



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

27TH FEBRUARY 2022

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

Presbytery: 1, Kirkwick Avenue, Harpenden AL5 2QH Tel: 01582 712245

Email: anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator Mrs Melanie Armitage

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

Telephone: 01582 712245 or email: harpenden@rcdow.org.uk

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

Email: harpensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Tel: 07881 785 299

Next Wednesday, we commence our forty days of preparation for the great Feast of Easter. Forty days during which we are invited to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. As we set out on these forty days, the thought of self-denial, in particular, may not be a particularly attractive option. It's never easy to say 'no' to ourselves. But that 'no' during Lent, especially, is very important because it provides us with an opportunity to say a more wholehearted 'yes' to God.

Although we may, rightly, focus on saying 'no' to ourselves, in certain areas of our lives, that could sound somewhat negative, but it's not! It's important that we see Lent for what it is a time of opportunity, a time to grow in our faith, a time to grow closer to the Lord.

This Lenten journey we don't make alone, we make it, in, and amongst other people. There are others making sacrifices, and trying to share the Lord's life more deeply, hopefully, that is an encouragement to us. At the time we might hope that what we do during Lent, will be of benefit to others, not least, what we might save through self-denial, may enable us to give some support to those in need.

And, as the Cardinal suggests in his letter today, there is another way. Not everyone has returned to Mass, in fact about 40% are still absent. The Cardinal suggests: 'I would like you to be ready to approach those whom you know, and who are not present here today, with a word of invitation for them to join us. I know this is not easy. You may well feel it is an intrusive thing to do'. For ourselves, and for others, we can hear, and extend, that invitation of Ash Wednesday's first reading: 'come back to me with all your heart'.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Next Wednesday, we commence the season of Lent, 40 days, when we are called to prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Masses on Ash Wednesday, will be celebrated at 9.15am and 6.00pm, and the ashes blessed and distributed. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence, when we are asked to eat less than usual, and refrain from eating meat.

FRIDAYS IN LENT

Friday is always a significant day, as we recall the Passion and Death of the Lord; and this is particularly so on the Fridays of Lent. **Each Friday during Lent, Mass will be celebrated at 7.00pm, and will be followed by the Stations of the Cross.**

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

LENTEN ALMS

During Lent it is customary to donate what is saved, through self-denial, to the Lenten Alms. In this Diocese the Lenten Alms are donated to the 'Cardinal's Appeal', which supports initiatives run by parishes and Caritas Westminster to enable people on the margins to lead a life of dignity and worth. You can view two short films about the impact of your previous support, on the website www.CardinalsLentenAppeal.org.uk. Your contributions to the Cardinal's Appeal, can be placed in the box, on the right, in front of Our Lady's altar. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, envelopes are available in the porch.

SUGGESTIONS FOR LENT

New Beginnings - A Journey from Lent to Easter

A Lent reflection leaflet produced by Anne O'Connor with brief daily reflections.

Link: www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/resources/new-beginnings-a-journey-from-lent-to-easter/

LENT RESOURCES FROM REDEMPTORIST PUBLICATIONS

Including 'A Lenten Camino' by Janet Fearn, 'Lent Extra' and 'The Lenten Journey' with Fr Denis McBride See: www.rpbooks.co.uk/

CAFOD Lent Resources

Daily Lent Reflections sent to emails from Ash Wednesday. They will include a reflection on one of the readings of the day, stories of the global family, a prayer and a suggested action.

Subscribe here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent-prayers>

LENT WEBINAR: FASTING FOR CREATION: HOW LENT CAN HELP US CARE FOR CREATION

The Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach in Washington is offering this webinar on Tuesday, 15 March. Contact ccaoprograms@columban.org for registration details.

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

BACK TO 8.30am

This Sunday, 27th February, the first Mass, on Sunday, will return to being celebrated at 8.30am. Now that we no longer need to sanitise the church after each Mass, after almost two years of disruption, all of the Mass times are now returned to their previous times.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to the 51 children who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last Tuesday. A special moment for them, and one that, it is hoped, will be repeated by them, and their families, throughout their lives.

BERNADETTE O'DONNELL (TIMMS) RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Bernadette O'Donnell (Timms) who died recently. Bernadette's graveside funeral will take place on Tuesday 1st March at 10.30am. We remember Bernadette's family in our prayers at this time.

PHYLLIS DANBY RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Phyllis Danby who died recently. Phyllis's Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 10th March at 11am. We remember Phyllis's family in our prayers at this time.

ROBERT HUTCHISON RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Robert Hutchison who died recently. Roberts Requiem Mass will be on Monday 14th March at 10am. We remember Rober's family in our prayers at this time.

GETTING MARRIED?

