



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

13TH MARCH 2022
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (C)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

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It's not unusual, in the Gospels, to hear of Jesus going off to a quiet place to pray. And that should not be surprising when we remember that prayer is communion with God, and Jesus would most certainly have wanted to in communion with his Father. In today's gospel, while he and the disciples are praying, something unusual happens. Jesus is transfigured before them and they encounter other significant figures from Israel's history. While the disciples strive to 'hang on' to the experience, their lack of understanding shows, they hear the voice of God telling them to listen. The disciples had an experience of the divine that was beyond their ability to explain on that mountain. They saw their teacher, Jesus, transformed before them, and they struggled to make sense of the experience.

Disciples, then and now, may be confused about what we are experiencing, but we rely on God and Jesus to guide our attempts at responding to the circumstances before us. Even though the disciples cannot understand their experiences yet, they trust in Jesus. This relationship will continue to anchor and guide them after Jesus is no longer physically present with them. This holy moment on the mountain will serve as an affirmation of who Jesus is on dark days when they struggle to know what to do.

Similarly, the first reading reminds us that God's plan for us, like God's plan for Abram, is life, descendants, and goodness. Grounded in our own relationships with God, we trust in God's promise of abundance, even when we are anxious and cannot see how it will come about. A sky crowded with stars reminds us of God's faithfulness. May our actions be guided by our confidence in God rather than fear.



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 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. The groups are now up and running and if you'd like to join or find out more please contact Rachel Lee rachellee987@gmail.com or Julia Roche 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 this 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

PRAYING FOR, AND SUPPORTING, UKRAINE

We all continue to be horrified by the devastating conflict in Ukraine. Last week a meeting took place between the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England and Wales, Ireland, and Scotland who have appealed to Catholics to 'sustain the prayer and self-denial of Lent as a constant offering to God, begging for an end to the pointless violence in Ukraine'. Their full statement can be found here: [Bishops appeal for 'spiritual and practical' support for Ukraine - Diocese of Westminster \(rcdow.org.uk\)](https://www.rcdow.org.uk)

- Next weekend, after each of the Masses, there will be an extra collection for the support of the people of Ukraine.

ST PATRICK'S DAY

Next Thursday is the feast of St Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland. Mass will be celebrated at 11.00am.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

Last Friday, was CAFOD Lent Fast Day, when we were asked to eat less, or deny ourselves in some way, and so help some of the most disadvantaged people in our world. By denying ourselves we show solidarity with some of the poorest in our world; and anything we save can be used for their benefit. You can donate in church using a CAFOD envelope or by visiting the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/lent

CARDINAL'S LETTER

Two weeks ago, we heard the Cardinal's Pastoral letter, in which he asked us, during Lent, to encourage someone we know, who has not yet returned to Mass, to do so. This is a good Lenten activity, and a reminder that what we do during Lent, shouldn't just be for our own benefit, but for the good of others too. If you'd like to read the Cardinal's letter, it will be found on the parish website from Monday 14th March.

FUNERAL THIS WEEK

The Funeral of the late Robert Hutchison take place tomorrow, Monday, at 10.00am. May he rest in peace.

- There is no 9.15am Mass, tomorrow, Monday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH POPE JOHN PAUL II

On the path to ecological conversion

You are invited to join the Livesimply group on Sunday 20th March at 6.00 pm in Church for the Stations of the Cross.

MOVING ON

It's almost two years since the start of the Pandemic, with all that that meant in our personal, and church life. So, it is good as we continue to dispense hand-gel before and after Mass; and the latest guidance from the Bishops, continues to ask that masks be worn, as far as possible. However, the doors of the church can now be closed, but some windows will be left open, to help with the circulation of air. **However, if you have COVID symptoms, or feel unwell, please do not not come to church.**

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.

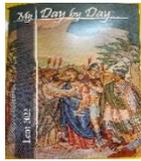


REPOSITORY GIFTS

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.



Edgardo is a Methodist pastor and author of the highly acclaimed "Oscar Romero's Theological Vision: Liberation and Transfiguration of the Poor". Laudato Si.

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.



HARPENDEN TRUST SENIORS FAIR

Tuesday 5th April 2022. The Eric Morecombe Centre Rothamsted Park - 10.30am - 1.30pm - **Free Entry**
A wide variety of local organisations will be in attendance to promote what is on offer for seniors locally at this popular annual event. So come along and find out what's available, either for yourself, a family member, friend or neighbour. Visitors will find a mix of charities, voluntary and commercial organisations and a wealth of opportunities, information and ideas.

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.

LIVE-STREAMING

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

ROMERO WEEK 19-27 MARCH 2022

On Sunday 20 March at 6.00pm at St Alban's Cathedral, to mark the 42nd anniversary of the martyrdom of St Oscar Romero, Dr Edgardo Colon-Emeric will preach at Evensong. Dean of the Divinity School at Duke University, North Carolina, Dr

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 12th March VIGIL MASS 6.00pm	Lent feria 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT (C) Rosemary Chapman RIP (1 st Anniv)
Sunday 13th March 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am	2nd SUNDAY OF LENT (C) Johanna Gregory RIP People of the Parish Harry Davis RIP (Anniv) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568
Monday 14th March 10.00am	Lent feria Funeral of Robert Hutchison RIP
Tuesday 15th March 9.15am	Lent feria Zoom Code 846 8231 6518
Wednesday 16th March 9.15am	Lent feria
Thursday 17th March 11.00am	St Patrick, Bishop, Patron St of Ireland Tom Carey RIP (1 st Anniv) Zoom Code 843 3670 2322
Friday 18th March 7.00pm	Lent feria Mass followed by Stations of the Cross
Saturday 19th March 12.00 Noon VIGIL MASS 6.00pm	St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Baptism Sherratt Family 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT (C) Walter Giles RIP
Sunday 20th March 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am 6.00pm	3RD SUNDAY OF LENT (C) People of the Parish James Duff RIP Margaret Hughes RIP Zoom Code 883 7014 5568 Livesimply Group Stations of the Cross

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