



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

16TH JULY 2023

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)



© 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: www.catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk

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

Parish Pastoral Council ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk

When election campaigns begin we are generally bombarded with politicians looking for our time and our votes. We often hear phrases such as; you have my word on that, I give you my word, and my word is my bond.

This Sunday the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah speaks about the power of God's Word. The Word of God rains down from the heavens and will not return until it has succeeded in what it was sent to do. In the gospel Jesus continues this message by telling his followers and us today the powerful parable of the sower and seed. The farmer sows his seed. According to where it fell and how it took root, some of it died, withered and produced no fruit crop. Other seeds fell on rich, deep and fertile soil and produced a bumper crop.

We know that through this parable Jesus is talking about and describing himself. The sower and seed is Jesus himself, the Word. He is the Word that has come down from heaven and he will not return until he has succeeded in what he was sent to do. The soil into which the seeds are sown are our daily lives. At times the words that Jesus speaks to us literally falls on deaf ears. We hear these powerful and challenging from Jesus, but perhaps because of fear, we are reluctant to let them take root in our lives. But there are also times when we hear and welcome the words that Jesus speaks to us. We allow them to be sown in us, they take root, we nourish and nurture them and they produce fruit that can be seen in the quality of our daily lives.

The letter to the Hebrews, tells us that 'the word of God is alive and active'. May this word take root in us and bear much fruit, fruit that will last.

FIRST COMMUNION 2024

It is that time of year, when parents are invited to consider if they would like their children to be prepared for First Holy Communion next year. This year the arrangements are a little different.

Over the years it has become a source of concern, that quite a number of the First Communion families, do not regularly attend Mass each week. This year the hope is that parents can be encouraged to take the promises, made at their children's

Baptism, more seriously. These new arrangements are not 'closing the door' on anyone, but a pathway to a renewed and deeper commitment. Parents who would like their child to be enrolled for First Holy Communion preparation, need to make an appointment to meet with Canon Dwyer. To participate in the programme, children for the programme should be in Year 3 from September 2023, or above. To make an appointment, please call the Parish Office, Monday to Thursday, between 9.30am and 12.30pm. Parent(s) and child should attend the appointment. If the child was not Baptised at Our Lady of Lourdes, please bring a copy of their Baptism Certificate.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will re-open on Monday 17th July from 9.30am as usual.



NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to the Parish

You Are Very WELCOME

If you would like to register with us please click on the link and complete the registration form

<https://www.catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/OLOL-Database-New-Parishioner-Form-May-2023.pdf>

Completed forms can be emailed or posted into the Parish Office.

harpenden@rcdow.org.uk

FUNERALS

Please pray for those who have died recently.

JOHN FSADNI RIP

The Funeral Mass will take place on Monday 17th July at 11.00am.

MARIAN ROSEBLADE RIP

The Funeral Mass will take place on Monday 31st July at 11.00am.

May they rest in peace, and let us pray for the comfort of their families

MASSES THIS WEEK

There is no 9.15am Mass tomorrow, Monday, as the funeral of the late John Fsadni will be taking place at 11.00am.

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER

The Universe Newspaper is back in print the cost of the paper is just £3.50 and is available from the porch.

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

We warmly welcome allcomers to join our merry but increasingly small band. To find out more or to get involved please call Betty Hines on 01582 843409 or 07905797729 or email elizabeth.hines@gmail.com



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.



JOIN A COURSE RUN BY HARPENDEN LEARNING FOR LEISURE (HLfL)

If you are interested in the world, keen to keep your brain active and want to participate in an activity with like minded people then an HLfL course may just be what you are looking for. HLfL is a not-for-profit organisation run by local people. We run courses on a wide range of topics, each led by an experienced professional. Each course comprises 10 weekly daytime sessions, each session lasting 1 ½ or 2 hours. No qualifications are required to attend. There is no

homework and no exams. Fees are payable, but are set at a level to only cover costs. Courses this autumn include creative writing, history, art, music, literature and current affairs. Classes run from The Harpenden Trust Halls in Southdown, Harpenden and the Function Room of the Plough and Harrow pub, just across the road. Ample free parking is available at the Co-op car park nearby. Why not find out more about these classes by visiting the HLfL website:

www.harpendenlearningforleisure.org.uk .

If you have further enquiries please email Elaine O'Brien:

info@harpendenlearningforleisure.org.uk.

Elaine will happily call you back if you would like to speak to someone in person, but remember to include your phone number. So look us up, read about the courses we offer, and get learning for leisure!

THE GK CHESTERTON PILGRIMAGE

The 13th Annual GK Chesterton Pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 29th July. Bishop David Oakley of Northampton will preach at the Mass at 2.30pm at The Bridgettine Convent, Fulmer Common Road, Iver, SLO ONR. Please send any prayer requests to:

CatholicGKCSociety@yahoo.co.uk or text them to 07795205114. Details of the many different ways in which you can be involved on the day, as well as printable GKC prayer cards can be found on their website,

www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE
TO WALSINGHAM ON SATURDAY
23RD SEPTEMBER 2023.**

The annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on the 23rd September 2023. The theme this year is "Mary, Mother of our Home". Please make a note of the date in your diary and more details will follow.

YOUNG ADULTS FORMATION

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer.

As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such *Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham.*

There are two choices of dates: 14th - 21st August or 30th August - 6th September.

To find out more, please enquire by 31st July by emailing the COLW Sisters at freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

LOURDES HALL

SOUTHDOWN ROAD HARPENDEN

Available for Hire, and for one off Parties for more details contact

Caretaker: Mr Simon Lowe

Mobile: 07859 943 348

Email:

harpendenct@rcdow.org.uk

MASS INTENTIONS

<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 15th July 1.00pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6.00pm</p>	<p>St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor Wedding</p> <p>15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Francis & Lily Moran RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 16th July</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>Fred MacConnell RIP (Recently Deceased) People of the Parish Edie Dalglish RIP (Recently Deceased) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 17th July 11.00am</p>	<p>feria Requiem Mass John Fsadni</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 18th July 9.15am</p>	<p>feria Jim Alford RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 19th July 9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 20th July 11.00am</p>	<p>feria Brian Swannell RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 21st July</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 22nd July</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6.00pm</p>	<p>ST MARY MAGDALENE</p> <p>16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Rita Dooley RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 23rd July</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>People of the Parish Joyce Martin RIP (Anniversary) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p>CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS 10.30AM - 11.00AM & AFTER THE 6.00PM VIGIL MASS</p>	