



Parish Website

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)



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

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

Most people enjoy receiving a nicely wrapped gift, whether it is for our birthday or at Christmas. We open and unwrap the gift, thank the person who gave it, and we use it. Think how the person, who gave us the gift, would feel if we didn't open it; instead we simply put it away and left it unopened. This is the situation that we are presented with this Sunday.

As it was last Sunday, so the gospel today puts before us again, the message of waiting and asks how we are waiting? A rich man, before he leaves for a business trip, calls three of his servants and gives them each a sum of money. He gives them money, according to the ability he sees in each of them. He simply gives them the money; he doesn't tell them what they are to do with it.

He trusts them enough, to let them decided how best to use, what they have been given. The first two servants invest their money and so double the amount given. The third servant, for whatever reason, simply buries his money in the ground. When the man returns, he calls in his servants and asks them to account for the money he gave them.

We are now living in a time, when we are waiting for the Lord to return. This parable teaches each of us, what to do during this time of waiting. We can't simply sit, wait and do nothing. Our waiting is not to be idle or passive. We are to live our daily lives, in such a way, that we use all the many gifts and talents, God has given each of us. When the Lord does return, each of us will be held accountable, for the use, or not, of our gifts and how we have lived our lives.

## NO PRIEST - NO MASS

Tomorrow, Monday, regrettably, there will be no Mass here in church. This will be particularly disappointing, for those who appreciate attending Mass on a weekday. Sadly, this is a sign of the times. Canon Dwyer has to be away for the day, and there is no other priest available to come and celebrate Mass here. An important reminder to us, to redouble our prayer for vocations to the Priesthood.

## BEWARE!

From time to time, scam emails, allegedly from Canon Dwyer, may land in your inbox. Recently, a parishioner has lost a significant amount of money, as a result of such an email. If you receive such an email do not reply to it, and certainly do not give any financial details. Please note that:



- On such emails, the address is usually incorrect, you will find the correct email address on the newsletter.
- Such requests, from the Parish, or Parish Priest, would never be made in this way.
- If you are uncertain, please contact the Parish Office, before replying, or giving any personal information.

## SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS

Thank you for your contributions last Sunday, for the Sick and Retired Priests of our Diocese, to date **£1,910.00**

**has been donated.**

This is such an important fund, supporting our 82 sick and retired priests, a number that is expected to double in the coming years. If you haven't yet made a donation,



it is not too late to do so; the fund will remain open for a few weeks. Donation envelopes are available in the porch, in which you can place your offering, and return to the parish office. These envelopes should be used if you wish to Gift-Aid your contribution.

## JUBILIEE YEAR

Pope Francis has declared that the year 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, about which there will be more information, as we approach this time. Amongst other activities, in preparation, are an invitation to reflect, again, on the main documents of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council. There will be two online talks, 'the Year of the Council', the first on 7th November, on 'Lumen Gentium': How the Church Looks at Herself, and the second on 28th November 'Gaudium et Spes': How the Church Looks at the World. The talks are on Tuesday Evenings, 7.30-8.30pm, given by Fr Brian O'Mahony, and will be delivered via Zoom. To register: Please contact Warren Brown [catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catadmin@rcdow.org.uk). Participants are invited to make a donation of £5 per talk: <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/agency-for-evangelisation/> by adding 'Year of the Council' in the optional message box. For further information contact Anna, [annadupelycz@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:annadupelycz@rcdow.org.uk)

## ALL SOULS

During November, a number of Masses will be offered for the Holy Souls. If you would like anyone to be included in these Masses, please send their names to the Parish Office, and they will be added to the Book of Remembrance.



## MAUREEN JACK RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Maureen Jack, who died recently. Maureen's Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am. We remember Maureen and all the family in our prayers.

## CHRISTMAS IN THE REPOSITORY

Come and see our range of Christmas cards both traditional and modern, together with Cribs and figures, again traditional and modern and some which are especially for children to play with. We also have Christmas candles, tree decorations, and children's books, together with Advent calendars. All are very reasonably priced.



the CCP is to confirm that the applicant, and their family, are practising Catholics, that is, attend Mass every Sunday and on holydays of obligation.

### **SING FOR ..... CHRISTMAS!**

Please email Katie: [katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk) for more details

#### **PERFORMANCES:**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 4.30-5.30pm**

Wheathampstead Christmas Market - details to follow.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 7.00-9.00pm** OLOL extra rehearsal/ fundraising performance

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - Catenians Christmas Dinner.

### **CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal**

CAFOD are working with local partners in Gaza and Israel to provide urgent humanitarian aid to those in need. We are supporting families with cash vouchers, essential supplies and counselling. Sadly, local staff and volunteers in our partner organisations have already lost their lives. Volunteers tell us that your support and your prayers of solidarity for those putting their lives at risk to help during this crisis are needed now more than ever.

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

### **ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL ADMISSIONS**

It's that time of year again.

Reception Admissions for children starting in September 2024.

Applications open 1<sup>st</sup> November and close 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

#### **Reception Open mornings for September 2024.**

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am to 10.30am

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1.30pm to 2.30pm

Please book on the school website to reserve a place. [St Dominic Catholic Primary School - Admissions](#)

Dates when Canon Dwyer will be available in the church, to discuss the possibility of signing Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP), will be announced shortly. Please note, the purpose of



### **FOR THE YOUTH OF THE PARISH**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm will be the next Youth friendly mass for 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. Contact the parish office if you'd like to take part.

