



Parish Website

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2022

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)



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## Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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## Parish Administrator Mrs Melanie Armitage

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

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Website: [parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden)

twitter: [https://twitter.com/rc\\_olol?lang=en](https://twitter.com/rc_olol?lang=en)

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

## Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

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The scriptures in these days continue to look at the experience the disciples had of the Risen Jesus. The readings speak of the meaning of discipleship both in our internal attitudes and in our relating with other people. The Gospel and, to some extent, the Second Reading speak of recognising the presence of God and of Jesus in our daily life while the First Reading calls us to witness to our faith with consistency and courage. One flows from the other. To be a genuine disciple of Jesus, it is not enough just to be "holy", to be good but to have the courage, when the call comes, to do difficult things and perhaps even to suffer. In sharing the suffering of Jesus, we also share in his glory.

The disciples now had to go back to Jerusalem where they began to proclaim what Jesus' life, words, actions, suffering, death and rising to life meant for them and for everyone else as well. This we see recorded in the First Reading from the Acts. The joy they had, the new meaning that had come into their lives because of their encounter with Jesus simply had to be shared with others.

However, it was a message that not everyone wanted to hear. In fact, they were warned by civil and religious leaders to stop what they were doing. But they could not stop because they were guided by something deeper than human authority, the authority of God's Truth and Love. Not even when they were arrested, punished, imprisoned could they stop. On the contrary, the scars of their beatings became badges of pride because they had shared in the humiliation and sufferings of Jesus their Lord.

If we are to be truly disciples of Jesus, if we are to proclaim our faith in its fullness, we can expect to be misunderstood. Many in various parts of the world and in our own lifetime, have had this experience. They do not regret it. Because of them, the message of Christ, the message of Truth and Love, lives on.

## **THANK YOU!**

How good it was to, almost, celebrate Easter, as we are used to doing, without restrictions, or limits on numbers. Thank you to everyone who helped to make our celebrations so reverent, prayerful and special. Especially to the choirs, Altar Servers, Readers, Ministers of Holy Communion and Stewards. And thank you also to those who arranged the flowers, so beautifully, and cleaned the church. How good it was to see many of you participating in all of the events of Holy Week; no doubt a time of blessings for you.

Thank you too for your offerings on Easter Sunday, as well as for the other gifts and cards received. As always, your kindness and generosity are much appreciated.

## **MONDAY MASS**

As tomorrow, Monday, is a Bank Holiday, Mass will be at the later time of 10.00am.

## **A SAFE PLACE**

Despite hearing of high numbers of Covid, it's very good that so much of life appears to be returning to normal. Throughout the pandemic your patience, and understanding, has been much appreciated. As in other parishes, we continue to follow the guidance, received from the Bishops, which is still in place, that hand gel is dispensed on arrival and departure, that unless exempt, everyone should continue to wear masks in church, and windows or doors are left open. During the pandemic, parishioners commented how safe they felt in church, hopefully, with everyone's cooperation, that continues to be the case.

## **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council is on Wednesday at 7.30pm. Minutes of the last meeting can be found on the Parish Website

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden/parish-groups/the-parish-pastoral-council/>

## **THE SYNODAL PATHWAY IN OUR PARISH**

Last week Westminster Diocese shared its Bishops Report reflecting the input from the all its Parishes, link below. We are encouraged to read that the ideas and experiences from our Parish resonated with many others, and the Bishops report is very much in the spirit of the views shared in our own Parish. The next step will be for all the England and Wales Dioceses to produce one national report which is amalgamated into the European report, and then goes to the Vatican. When you hear of this process, it is easy to think we are such a tiny part of so many voices, however, when all the voices produce a rich harmony, we can be encouraged to reflect the spirit of synodality is present in the process.

<https://rcdow.org.uk/synod/westminster-diocese-bishops-synod-report/>

## **PRIEST TRAINING FUND**

Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 58 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 17 of whom from our own Diocese and 2 men are currently studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. In 2021 we also celebrated the ordination of 4 men from Allen Hall to the priesthood, to serve as future priests. Your donations help ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation leaflets are available in the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can donate online anytime at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

The Children's Liturgy group have returned to the 9.45am Mass and the sessions will be on the following dates next Sunday, 8th May, 22nd May, 12th June, 26th June and 10th July 2022.

