



Parish Website

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024  
2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)



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## Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

Email: [anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk)

## Parish Administrator & Bookkeeper 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](mailto:harpenden@rcdow.org.uk)

Website: [www.catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk)

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

Email: [harpendensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:harpendensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) Tel: 07881 785 299

Parish Pastoral Council [ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk](mailto:ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk)

The theme today is about vocation, about God's call. Vocation is not just for a few chosen people; and to say, "There are no vocations now" is simply not true. Everyone is called by God to be something, to do something for others, with their life, and with their unique gifts.

The First Reading is about a young man who did not recognise God's call at first. Samuel struggles to understand his call, but eventually, with the help of Eli, his master, he does so, and he is ready to listen to God. As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.

The Gospel is also about calling, a second calling. It is about two men who are already disciples of John the Baptist. John points Jesus out to them: 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' John knows that his role of leadership is temporary, that he is to yield to the leadership of Jesus. The disciples begin, perhaps out of curiosity, to go after Jesus. Jesus turns around and asks them: What are you looking for?

Jesus asks the same question of you and me today. Generally, we tend to think that we should be asking, what does God want? But no, he also wants to know what we're looking for, what we want. The answer to that question is less for his benefit than for ours. Our answer will tell us what our real priorities are, with regard both to God, and to the people and the world around us.

What do we really want from life...from God? It is not such an easy question to answer. Like Samuel we need to be able to hear what God is asking of us, we need to learn to listen.



## ST DOMINIC SCHOOL OFSTED 2024

Wonderful news to start 2024!  
St Dominic school has just been  
judged **OUTSTANDING** in all  
areas after an Ofsted inspection  
in November. This is a tremendous

achievement for the school and a recognition  
of the total dedication of the Head, staff and  
governors to the education and wellbeing of all  
our children. The report noted how respectful  
and polite the children are: a great credit to  
the school.



## MASSES THIS WEEK

**Thursday:** Regrettably, once again, there will  
be no Mass, at 11.00am, on Thursday morning,  
as there is no priest available to assist.

## FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

The deadline for notices for the  
Newsletter is 2pm on Wednesdays.  
Thank you.



## SHEILA HORNE RIP

Please remember in your prayers Sheila Horne,  
widow of John, who died on Christmas Day.  
Sheila's funeral will be taking place at  
High Street Methodist Church, on Wednesday  
24<sup>th</sup> January at 11.30am. The Wake will be at  
Bennetts in Leyton Road at 1.00pm, and  
everyone is very welcome.

## LOST PROPERTY - LAST CHANCE!

There is quiet a collection of lost property, in a  
box, near to the repository at the back of the

church. If you have lost something, do please  
take a minute to look and see if it is there. Any  
items remaining, will be taken to a charity  
shop.

## THE NOODLE BOX

"The Noodle Box" will be available  
inside the church for anyone who  
needs a hot snack . The box is full  
of pot noodle/pasta cups and  
instant soups and take away cups .



They are free to take ! Please spread the word,  
especially as the cold weather is upon us . This  
is just a start to the project and we can place  
boxes where needed as we go along !

## FOR THE YOUTH OF THE PARISH Youth friendly masses will resume this Saturday at 6pm.

Young people from Year 7 to Year 13 and  
beyond are all very welcome to join and take an  
active role in this mass: Readers, Welcomers,  
Musicians, Altar Servants, please join us to  
make it as youth friendly as possible.

## OLOL YOUTH GROUP:

**Year 9 Confirmation Candidates & Year 10  
and beyond this  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 7.00pm to 8.30pm  
in the Undercroft**

Our Parish Youth Group meet once a month.  
We will meet after the 6pm Youth Friendly  
Mass for some food, some fun and some faith  
sharing time together.

We will engage in conversations about life,  
faith and Jesus around the Alpha Youth  
Series.

*Come and be part of this exciting project!*  
Future dates 10<sup>th</sup> February, 17<sup>th</sup> March 10am -  
3pm, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> June & 13<sup>th</sup> July.



