



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

13TH FEBRUARY 2022

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden

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

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As we contemplate the Gospel, we may feel there is a contradiction in the words: 'How happy are you who are poor' - surely the Church condemns the world's poverty? Jesus is speaking here of the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom is the society that Jesus wants to establish and not just in some future life. Jesus began his public life by announcing his mission in the synagogue in Nazareth; 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor.' In the Kingdom, the good news for the poor and the hungry is the promise of a society which will protect and care for them. There is still a long way to go in making that Kingdom a reality.

In the Kingdom, there can be no rich or poor, because those who have more will share with those who do not have enough. This is not "charity", but justice, each having what is their due. In 'charity' I give what I can easily spare; in justice I share what I have. It means seeing the poor as truly brothers and sisters and sharing with them. The bottom line is not poverty or wealth, but where we put our security. Do I put my security in what I have or in an interdependent community where each supports the other and all are taken care of? This is the ideal, the vision of the Kingdom, it is the mission of the Church and the responsibility of every disciple of Jesus. Then everyone will be able to enjoy the happiness of the Kingdom - not only in some future life, but in this world, in this society.

REMINDER

FOR WHEN YOU ENTER THE CHURCH

Use the Hand Gel on arrival & departure

Please continue to wear a Face Covering

If you are unwell or have COVID

please **do not** come to the Church

Thank You

SYNOD MEETINGS

Following the various meetings that took place in the parish, a summary of the discussions has now been prepared. This was distributed at the Masses last Sunday. If you didn't receive a copy, or would like one, please contact Sally Faiz at:

sallyfaiz@googlemail.com

SIGN OF PEACE

Since the closure of the churches, the Sign of Peace has been suspended. The latest guidance, however, states that, if appropriate, this may now be reinstated. So, we will do so from this Sunday, but slightly differently. For the time being we will resist shaking hands, for everyone's safety and comfort. Instead, the invitation will be to make a gesture of peace to each other. That could be to say 'peace be with you' or a bow towards those around us, or even just a smile!!



ALLEN HALL NEWS

Our Diocesan Seminary, Allen Hall, have produced a newsletter, providing some information, about the life of the seminary. Copies are available in the porch, if you would like one, please help yourselves.

HOLY WATER

Holy water is now available again in Church. Everytime we take Holy Water, and make the sign of the cross we are reminded of our Baptism. The Holy Water will be changed each week.



RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

WHAT'S IT GOT TO DO WITH ME?

Today is Racial Justice Sunday, and the Catholic Church in England and Wales has produced some resources on the theme "in the image and likeness of God", celebrating different presentations of the Holy Family from different countries and cultures. You can find out more at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

ALTAR SERVERS

Some of you may have noticed that, since the resumption of the regular celebration of Mass, there has been a steep decline in the number of Altar Servers.

Altar Servers, make an important contribution to the celebration of the liturgy, so it is necessary to recruit some more. Any boys or girls, who have made their First Communion, once trained, can serve at Mass. Some training will shortly be taking place for those who wish to exercise this ministry. Names please of those who would like to become Altar Servers, and those who may have not served for some time, but wish to resume, to the parish office, or have a word with Canon Dwyer.



GRATEFUL THANKS TO MARVA AND THE LADIES GROUP

The DWG would like to express their deepest gratitude to Marva and the Ladies Group for the splendid Banish the Blues supper which they organized last Saturday. It was a resounding success! They have kindly donated the magnificent sum of £1,500 towards our latest project: Hope children's pre and primary school, set up five years ago and lacking playground facilities; it serves the children of mothers affected by HIV/AIDS. This donation is a superb third of the total £4,500 pledged by the DWG. Sincere thanks again! If you would like any more information on the work of the DWG please visit our website or contact elizabeth.hines@gmail.com



LENT GROUPS 2022

The Parish of OLOL invites you to join a faith sharing group, meeting once a week for the 6 weeks of Lent. These are friendly, welcoming groups of parishioners and friends of any denomination or none. We pray, reflect and share our thoughts on a given theme (to be announced). There is no pressure on anyone to speak, just come and listen if that is what suits you best. Start:- Week beginning 28th February Please reply stating your preferences for day and time, numbering your options 1st/2nd/3rd eg 1st Mon morning/ 2nd Wed afternoon/ 3rd Tues evening rachellee987@gmail.com juliaandnigel057@gmail.com 01582 760295 or 07891083251



LIVE-STREAMING

Masses will be live-streamed on Zoom, and YouTube this coming week. [Please see page 4 for all the details.](#)

HAVING FUN HELPING OTHERS.