Children of school age (4+) are welcomed to the undercroft by the Liturgy team at the start of mass to be led in a simplified version of the Gospel and to complete a short activity to aid their understanding of the Lord's word. They then re-join their parents and families in the church prior to communion. We look forward to seeing your children there.



## WE ARE RECRUITING!

The Children's Liturgy group are recruiting! We are looking for new members to join us from September 2022. Full support/training will be provided and a DBS check undertaken. You can help as little or as often as you like! It is a fun way of involving yourself in the parish and working with our young parishioners. If you are interested to know more, please email Michelle Lynch at [martinmichelle74@gmail.com](mailto:martinmichelle74@gmail.com).

## THANK YOU!

Big thank you to everyone that supported the Cake Sale on Easter Sunday organised by Rebecca Eldred £300 was raised for Ukraine and has been split between 2 charities £150 to CAFODs Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal And the other £150 to the disasters emergency committee Ukraine appeal.



## PARISH WALK WEDNESDAY 11TH MAY



We are now reverting to our parish walk on the second Wednesday of the month having joined the Bluebell group in April for their walk in Heartwood Forest. We meet outside our Lady of Lourdes, after Mass, and set off at 10.00 for a walk taking about an hour around Rothamstead Park examining the beautiful signs of nature all around us. We end the walk with coffee at a local cafe but if the weather is wet and cold we make straight for the cafe for a good chat! Please ring or email me if you have any queries Tel. 01582 621960 email [janet.evers1938@gmail.com](mailto:janet.evers1938@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU

The Developing World Group Green Box collection last weekend raised a total of £508.13. If you forgot to bring your Green Box, please can you drop it off at the Parish Office or contact the DWG Treasurer Noel Whittle at [noel.whittle@btinternet.com](mailto:noel.whittle@btinternet.com) who would be happy to collect it from you. Please also contact Noel if you would like a Green Box to collect any odd change that you may have. Thank you to everyone for their generous financial support of the work of the Developing World Group.



## LIVE-STREAMING

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

## LORETO COLLEGE (ST ALBANS) CENTENARY GARDEN PARTY

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022 12pm to 6pm (last admission 5pm) Admission £5.00 per person (FREE entry for children aged 5 and under) There will be live music by the popular local band Soulfish, BBQ, afternoon tea, bar, traditional games/stalls and much more including our Centenary Raffle. A link to the ticket page and more information can be found at [www.loreto.herts.sch.uk](http://www.loreto.herts.sch.uk)



## Quote

To care for the world in which we live means to care for ourselves. Yet we need to think of ourselves more and more as a single-family dwelling in a common home. Such care does not interest those economic powers that demand quick profits. Often the voices raised in defense of the environment are silenced or ridiculed, using apparently reasonable arguments that are merely a screen for special interests."

*(Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti)*

## MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK

<b>SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Easter feria</b>  <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)</b> John Ramswell RIP (Anniv)
<b>SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>  <b>8.30am</b> <b>9.45am</b> <b>11.30am</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)</b>  People of the Parish James Duff RIP Bartholomew Flynn RIP <b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>St Athanasius Bishop &amp; Doctor</b>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b> <b>9.15am</b>	<b>SS PHILIP AND JAMES, Apostles</b> Sr Eileen (Spec Ints) <b>Zoom Code 846 8231 6518</b>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>9.15am</b>	<b>THE ENGLISH MARTYRS</b>
<b>THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>11.00am</b>	<b>Easter feria</b> Tony Carpenter RIP (Recently deceased) <b>Zoom Code 843 3670 2322</b>
<b>FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Easter feria</b>
<b>SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>12.00 Noon</b>  <b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Easter feria</b> Baptisms Hall and Sinclair Families <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)</b> Brian Armitage RIP
<b>SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>  <b>8.30am</b> <b>9.45am</b> <b>11.30am</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)</b>  People of the Parish Geraldine Burke RIP (Anniv) Lori Houlihan RIP (Anniv) <b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b>