



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

19TH DECEMBER 2021
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)



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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

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

Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

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May this Christmas, be a time of peace, joy and many blessings!

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 ROT 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

Hopefully, you won't have missed the Parish Advent Calendar, located in front of the Church. 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.

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

KEEP SAFE

It's Good to see that almost everyone, coming to church, is wearing a mask. As you know the guidance from both the government and diocese, is that we continue to do so in crowded places. So do keep wearing a mask, unless exempt. In that, and other ways, we continue to do what we can, to stay safe, and help to keep others safe also.



CHRISTMAS MASSES

- **Request your Place** -

Christmas Masses will be celebrated at 10.00pm on Christmas Eve, and at 8.00am, 9.45am and 11.30am on Christmas Day. In the interests of safety everyone will need to have a seat, which must be requested in advance. This is far from ideal, but is necessary if we are to try and ensure our church is as safe as possible. If you would like to request a seat please do so via the website

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden/events/>

For these four Masses all seats in the church, including the side seats, will be available to everyone. However, anyone who needs to 'socially distance' should contact the parish office, and an appropriate arrangement can be made.

CAROL SERVICES

This afternoon there will be three carol services. The reason for having three is to try and ensure that the church doesn't become overcrowded. The three services will be shorter than usual, and take place at 3.30pm, 4.15pm and 5.00pm. Do come along and enter into the true Christmas spirit. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served, outdoors, after each service.



SUNDAY 26TH DECEMBER

Sunday 26th December, is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. There will be two Masses at 9.45am and 11.30am. **There is no Mass at 8.00am.**

NEW YEARS DAY

To mark the beginning of the new year there will be Mass at 10.00am. A good way to start the year, asking God's blessing on all that may lie before us. **There is no 6.00pm Mass on Saturday January 1st.**

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Details of everything that is happening in church over the next few weeks will be found in the Christmas leaflet, which has been emailed to you with the Newsletter last weekend, copies are available in the porch for Parishioners who do not receive the email/have a printer. Do please collect a copy, and note that there are a few changes to the regular schedule.



CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

The offertory collection on Christmas Day, is by tradition, for the benefit of those priests working in parishes. Priests don't receive a salary, so this collection, with that of Easter, contributes to their upkeep. Envelopes for your contributions will be found in the porch.



CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

The children's Nativity will be taking place on Christmas Eve at 5pm. This will only be open to those participating, but it will be live-streamed for anyone who wishes to watch. For live-streaming details please see page 6



PENITENTIAL SERVICE TOMORROW AT 7.30PM

Reconciliation, going to Confession, is an essential part of our preparation for Christmas. This Advent, happily, we are once again able to have our Penitential Service. This will take place, tomorrow, Monday 20th December, at 7.30pm.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Thank you very much to everyone who supported the collection for the Christmas flowers, over the last two weekends. Through your generosity, and with the skills of our flower arrangers, our church will, as always be beautifully decorated, for this great feast.



MESSAGE FROM MONSIGNOR TURNER

Dear Canon Anthony,

It was a tremendous privilege to be invited to celebrate Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes and be invited to a parish lunch to mark my 80th Birthday in Lourdes Hall. I had not anticipated this kind of thing happening at all, but it certainly was a delightful occasion. I was very humbled by the amount of work that went into the preparation and by all the people kindly coming along to the celebration. Please convey my wholehearted thanks to every for their greetings and for their kindness.

With very best wishes,

Harry Turner

FUNERALS

MARGARET WOODHOUSE (JEAN) RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Margaret Woodhouse (Jean) who died recently, her Requiem Mass will be on Monday 20th December at 11.00am.

MARY HOCKRIDGE (JO) RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Mary Hockridge (Jo) the funeral will be held at West Herts Crematorium on 30th December at 12.40pm

We remember all the families in our prayers at this time. May they Rest in Peace.

SYNODAL PATHWAY 2023

We will continue our Synodal conversations into January, with the deadline for our submission to the Diocese on the 19th January.

There will be a youth meeting organised by young parishioners in January, details to come.

If you would like to contribute please do either reach out for a conversation (please email caroleacox@btinternet.com), send in your observations on the questions previously circulated or gather a group of friends to have an informal chat and feedback your collective thoughts to sallyfaiz@gmail.com or michelle.heys@gmail.com. As ever, we are keen to hear thoughts from those disengaged from the Church for whatever reason.

REPOSITORY

The repository has now reopened, after all Masses, and has a wide selection of last minute Christmas items, Cribbs, Christmas cards, Gifts, Missals, cards, etc. Come and have a look.