The Parish Homeless Action Group is supporting local Catenians who are organising 'Masquerade - a fun evening of opera' on **Saturday 26th February** at Holy Ghost Parish Centre, 33 Westbourne Rd, Luton LU4 8JD in aid of NOAH, the Luton-based charity working across Bedfordshire offering hope and support to people struggling against homelessness and exclusion. You may remember that Peter Ward, one of our parishioners, spoke about NOAH in church in October; and also with Keystage Housing, gave a presentation in the crypt a few days later on the work they do and the support we as a parish can try to provide. Whether you are an opera lover or not you will be enraptured by the singing and the joyous occasion, so come along to this light but professionally sung gala evening, at the same time supporting a great cause. Bid in advance to have your favourite song performed in front of you. Win the prize for the best masquerade mask. Make up a group, bring your friends and book tickets at £32 per head (a price kept as low as possible even though the event is being staged to generate funds for NOAH) via <https://noah-masquerade-opera.eventbrite.co.uk>.



See the poster on the notice board in the porch.

ST DOMINIC'S NURSERY APPLICATIONS

Nursery applications close 1st March. The Final Open Morning is on Tues 22nd February @9.30am to 10.30am. If you would like to visit there is a Sign up sheet on school website. For more information please see our Website.

<https://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk/Our-School/Admissions/>



CAFOD'S WALK AGAINST HUNGER LENT CHALLENGE

There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. This Lent, challenge yourself to walk 200km, and help give hunger its marching orders. Do 5k a day, your way, for 40 days, get sponsored and you'll conquer your

200km target in time for Easter - and help people around the world to live free from hunger. To find out more or take part, go to cafod.org.uk/walk.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022

This year's World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday 4th March. The main Harpenden service will take place at 10.30am at the United Reformed Church, Vaughan Road, and there will be a service on Zoom at 7.45pm. This year's service is written by the women of England, Wales & Northern Ireland with the theme "I know the plans I have for you." The World Day of Prayer raises around £250,000 each year in the UK for distribution to charity - visit www.wwdp.org.uk for details or to make a donation. For more information on the Harpenden services please see the postcards in the porch.

SITUATION VACANT



Applications for the post of Parish Administrator (part-time, 25hrs) at St Nicholas', Harpenden are now being taken. To receive details, please contact the parish office:

office@parishofharpenden.org; Tel: 01582 765524. Deadline for applications is midday, 1 March 2022. Interviews are expected to be held in the week of 14th March.

AVAILABLE FOR WORK

A parishioner, who comes recommended is seeking domestic or care work. For more information please speak to Canon Dwyer.

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Harpenden Child Contact Centre is a volunteer-led charity proving a safe and welcoming space for children to see their parents when that might not otherwise be possible. Being involved is immensely rewarding. We are always keen to recruit new people whether as members, volunteers or trustees; at the moment we need particularly volunteers willing to help run the Centre as Coordinators. Would suit someone locally based, with an empathy for families and a few spare hours. Training and mentoring will be provided and you will be joining a friendly and enthusiastic group of people. To find out more please contact Ken Brennan ken.brennan@virginmedia.com 07913 781167 or Ric Belfield Richard.belfield@ntlworld.com 07768 502043.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<p>Saturday 12th February 12 Noon 3.00pm</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 6.00pm</p>	<p>feria Baptism Walton Family One Sing Concert in Church</p> <p>6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) Special Intention (MAS)</p>
<p>Sunday 13th February</p> <p>8.00am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)</p> <p>Eileen O' Dempsey RIP (Recently Deceased) People of the Parish Pat Butler RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p>Monday 14th February 9.15am</p>	<p>Ss Cyril, Month & Methodius, Bishop Mary Murphy RIP</p>
<p>Tuesday 15th February 9.15am</p>	<p>feria Eddie Quinn RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 846 8231 6518</p>
<p>Wednesday 16th February 9.15am</p>	<p>feria John McKenna RIP</p>
<p>Thursday 17th February 11.00am</p>	<p>feria Denis Mann RIP Zoom Code 843 3670 2322</p>
<p>Friday 18th February</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p>Saturday 19th February</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 6.00pm</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) Frank McConnachie RIP (Anniv)</p>
<p>Sunday 20th February</p> <p>8.00am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)</p> <p>People of the Parish Charles Sharet (Ints) Elizabeth & Timothy O'Mahony RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>

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