



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

28TH NOVEMBER 2021
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Parish Administrator Mrs Melanie Armitage

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

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OLoLHarpenden>

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Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the new liturgical year. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

During this year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel proclaimed. Today we hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described.

Although, Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, he tells his disciples they are not to fear, but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, however, in his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

PARISH ADVENT CALENDAR



DECEMBER 2021

1 ADVENT IS A SEASON OF WAITING AND ANTICIPATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST	2 WE ARE COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR NOAH AND KEYSTAGE HOUSING	3 RUCKSACKS, SHAVING ITEMS, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, SOAP	4 MENS WINTER, MENS NEW SOCKS & UNDERWEAR (S/M)	5 CHOCOLATE ORANGES, CHOCOLATE SELECTION BOXES, BISCUITS	6 LIVE SIMPLY PUTTING OUR FAITH INTO ACTION TO PROTECT THIS EARTH
7 CAFOD-CONSIDER SIMPLE MEAL, WORLD GIFT, PRAYER FOR CAFOD	8 EAST OF THE IMMACULATION CONCEPTION OF MARY	9 WE ARE COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR NOAH AND KEYSTAGE HOUSING	10 CAN OPENERS, MUGS, CUTLERY SETS	11 CANS OF SOFT DRINKS, CARTONS OF JUICE, BOTTLES OF WATER	12 HATS, GLOVES, EAR MUFFS, HEAT PADS, HOT WATER BOTTLES
13 BOT NOODLES, TINS OF FOOD	14 DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP ARE SUPPORTING	15 THE HOLY FAMILY WERE REFUGEES. HOW DO WE WELCOME REFUGEES?	16 HYGIENE BANK-TAKE A LOOK AT THEIR CHRISTMAS APPEAL/ WISHLIST	17 BOTS AND PANS, SMALL KITCHEN ELECTRICALS (KETTLES/TOASTERS)	18 FACE/ BODY WIPES, DEODORANT, TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE
19 CAKES, CRISPS	20 SVP HARPENDEN: TURNING CONCERN INTO ACTION	21 FOODBANK-UHT MILK DONATIONS 1ST SUNDAY EACH MONTH	22 SYNOdal CHURCH PROCESS: LISTENING TO EACH OTHER	23 WE ARE COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR NOAH AND KEYSTAGE HOUSING	24 PRAY FOR ALL OUR PARISH

PARISH ADVENT CALENDAR

Look out for the Parish Advent Calendar located in front of the Church from 1st December! Inside each box are messages and reflections for Advent, the amazing work of our Parish and some of the associated charities we support.

The Parish Homelessness Group are also having a donation drive for the homelessness organisations NOAH Enterprise and Keystage Housing.

This week we are collecting:

Men's winter coats; men's trainers, rucksacks, men's new socks and underwear (small and medium sizes), Shaving items, laundry detergent (small boxes), soap, Chocolate oranges, biscuit and chocolate selection boxes (which will be wrapped as gifts for clients)

Please place donations in the boxes located inside the front door of the church on the left.

There is also mini advent calendar above to remind you of the items that are needed. You can bring them to the Church any day of the week.

If you require any further information please contact Cathy Seaton : cmann100@hotmail.com

SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

ADVENT SERVICE 6pm

Today we begin the season of Advent. To mark this important time there will be a service at 6.00pm, consisting of music and readings. Advent is a beautiful time in the Church's year, but with all that needs to be done, it's easy to miss, to let this important time slip by, almost, unnoticed. So do get yourself into the true Christmas spirit, by focusing on this Advent Season.

HAVE YOU VOTED?

It's been good to have the votes coming in, for the four elected places, on the proposed Parish Pastoral Council. Voting concludes this, Sunday, evening, so, if you haven't yet cast your vote do think about doing so. You may not know the candidates but you can find details of the six parishioners who have offered to serve, on the website, and in the porch. 'Voting' papers', will be found on the website, and in the porch. Your 'votes' can be placed in the box in the porch.



CHANGE OF DATE

It was intended to have an Open Parish Meeting on Sunday December 5th. However, as there are a number of parish activities taking place that weekend, it has been re-scheduled to take place on Sunday January 23rd at 3.00pm. The elected members of the Parish Pastoral Council will be announced on the weekend of 11th/12th December, as planned.

