



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

7TH NOVEMBER 2021

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)



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Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

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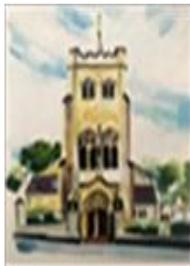
The Gospel presents us with the very image-conscious Scribes and Pharisees. It was more important to be seen and thought of as good and holy than in being really so. "They like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market square, to take the front seats in the synagogue and the places of honour at banquets."

There is a striking contrast between the poor widow described in the second part of today's Gospel and the Scribes and Pharisees in the first part. The simple piety of this woman of no social standing is contrasted with the arrogance and social ambitions of some so-called religious leaders. She is also contrasted with the rich donors ostentatiously offering money they can easily afford. It is doubtful that what they gave involved even the slightest diminution in their standard of living.

This poor woman, in a daring act of trust in God's providence, put into the treasury everything she had — and it was next to nothing. She had two small coins. She put in both. She could have kept one for herself. But the service of God can never be in half measures.

It may seem a foolish thing to do but there are countless examples of people doing this in the service of the Gospel. The Gospel today is saying it is only when we realise that God, and the Way of Jesus, is the only real source of security that we will find the happiness, peace and security we all long for.

It is not money, or property, or university degrees, or professional status, or health that really matter. These can all disappear without warning. What really matters is having complete and utter trust in God, and not what we possess.



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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.**

CONFIRMATION



This weekend 34 of our young people will be confirmed by Bishop Paul McAleenan and next weekend the remaining 16 young people will be confirmed.

Confirmation is one of those special moments in the parish year,

and we rejoice with, and congratulate, those who are being confirmed. Thank you too to those who have supported them on their journey so far, especially their parents, but also the catechists who give their time so generously to prepare them for this special day.

WHERE ARE THE NOMINATIONS?

As we look to establishing the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) an early step is to receive nominations of those who are willing to offer themselves, to serve the parish in this way.

The PPC will be comprised of 12 parishioners, four of whom will be elected. Would you be willing to become a member of the PPC? Would you be willing to put your gifts and experience at the service of the parish? Tomorrow, Monday, is the closing date for nominations. As of now no nominations have been received, which is surprising, considering how many parishioners expressed the view that a Parish Council should be re-established. It would be good to think that there would be parishioners willing to serve the mission of the parish, through this body.



NOVEMBER

During November we remember the Holy Souls, and assist them with our prayers on their journey to God. During the month, a number of Masses will be offered for this intention. If you would like your deceased relatives, or friends, included please email, or drop, the names into the parish office.



OPEN FOR PRAYER



The church is now open for private prayer, or quiet space, Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am to 6.00pm, occasionally these times may need to be adjusted. Anyone who visits the church is asked to wipe their seats afterwards, or any surfaces they have touched, with the wipes provided. As, and when, possible it is hoped to open on Fridays and Saturdays also.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Over the last 20 months a phrase often heard is 'stay safe.' We have been very fortunate that some of our parishioners have been willing to help do just that. Slowly, but cautiously, restrictions are being lifted, but always with an eye on those infection numbers. We have made a few small changes at the weekday Masses. Monday to Wednesday there will be no stewards. Instead, those attending are asked to sanitise their hands, on arrival and departure, tick, or add, their name, to the list, and after Mass wipe their seats, or any surface, they may have touched with wipes provided. After Mass, each Thursday, the church will be cleaned ready for the weekend.

WHERE TO SIT

There is now no requirement to socially distance in church, but the advice continues to be that we should be sensible in this matter. The seats in the centre of the church are for anyone who chooses to sit there. **The seats, on the side aisles, however, are for those who need to socially distance for health reasons, or simply feel more comfortable to do so. In the side seats please only sit where there is a green tick.**

YOUR SUPPORT

Once again, thank you to everyone who has continued to support the parish since the beginning of the Pandemic, whether by standing order, or via envelopes or other contributions. Now that numbers are gradually increasing the collection will be restored to its regular place in the Mass, just after the Bidding Prayers. In order to stay safe please do not pass the collection 'bag' along, only the collector will hold it, and in the central, wider, seats the collection will be made from both ends.

SYNOD 2023

Our parish preparation for the Synod in 2023 began last Thursday evening. In addition to the planned meetings there will be other opportunities for those who wish to contribute to this 'Synodal Pathway'. Everyone's voice, and thoughts, have a place. In particular the voices of those who may feel disengaged from the Church, for whatever reason, are particularly welcome. Please help us to reach them, and let them know about this process. If they do not wish to attend a meeting, there is the opportunity for an individual conversation, as there is for everyone. This pathway is a listening process, as Pope Francis writes: "We need a respectful, mutual listening, free of ideology and predetermined agendas."

For more information about individual conversations, or any other aspects, please contact Sally Faiz sallyfaiz@googlemail.com or Canon Dwyer.

- ❖ A prayer for the 'Synodal Pathway' has been produced, and copies distributed this weekend.

SMALL GROUPS

Next Tuesday, 9th November, the small groups begin meeting, as a part of our Parish response to Pope Francis' initiative, 'For A Synodal Church. Pope



Francis has launched a worldwide process of listening and discerning, 'a synodal pathway' from October 2021 - 2023... The Pope is inviting the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission. Everyone is very welcome please respond to: juliaandnigel057@gmail.com or rachellee987@gmail.com Please state your preference 1,2,3 for Tues/Thurs morning, afternoon or evening.

THE SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Today's second collection is for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. Your contributions help to ensure our sick and older priests are financially supported, having given a lifetime of dedicated service. Now we have a chance to give back and ensure they have peace of mind during their senior years, when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility. Please use the envelopes in the church for your donation. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online, reducing the risks to everyone of handling cash. Thank you in advance for your kindness. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. Thank You.

