



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

18TH FEBRUARY 2024
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)



© 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 & 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

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: harpdensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Tel: 07881 785 299

Parish Pastoral Council ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk

We are now into the great season of Lent, when we spend six weeks, preparing to celebrate the high point of our faith, the Paschal Mystery: the suffering, death and resurrection of the Incarnate God. Formerly, it was a time of severe penance, as a way of purifying ourselves from our sinful habits and getting ready to celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ with a renewed commitment to follow him.

Even though, we are no longer asked by the Church, to observe the severe penances of former times, it is surely fitting, that we make some form of preparation. It should be a time for personal reflection, on where we stand as Christians. Only a little reflection, will convince us that, there are many ways in which we fail, through word and action, through our thoughts and through our failure to be the kind of people, that the Gospel challenges us to be.

But, our reflections should not only focus on the negative. What are the positive things which should be part and parcel of my daily life? What kind of a person am I, in relation to my family, friends, working colleagues and other people with whom I come in contact? How active am I, as a member of my Parish community? What difference do I make, to other people's lives? What do I do, within my limitations, to help eradicate the abuses which are part of our society?

These are just some of the questions, I can ask myself during these six weeks. And it is never too late to get started. Let us not rigidly think that, because Ash Wednesday has already come and gone, that I cannot start today. Remember, that even those who came to the vineyard at the eleventh hour, were paid the same amount. But the earlier I start the better.

LENT 2024



FRIDAY MASS & STATIONS

Each Friday during Lent, there will be Mass at 7.00pm, followed by the Stations of the Cross. This could be a good Lenten Practise. Giving an hour each week, to attend an extra Mass, and to follow Jesus' journey to Calvary, by making the Stations of the Cross'.

LENT GROUPS 2024

These groups will meet for 5 weeks, starting tomorrow, 19th February. The theme will be; further reflections on the Our Father, using the Diocesan resource; *We Dare To Say*. We offer a choice of day/time but, to assist with the formation of Groups, we ask you to state your preferences 1st/2nd/3rd If you have been in a group previously you will be contacted by email, if not

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST IN THE PORCH OF THE CHURCH

OR email: juliaandnigel057@gmail.com rachellee987@gmail.com

REPOSITORY DAY BY DAY BOOKS

We have received another batch of DAY BY DAY Lent books for adults and these can be purchased from the Repository for £1 each. They are a lovely accompaniment for each day during Lent.

LENTEN ALMS

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024

If you can, please show your support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of our services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for, and with, some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.



NEXT FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY IS CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Please give today using the envelope which can be found in the porch or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world are enabled to feed their families. Your contributions will be collected next Sunday.

SYNOD 2024

Synod 2024 is a major reform initiative happening in the Catholic Church right now. We have been part of it, and we continue to be so. It is a moment to discern how the Spirit is guiding our Church. Your views are most welcome; however, you feel about the Church, or your own faith! Last Tuesday, we had the first of our two listening sessions. About 20 parishioners attended, it goes without saying that it would have been good to have had a greater attendance.

The second listening session takes place on **Tuesday 27th February, between 7.30-8.45pm, in the Undercroft.** If you are unable to attend, but would like to contribute your thoughts, you can do so. Please follow this link <https://www.catholicchurchharpندن.org.uk/synodal-gatherings/> on the parish website for the questions.

ST PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH

This very popular annual event will be held on Monday 18th March (the day after SPD) in the undercroft from 12 noon. Tickets priced £15 will include a welcome drink, a traditional Irish meal, barnbrack and Irish Coffee and will be on sale at all the Masses from next weekend. Proceeds will go to Sister Margaret's Barcelona Settlement in South Africa. EVERYONE is welcome.



ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 at 2:30pm.

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 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Melanie in the Parish Office the following details: husband and wife's names,



wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). Closer to the time the Agency for Evangelisation will send out, on behalf of the Cardinal, an invitation to the registered couples.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

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



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 1st March 2024

The Harpenden World Day of Prayer service will take place at 10.30am at the High Street Methodist Church. This year's service is written by the Christian women of Palestine with the theme "I beg you, bear with one another in love." The service was prepared and finalised before the events of 7th October 2023 and its message of peace and fellowship with other faiths is now more relevant than ever.

The Harpenden service will be live-streamed for those unable to attend in person, and the live-stream will be available to watch for seven days afterwards. Orders of service for anyone joining the live-stream will be available to collect from the High Street Methodist Church from 19th February (Monday - Thursday 10am - 12 noon).

The World Day of Prayer raises more than £200,000 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 service and how to access the live-stream please see the postcards in the porch.

ST DOMINIC NURSERY FOR ADMISSION SEPTEMBER 2024

On the 30th January 2024, the application process for Nursery places opened for children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st 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
Applications close at 3.30pm on 6th March.

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

"Come and celebrate the joyful Feast of the Annunciation at England's Nazareth with a Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Monday, 8th April (in the Easter hols). Holy Mass will be at the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham at 12 noon and we will walk (or go by coach) along the Holy Mile to visit the original site of the Holy House. Cost £23 for adults, free for children. Coach will depart from St Bart's St Albans at 8am and Letchworth 8.30am. To book please contact Rosemary Roscoe 07723 546642 email: rosemary.roscoe@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS	
 <h1 style="text-align: center; color: blue;">LENT</h1>	
<p>Sat 17th February</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sun 18th February 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>St Scholastica, Virgin</p> <p>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</p> <p>Frank McConnachie RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>People of the Parish Brendan Glynn RIP (Recently Deceased) Raju Jose RIP (Anniversary) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p>Mon 19th February 9.15am</p>	<p>Lent Feria Peter Vasquez RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p>Tues 20th February 9.15am</p>	<p>Lent Feria Jean Currie (Special Intention)</p>
<p>Wed 21st February 9.15am</p>	<p>Lent feria Maureen Huckle RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p>Thur 22nd February 11.00am</p>	<p>THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE Michael Hearne RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>
<p>Fri 23rd February 7.00pm 7.30pm</p>	<p>Lent Feria Maciej Grudzinski RIP (Recently Deceased) Stations of the Cross</p>
<p>Sat 24th February 12.00 Noon</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sun 25th February 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>Lent feria Baptism Blaj Family</p> <p>2ND SUNDAY OF LENT Joan Mahoney RIP</p> <p>People of the Parish Denis Mann RIP (Anniversary) Linda Dwyer RIP (1st Anniversary) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p>CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS 10.30AM - 11.00AM & AFTER THE 6.00PM VIGIL MASS</p>	