CAFOD, SPECIAL APPEAL



As a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee is

making a Special Appeal over Christmas for the people of Afghanistan. Eight million people, including children, are on the brink of starvation. As well as the fighting there and the massive social upheaval, they have experienced the worst drought for 27 years. Please try to give something to the Emergency Appeal this Christmas. For more information and how to donate go to: [CAFOD joins DEC appeal for Afghanistan | CAFOD](#) A second collection will be held for this appeal on Sunday 2nd January after all Masses.

NEWSLETTER

The next Newsletter will be on Sunday, 9th January. Keep an eye on the web-site, and the parish Facebook page, for any news.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Many thanks to those who bought hand printed linocut Christmas cards this year, this raised £195 for the church building fund.

LIVE-STREAMING

Masses and Services will be live-streamed on Zoom, and YouTube this coming week. [Please see page 6 for all the details.](#)

Please note there is no live-streaming from 26th December to 1st January inclusive.

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.



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.



NOAH ENTERPRISES



There are copies of Noah News in the porch. Noah is one of the

charities which the parish is currently supporting and this booklet describes some of the work in which they are involved. Noah have expressed their gratitude for the many excellent donations which have been made to date.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS 6TH FORM PUBLIC SPEAKING CHALLENGE

The Catenian Association organises an annual national Catholic Schools 6th Form Public Speaking Challenge. Each Province of the Association stages its own event with its winner going through to the national final held in Manchester in September. Currently thirteen schools have indicated that their students will take part in the Province 14 competition to be held at the University of Hertfordshire on 3rd March 2022. The schools in our province that are nearest to Harpenden are St Columba's College and Nicholas Breakspear, St Albans; Cardinal Newman, Luton and St John Henry Newman, Stevenage. The Chair of Judges is Bishop Paul McAleenan, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster. For more information about the competition, please see our poster on the notice board or contact Jon Newham at jonathan.newham@googlemail.com, who can also provide more information about the Catenian Association.





A four-week singing project designed to bring fun and joy whilst raising money and awareness for NOAH and Key Stage Housing. Learn four songs in four weeks with no previous singing experience required - it is for everyone to "Sing for" the many reasons we each may wish to sing!

Tuesday evenings 7.30pm - 9.00pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Starting Tuesday 18th January for four weeks. Costs £35 per person for the four-week project.

Sing for.... projects 2 and 3 will follow later in the year starting 26th April and 13th September respectively. Be a part of all three, or as many as you wish!

Sign up on the sheet at the back of the Church or by emailing katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk

QUOTE FROM THE LITURGY GROUP


O almighty and merciful God, Lord of the universe and of history. All that You have created is good and your compassion for the mistakes of mankind knows no limits. We come to You today to ask You to keep in peace the world and its people, to keep far away from it the devastating wave of terrorism, to restore friendship and instill in the hearts of your creatures the gift of trust and of readiness to forgive.

Pope Francis



CATHOLIC NEWS

Since the start of the pandemic, the Catholic weekly's have all gone out of business. However now a new paper "Catholic Post" has been produced. It is available free of charge, in the porch, do collect a copy.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<p>Saturday 18th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VIGIL MASS 6.00pm</p>	<p>Advent feria 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)</p> <p>John McKenna RIP (Anniv)</p>	
<p>Sunday 19th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.00am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)</p> <p>People of the Parish Bernard St John Glew RIP Mike Gaire RIP (Anniv)</p>	<p>Zoom Code 817 8184 1513</p>
<p>Monday 20th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am 11.00am 7.30pm</p>	<p>Advent feria</p> <p>Requiem Mass Margaret Woodhouse Advent Penitential Service</p>	
<p>Tuesday 21st December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am</p>	<p>Advent feria</p> <p>Carmel Ebbs (Spec Ints)</p>	<p>Zoom Code 881 8097 5945</p>
<p>Wednesday 22nd December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am</p>	<p>Advent feria</p> <p>John Conway RIP (Anniv)</p>	
<p>Thursday 23rd December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.00am</p>	<p>Advent feria</p> <p>Teresa Newham (Spec Ints)</p>	<p>Zoom Code 878 2420 5059</p>
<p>Friday 24th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5.00pm</p>	<p>Advent feria</p> <p>Children's Nativity By Zoom</p>	<p>Zoom Code 870 9826 0541</p>

CHRISTMAS SEASON

<p>Friday 24th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mass During the Night 10.00pm</p>	<p>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</p> <p>People of the Parish</p>	
<p>Saturday 25th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.00am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</p> <p>People of the Parish People of the Parish People of the Parish</p>	
<p>Sunday 26th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY & JOSEPH (C) (No 8am Mass)</p> <p>Ninetta Durso RIP</p>	

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