FIRST COMMUNION 2022

Preparation for First Holy Communion, for children who are currently in year 3 and above, will be commencing in the New Year. Parents who wish to register their children for this Sacrament should collect a form from Canon Dwyer after Mass today. Forms need to be returned to the Parish Office by 30th November.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Remembrance Sunday, when we remember those who died in the two world wars, and the conflicts since. The annual service, led by Harpenden churches, will take place on Church Green, commencing at 10.50am, with the two minute silence at 11.00am.



WRAP UP!

The advice continues to be that the Church needs to be kept well ventilated. So, although the heating is on, the doors must remain open, even as it gets colder. Extra layers, may be a good idea when attending Mass.



ST ALBANS AND DISTRICT FOOD BANK

Milk and juice collections for the foodbank are resuming THIS WEEKEND! The need is greater than ever. So please, if you can, bring a carton of UHT milk or long life fruit juice to the church this Saturday or Sunday even if you are not attending Mass. Thank you.



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



REPOSITORY

The repository has now reopened, initially only after the 11.30 Mass, and has a wide selection of Advent calendars, Christmas cards, gifts, Missals, Confirmation cards, gifts, 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.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

After the Covid interruption of the last two years, we will be holding this parish-wide event on Saturday December 4th from 10am to 1pm at the Lourdes Hall. The Church is now open most days, so you can begin bringing in your donations of gifts, toys, books, jewellery, tombola and bric-a-brac (no 2nd hand clothing please), or you can drop off at the parish office during opening hours. We will also need helpers to set up, 'man' the stalls and clear up, so please contact Marva (07943 837277 or marva@cpoauk.com) if you can help. Raffle tickets will be on sale after all the Masses from next week.



COFFEE MORNING

Many thanks to all who came to the recent Ladies' Group Coffee Morning. We have donated £200 to the St Albans' Open Door.

MONSIGNOR TURNER'S 80TH

Mgr. Turner will be celebrating a significant birthday in December. To mark this special day he will be the



Celebrant at the 11.30am Mass on Sunday 5th December, and there will be a reception afterwards, for everyone, in Lourdes Hall. We will shortly be posting a sign-up sheet

in the porch to indicate how many in your family will be attending and what you might wish to bring. We are sure that many of you will wish to mark this joyous event.

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Its 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.



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	9.15am	878 2420 5059

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

London welcomed Little Amal.....she visited the market; the Opera House and St. Paul's Cathedral. She celebrated her 10th birthday at the V&A with children from all over London. There was a special service at Westminster Cathedral before she left for Oxford and the rest of her journey reaching Manchester on 3rd November for a spectacular finale. It has been a wonderful venture to bring awareness to the refugee problem which is worldwide. If you would like to learn how Hertfordshire Welcomes refugees come to our very own cultural event on Sunday 21st November at 7.30 pm in Lourdes Hall. Tickets are £10 per person and all proceeds to go to Herts Welcomes Refugees. Tickets will be after all masses this weekend and 13/14 November. For more information please phone Margaret Cox 01582 713727

POPE FRANCIS - THE 'LAUDATO SI' READER:

"This is a moment to dream big, to rethink our priorities - what we value, what we want, what we seek - and re-plan our future, committing to act in our daily life on what we have dreamed of.... The recent past has shown us that it is primarily our children who understand the scale and enormity of the challenges society faces, especially the climate crisis. We must listen to them with open hearts. We must follow their lead for they are wise beyond their years. The time to act, and to act together, is now!"

The 'Laudato si' Reader. An Alliance of Care for Our Common Home' will also be available in print from: <http://www.libreriaeditricevaticana.va>.

SVP VINNIE PACKS

"The SVP are distributing **11,500 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.70 per pack? Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code **60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237**. Thank you so much for your support."

THE HARPENDEN TRUST

Is looking for volunteer Christmas Appeal Collectors for December/January. The Care Fund is dependent on the funds raised by its annual Christmas appeal to support individuals and families in Harpenden. If you can spare a few hours this December/January then please contact the office: 01582 460457/ admin@theharpentrust.org.uk"

LIVESIMPLY QUOTE

Doomsday predictions can no longer be met with irony or disdain. We may well be leaving to coming generations debris, desolation and filth. The pace of consumption, waste and environmental change has so stretched the planet's capacity that our contemporary lifestyle, unsustainable as it is, can only precipitate catastrophes, such as those even now periodically occur in different areas of the world.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 6th November
 11.00am & 2.30pm
VIGIL MASS 6.00pm

feria
CONFIRMATION MASSES (1 & 2)
32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
 Frank McConnachie RIP

Sunday 7th November
 8.00am
 9.45am
 11.30am

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
 People of the Parish
 Frank McHugh RIP (Recently Deceased)
 Maura Grimshaw RIP (Anniv)
Zoom Code 817 8184 1513 NEW CODE

Monday 8th November
 9.15am

feria
 Michael O'Brien RIP (Recently Deceased)

Tuesday 9th November
 9.15am

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
 Holy Souls
Zoom Code 881 8097 5945 NEW CODE

Wednesday 10th November
 9.15am

St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor
 Peter Trueland RIP

Thursday 11th November
 9.15am

St Martin of Tours, Bishop
 Holy Souls
Zoom Code 878 2420 5059 NEW CODE

Friday 12th November

St Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

Saturday 13th November
 11.00am
VIGIL MASS 6.00pm

feria
CONFIRMATION MASS (3)
33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
 Brian Armitage RIP

Sunday 14th November
 8.00am
 9.45am
 11.30am

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
 Peter Trueland RIP (Anniv)
 James Kelly RIP (Anniv)
 People of the Parish
Zoom Code 817 8184 1513 NEW CODE

CONFESSIONS - BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH CANON DWYER