesday 16th November, Thursday 25th November. To request a place on the Open Morning please fill in the form that will be on the website <https://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk/Our-School/Admissions/> or call the school on 01582 760047 to reserve a place. We ask that they don't bring children or toddlers to the open morning.



SUPPORT FOR THE HOMELESS

During the Lenten groups, many of us were struck by Pope Francis's call to us to get out and make a practical difference - often it's hard to know how. Two of our parishioners are very involved in just that - James O'Grady with Keystage Housing and Peter Ward with NOAH, two very different organisations, but both based in Luton and helping the homeless in practical and inspiring ways. It would be good to set up a support group in the Parish to support their work if enough people were interested - to provide volunteers, raise funds and organise donations of e.g. clothes etc. To provide more information, James and Peter will be talking briefly at every Mass next weekend 16th & 17th October. **There will then be the opportunity to learn more at a presentation of the work of both organisations in the Undercroft on Tuesday 19th October at 7.30pm with a view to spreading the word and establishing a support group and details of those prepared to volunteer and/or provide some support.** Both Keystage and NOAH would love to know they are in our prayers and if our support can be by our actions as well, we might in some small way be following the call of Pope Francis.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR:

This will be on Saturday 4th December Lourdes Hall from 10 am - 1 pm.

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

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>

WALK WITH AMAL

Little Amal, a 3.5m puppet of a refugee girl, is walking from the border of Turkey / Syria to Manchester, 8000km, in search of her mother. On her journey she will visit Westminster Cathedral on Monday 25th October at 2pm, where she will be welcomed by Cardinal Vincent. You are invited to join Cardinal Vincent for this Welcome Liturgy and to learn more about migrants and refugees. It is during half term week, an opportunity for families to come together. Further information about Little Amal's journey is available

at <https://www.walkwithamal.org/> Please be seated by 1.45pm.



POPE FRANCIS JOINS WORLD FAITH LEADERS IN URGENT CLIMATE APPEAL AHEAD OF COP26

In response to the "grave threat" of climate change, heads of the world's major religions united at the Vatican to issue an unprecedented joint appeal to government leaders at next month's United Nations climate summit, calling for



"urgent, radical and responsible action" to drastically curb greenhouse gas emissions and for the world's wealthiest countries to lead in healing the planet. "We are currently at a moment of opportunity and truth. We pray that our human family may unite to save our common home before it is too late," the declaration read. "Future generations will never forgive us if we squander this precious opportunity. We have inherited a garden: we must not leave a desert to our children," the faith leaders wrote. You can see more of the statement at <https://www.ncronline.org/news/earthbeat/pope->

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<p>Saturday 9th October 1.00pm</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 6.00pm</p>	<p>St John Henry Newman, Priest Wedding</p> <p>28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Hannah McSweeney RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>
<p>Sunday 10th October 8.00am 9.45am 11.30am</p> <p>2.00pm</p>	<p>28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Ricky Diamond RIP Noel Meyler RIP People of the Parish Zoom Code 836 6789 4285</p> <p>First Holy Communion Mass (1)</p>
<p>Monday 11th October 9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p>Tuesday 12th October 9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>Zoom Code 882 6349 6596</p>
<p>Wednesday 13th October 9.15am</p>	<p>ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, Patron of the Diocese</p>
<p>Thursday 14th October 9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>Zoom Code 852 5159 5807</p>
<p>Friday 15th October</p>	<p>St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor</p>
<p>Saturday 16th October 11.00am</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 6.00pm</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>First Holy Communion Mass (2) 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Sarah Cullinane RIP</p>
<p>Sunday 17th October 8.00am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) People of the Parish Frank Flanagan RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 836 6789 4285</p>
<p>CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER</p>	

[francis-joins-world-faith-leaders-urgent-climate-appeal-ahead-cop26](#)