SYNOD 2023

Our parish preparation for the Synod in 2023 continues this week, with a third meeting on Thursday evening, at 7.45pm. Unlike previous Synods which were attended just by bishops and their advisers, this time the Pope wants to hear from the entire Church. Everyone's thoughts and suggestions are of importance. If you haven't yet attended a meeting do think about doing so. This meeting will be a virtual meeting, hopefully that may make it easier for some of you to participate. If you would like to join the meeting please email Sally Faiz: sallyfaiz@gmail.com, for the meeting link.



MEETING WITH BISHOP PAUL

As part of the Westminster Synodal Pathway we are invited to join Bishop Paul McAleenan at an Area Listening Event on Monday 29th November, 7.00pm - 9.00pm, at Garston Parish, Crown Rose, Garston, Watford WD25 ONE. Pope Francis has invited the worldwide Church to a time of listening - of listening deeply to each other as we walk side by side, telling our stories of faith. Here in our local Church, our Diocese, this is just what we are doing. This Area Listening Event is an opportunity to listen, to share, and to dream about the Church we are called to be. All are welcome, and places can be booked by emailing catadmin@rcdow.org.uk.

THURSDAY MASS

Starting next Thursday, Mass will be celebrated on Thursdays at 11.00am, instead of 9.15am.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions will, once again, be heard at a regular time. Starting next Saturday, they will take place between 10.30am and 11.00am; and between 7.00pm and 7.30pm.



FIRST COMMUNION 2022

Next Tuesday is the final day for submitting the registration form, for parents, who want their children to be prepared for First Holy Communion next Summer. The preparation is for children who are currently in year 3 and above. Forms can be collected from Canon Dwyer after Mass today, and when complete, returned to the Parish Office.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

This weekend there will be a collection for flowers so that the church can be decorated for the Christmas season. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



HYMN & MASS BOOKS

Given that everyone sanitises their hands as they come into church, we have been advised, that it is permissible to use hymn books, and parish Mass books again. So, we will start to do so from this weekend. For anyone who is uncomfortable with this, for health reasons, we will, for the time being, continue to send the readings and hymns by email.

RECEPTION APPLICATIONS

Opportunities will shortly be available for parents who are applying for places in Reception, in Catholic Schools, to have the Certificate of Catholic Practise completed. **Canon Dwyer will be available to meet parents, in the undercroft between 5.30pm and 6.30pm, next Tuesday 30th November, and again on Monday 13th December.**

CONFIRMATION 2022

Confirmation for young people in year 9 and above, will be taking place next summer. Forms for registration will be available in the new year.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Please continue to bring items for the Fair to the church porch until Thursday and then to the Lourdes Hall on Friday between 3-5 or 7-9. We especially need **BOTTLES, GIFTS and CAKES**, AND we need **you** to come on the day, even if it is only for 20 minutes between rugby and gymnastics. There will be lots of stalls for all age groups and Father Christmas will be arriving at 11.



Please call Marva on (07943 837277 or marva@cpoauk.com) if you can help. Raffle tickets will be on sale after all the Masses from this weekend.

MONSIGNOR TURNER'S 80TH

We will have volunteers at the Lourdes Hall from 9.30 am onwards if you would like to drop off your food offerings before or after one of the Masses. If you cannot attend but would like to contribute, contact Melanie at the parish office to donate towards the wine and other drinks.



REPOSITORY

The repository has now reopened, after the 9.45am & 11.30 Masses, and has a wide selection of Advent calendars, Cribbs, Christmas cards, Gifts, Missals, Confirmation cards, etc. Come and have a look. Volunteers are needed to help in the repository after all Masses. It only involves a short period after Mass. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office.



LINOCUT CHRISTMAS CARDS

Hand printed linocut Christmas cards by Teresa Newham are now available at a cost of £2 each or three for £5. All proceeds to Our Lady of Lourdes Building Fund. Seven designs to choose from. For further details please call Teresa on (01582) 766403 or email marbretherese@googlemail.com.



DATE FOR YOUR CALENDARS!

SUNDAY 19TH DECEMBER FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

This year there will be three shorter services at the following times. Please come along at the time you wish to take part in traditional carols, readings and refreshments as you leave! For all the family, a beautiful way to start the Christmas week. Services at 3.30pm, 4.15pm and 5.00pm. Please wait to be shown in to the church at the time you have chosen!



CATENIANS CHRISTMAS DINNER - HARPENDEN GOLF CLUB 8TH DEC 6-30 FOR 7PM.