## ST DOMINIC NURSERY FOR ADMISSION SEPTEMBER 2024



On the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024, the application process for Nursery places opened for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

Our Early Years provision enables parents to access 30 hours free childcare with Nursery morning sessions running Monday- Friday, 8.45am - 11.45am and an optional Lunch Club run by school and an afternoon Pre-School run by *Friends Together* running from after lunch club until 3.30pm. Wrap around care offered by *Friends Together* also means that care for children is available between 7.50am and 6pm, should this be required. For further information please visit our website [www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk) to book an appointment to attend to one of our visit mornings on Wednesday 17th January or Wednesday 24th January both from 9.30am - 11.00am.

**Applications close at 3.30pm on 6th March.**

## SING FOR SEVEN

Nothing like a rainy afternoon between Christmas and New Year to have cheerful thoughts of our next Sing For project! Sing For Seven - starting **Tuesday January 16th**

**7.30pm - 9.00pm in the Undercroft.** The cost is £40 per person for hours of singing and a sense of achievement as the weeks progress! The money raised, and donations collected, are sent to Keystage Housing and NOAH.

### All dates as follows:

Tuesday 16th January 7.30 - 9.00pm  
Tuesday 23rd January 7.30 - 9.00pm  
Tuesday 30th January 7.30 - 9.00pm  
Tuesday 6th February 7.30 - 9.00pm

## **SATURDAY 10th FEBRUARY**

### **3pm Performance**

A fabulous line up of music and the perfect way to start the new year!

**Please sign up and encourage family and**



friends to join you. Anyone interested can email me : [katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk)

## BLUES SUPPER.

This very popular annual event will be on **Saturday 27th January** in Lourdes Hall at 7.00pm for 7.30pm (After the 6pm Vigil Mass). Live entertainment will be provided by Lulu and the Hullabalooos with a two-course supper during the intermission. **Tickets priced at £20 will be on sale after all the Masses this weekend or you can contact Marva on 07943 837277** to make a group booking or to pay by BACs. Everyone is welcome.

## SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICA QUIZ NIGHT SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

Please come to our ever-popular Quiz in Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, AL5 1PF. 7pm for 7.30pm prompt start. £15 per head (tables of 8) Ploughman's Cheese Platter. Cash Bar. Raffle.

RSVP [wendy.howson@gmail.com](mailto:wendy.howson@gmail.com)  
07432 838477

## NOAH AND KEYSTAGE DONATION BINS

For NOAH, (**Blue Bin**) they ask for clothing (no undergarments, unless they are brand new and packaged); coats and jackets; shoes; toys; and bric-a-brac. You can also Gift Aid your donations for them by filling out a Gift Aid form, copies of which will be kept at the back of church and also in a plastic pocket attached to the bin.



## KEYSTAGE (Yellow Bin)

have asked for tinned foods and non-perishable foods e.g. cereals, biscuits, chocolate; and socks, gloves, scarves and toiletries.



Thank you all so much for your ongoing support which is much appreciated by both NOAH and Keystage.

## MASS INTENTIONS

<p><b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Youth Friendly Mass</b></p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p><b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8.30am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9.45am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">11.30am</p>	<p><b>feria</b></p> <p><b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b></p> <p>Caitriona Kelly RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Jarlath McConville RIP</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Johanna Gregory RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b></p>
<p><b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9.15am</p>	<p><b>feria</b></p> <p>Caitriona Kelly RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9.15am</p>	<p><b>feria</b></p> <p>Doran Family (Special Intentions)</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9.15am</p>	<p><b>feria</b></p> <p>Gerry Wall RIP</p>
<p><b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">11.00am</p>	<p><b>feria</b></p> <p>No Mass</p>
<p><b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<p><b>feria</b></p>
<p><b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p><b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8.30am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9.45am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">11.30am</p>	<p><b>feria</b></p> <p><b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b></p> <p>Michael Sullivan RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>Walter Giles RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Maureen Jack RIP</p> <p><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b></p>

**CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS**

**10.30AM - 11.00AM & AFTER THE 6.00PM VIGIL MASS**