Couples intending to get married, need to give at least six months' notice, as required by the Diocese. Pre-marriage preparation, provides an opportunity to reflect, not just on the wedding, which is for a day, but



on the marriage, which is for life, as well as looking at the other necessary arrangements. Anyone getting married within the next year should be in contact with Canon Dwyer. If you know of couples hoping to marry in the coming year, please draw their attention to this notice.

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.

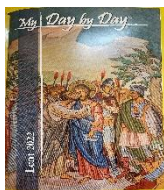


REPOSITORY GIFTS

The repository holds a range of cards and gifts suitable for Baptism, such as bibles, picture frames, crosses and rosaries. The Repository is open after each Weekend Mass, why not come and have a look. Gifts and Cards are also available for First Communion, Confirmation, Weddings etc

LENT & EASTER DAY BY DAY BOOKS

The Lent and Easter Day by Day books have arrived and they are in the Repository. Adults £1 each, juniors and infants 80p each.



PARISH WALKS

Spring is in the air and the birds around me are beginning to make their nests which means the time has come to re start our walks in our beautiful Rothhamstead Park. Some of you will have heard that I have taken over their organisation from Sue Martin. New walkers are always welcome and do feel free to join us. **We walk on the second Wednesday of the month and our first one this year will be on March 9th after Mass.** We walk



for half an hour or so, everyone at their own speed and then withdraw to a nearby cafe for a drink and chat. If it's raining we go straight for the coffee.

If you would like to join us please contact me:

Janet Evers Tel 01582 621960

Email Janet.evers1938@gmail.com

ST PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH

This very popular annual event will be on Thursday 17 March in the Undercroft from 12 noon. Proceeds will go to Sister Margaret's Barcelona Project in South Africa. Tickets are £10 (including welcome drink and lunch) and will be on sale after all the Masses this weekend.



ST. ALBANS AND DISTRICT FOODBANK

Milk and juice collections for the foodbank will be done next week-end. So please, if you can, bring a carton of UHT milk or long life fruit juice to the church next Saturday or Sunday.



ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL,
SATURDAY 14TH MAY 2022 AT 3PM.

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary, please give the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email), by 30th March to Melanie in the Parish Office.



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.

CAFOD, FAIRTRADE AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

Did you know Our Lady of Lourdes, is a Fairtrade parish? And Monday 21 February begins this year's Fairtrade Fortnight. In 2022 CAFOD is continuing to highlight the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities Fairtrade works with. The facts are straightforward. Farmers and workers in countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia and Honduras, who have done the least to contribute to climate change, are disproportionately affected by it. The climate crisis is the biggest threat to the livelihoods of millions of small-scale farmers and agricultural workers in low-income countries worldwide. Farmers need better incomes and financial support to adapt to changing weather patterns and change their farming methods to ensure a low-carbon economy. By buying Fairtrade products, you show solidarity with those on the frontline of the climate crisis. You are part of the Fairtrade movement, and you have the power to drive long-term change, not only with your shopping choices but with your support in spreading the message. You can find out lots more about Fairtrade from a short YouTube presentation at:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/fairtradefoundation>

Laudato Si

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022

This year's World Day of Prayer will take place next 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.

AVAILABLE FOR WORK

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

LIVE-STREAMING

Masses will be live-streamed on Zoom, and YouTube this coming week. Please see page 5 for all the details.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<p>Saturday 26th February 12.00 Noon</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 6.00pm</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>Baptism - Bortoli Family</p> <p>8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)</p> <p>Maureen King RIP</p>
<p>Sunday 27th February</p> <p>8.30am</p> <p>9.45am</p> <p>11.30am</p>	<p>8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)</p> <p>Gerald Ward RIP</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Bridget Flanagan RIP (Anniv)</p> <p>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p>Monday 28th February 9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p>Tuesday 1st March 9.15am</p> <p>10.30am</p>	<p>ST DAVID, Bishop, Patron of Wales</p> <p>Zoom Code 846 8231 6518</p> <p>Graveside Funeral of Bernadette O'Donnell (Timms)</p>
<p>Wednesday 2nd March 9.15am</p> <p>6.00pm</p>	<p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Kathleen Reeves RIP</p>
<p>Thursday 3rd March 11.00am</p>	<p>Lent feria</p> <p>John Cheevers RIP (Anniv)</p> <p>Zoom Code 843 3670 2322</p>
<p>Friday 4th March 7.00pm</p>	<p>Lent feria</p> <p>Mass followed by Stations of the Cross</p>
<p>Saturday 5th March 12.00 Noon</p> <p>VIGIL MASS 6.00pm</p>	<p>Lent feria</p> <p>Baptisms Tanner & Doyle Families</p> <p>1ST SUNDAY OF LENT (C)</p> <p>Bernadette Timms RIP</p>
<p>Sunday 6th March</p> <p>8.30am</p> <p>9.45am</p> <p>11.30am</p>	<p>1ST SUNDAY OF LENT (C)</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Kathleen Crown (Sp Ints)</p> <p>Walter Giles RIP</p> <p>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>

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