Every year the Catenians organise a Christmas dinner for members of the Catenians, ladies, families, and friends. Most of the members of Luton Circle of the Association are parishioners of OLoL so we would like to invite you join us at this happy and joyous dinner. Given the restrictions of the last eighteen months this relaxing evening could be just what the doctor ordered. The cost is £30.00 per head for this black tie, traditional Christmas dinner including wine. There will be a charity raffle, carol singing, fun and frivolity. Tables of ten will be organised, so groups, couples and single bookings can easily be accommodated. To book your place, please contact John Williams at john.williams58@btinternet.com.



WELCOME ...PEACE BE WITH YOU

Our cultural evening last Sunday was not about providing Joy and entertainment, it was about telling the truth. From Irene Austin, Chair of Hertfordshire Welcomes Refugees: " Just to thank you all for last night and the money you raised for us. It was £805, an amazing donation. It was a really well-planned and moving evening; the choir sang beautifully and the readings were very moving." From a member of the audience: " That was quite an evening, took me out of my narrow little world and made me think of how difficult life must be for refugees. The choir was excellent as was Jon's reading of Khaled Hussein's Sea Prayer, very moving." Thank you to all who performed, helped, attended and donated.

LIVE-STREAMING

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

DAY	TIME	ZOOM CODE
Sun - Mass	11.30am	817 8184 1513
Tuesday - Mass	9.15am	881 8097 5945
Thursday - Mass	11.00am	878 2420 5059

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK

The Diocesan Directory for 2022 has now arrived and can be purchased from the Repository priced £4.50. This contains details of all the parishes and priests in the Diocese, as well as other useful information.



and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service and appropriate references.

PARISH DIARIES 2022

Parish diaries, for the coming year, are now available. Please take one and take one also for a friend or family member that isn't able to attend Mass themselves.

ADVENT DAY BY DAY BOOKS

The Advent Day by Day books have arrived and they are in the porch of the Church. Adults £1 each, juniors and infants 80p each.

MISSIO RED MISSION BOXES

Please return any red boxes to the church and leave them with a steward either before or after mass. It has been some time since the boxes have been emptied. Should you prefer, donations can be made online via the Missio website: missio.org.uk/redbox. Thank you. For any queries please contact Silvia tel. 622215

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL

SEEKING ADDITIONAL MIDDAY SUPERVISORS

St Dominic's School are seeking friendly, enthusiastic and caring individuals to become midday supervisors to help look after our children at lunchtime. Duties include:



- the care and supervision of children during the lunchtime period with responsibility for their health and safety, welfare and good conduct
- supervising children indoors whilst children are eating and outdoors whilst in the playground
- helping to clean and tidy the dining halls

We would welcome interest from those that are able to commit to at least two days a week. The hours of work are 11.50am to 1.05pm each day, term time only. The school welcomes visits. Please contact the school office on 01582 760047 or email on admin@stdominic.herts.sch.uk for further information or to make an appointment.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 27th November
Baptisms 11.30am & 12.30pm
VIGIL MASS 6.00pm

feria
 Goodchild & Orlebar Families
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)
 Sadie Beirnes RIP (Anniv)



Sunday 28th November
 8.00am
 9.45am
 11.30am
 6.00pm

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)
 Erroll Yates RIP (Anniv)
 People of the Parish
 Victor Newham RIP (Anniv)
Zoom Code 817 8184 1513
 Advent Service

Monday 29th November
 9.15am

Advent feria
 Holy Souls

Tuesday 30th November
 9.15am

St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland
 Holy Souls
Zoom Code 881 8097 5945

Wednesday 1st December
 9.15am

Advent feria
 Joan Gaire RIP

Thursday 2nd December
 11.00am

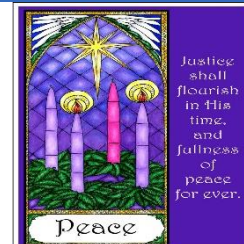
Advent feria
 Cornelius Dennehy RIP (Anniv)
Zoom Code 878 2420 5059

Friday 3rd December

St Francis Xavier, Priest

Saturday 4th December
 Baptism 12.30pm
VIGIL MASS 6.00pm

Advent feria
 Fuggle Family
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)
 Oonagh Lynch RIP (Anniv)



Sunday 5th December
 8.00am
 9.45am
 11.30am

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)
 Derek Grimshaw RIP (Anniv)
 People of the Parish
 Special Intention
Zoom Code 817 8184 1513

CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS 10.30AM - 11.30AM & 7PM - 7.30PM