#### **OLOL YOUTH GROUP:**

**Year 9 Confirmation Candidates & Year 10 and beyond Save the date:**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 7.00pm to 8.30pm**

Join us for our Parish Youth Group at 7pm in the Undercroft, and pizzas are on the menu! Once a month, we will meet after the 6pm Youth Friendly Mass for some food, some fun and some faith sharing time together.

#### **FUTURE DATES**

13<sup>th</sup> January, 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.



## DATES FOR YOUR CALENDARS

You are all warmly invited to join us for..



**Advent Service -**  
Sunday 3rd December 6pm



**Parish Christmas Fair - Lourdes Hall**

This very popular annual event will be held on **SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER** from noon to 3pm in the Lourdes Hall. There will be all the usual stalls including bottles, cakes, craft, gifts, toys and white elephant, as well as Irish coffees, hot dog lunches and more.

We also will have Santa's Grotto for the children to visit.

Raffle tickets will be on sale after all the Masses and you can start bringing in your donations of cakes, jewellery, bottles, toys, good quality white elephant etc into the porch of the Church NOW.

Everyone is welcome.

If you can help setting up, working on a stall or clearing up, please contact [marva@cpoauk.com](mailto:marva@cpoauk.com) or 07943 837277.



**Choristers Christmas Concert -**  
Thursday 7th December 7.30pm



**Carols by Candlelight -**  
Friday 22nd December 6pm

## 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](mailto:harpendenct@rcdow.org.uk)

## CHRISTMAS DINNER 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, SUPPORTING NOAH & KEYSTAGE HOUSING

You, your family and friends are invited to the Harpenden, Luton & District Catenian, Christmas dinner, to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> December at Harpenden Golf Club 6-15pm for a 7pm sit down.

Tickets are person £35 per head for two course Christmas fare including wine. Tables of eight or tens can be reserved, or you can enjoy this happy, light-hearted gathering by taking any number of places, knowing that you will be having fun with friends.

As a special treat we will be entertained by

**Our Lady of Lourdes 'Sing for' Group directed by Katie Metcalfe.**

They will sing a selection of seasonal favourites and lead us in frivolity and carol singing. The Sing For project runs three times a year with money raised going to Keystage Housing and Noah, so please, help fill the dining room by booking your tickets today via email to

[john.williams58@btinternet.com](mailto:john.williams58@btinternet.com)

Dress is smart casual preferably with a Christmas theme. The deadline for booking is December 6<sup>th</sup> but don't wait until then, please book now. Raffle takings and a Catenian donation will be given to the charities for Christmas.

## FAMILY RESOURCES

The Chosen is the first-ever multi-season series about the life of Christ. Season 1 is available on Netflix.

3 seasons have now been released and follow Jesus through the lives of his disciples and friends. It is free to watch and can be watched by downloading the Angel app

<https://watch.angelstudios.com/>

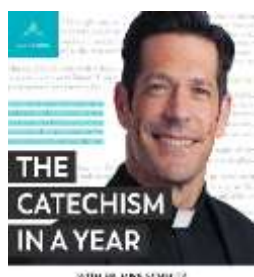
Another series that can be found on Netflix is *Mysteries of the Faith*

## ON THE GO:

Apps To Help You On Your Own Journey With God, Available On Google Play And The App Store

**PRAY AS YOU GO:** a free 10 to 13 min daily prayer session designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling to and from work. Prayer As You Go also offers prayers series, retreats and extra resources, such as Mental Health Awareness Exercises

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/retreats-and-series/>



**THE CATECHISM IN A YEAR (WITH FR MIKE SCHMITZ)** podcast to transform your relationship with the Church that Christ founded.

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>

Fr Mike Schmitz also recorded The Bible in a Year podcast, 365 episodes of 20-25 min to be guided through the Bible

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>

## THE SANTA MARTA GROUP

Was established in 2014 by Pope Francis to combat human trafficking and modern slavery. SMG is now delivering 'Awareness and Guidance for Communities' to encourage local action and to prevent human

trafficking and modern slavery taking place in our midst. **On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November the Santa Marta Group will hold an information meeting in the parish hall of Our Lady Immaculate and St Andrew Catholic Church, 16, Nightingale Road, Hitchin SG5 1QS, from 7pm - 9pm.** Kevin Hyland, the UK's first Independent anti-slavery Commissioner and currently chief advisor to the Santa Marta Group will lead the meeting. All are welcome to come to learn more about the prevalence of human trafficking and modern slavery in our communities and the steps we can take to prevent it.

## CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

CAFOD have delivered the World Gifts Catalogues and they are in the porch for you to take home a copy. World Gifts are a wonderful way for the Parish Community to share the hope and joy of Christmas with our global family.

## THE HARPENDEN TRUST

The Harpenden Trust is looking for volunteers to help with its Annual Christmas Appeal collection. If you can spare a few hours this winter then please contact the office: 01582 460457 / email [admin@theharpendentrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@theharpendentrust.org.uk)

## HARPENDEN FLORAL GROUP

Invite you to a Special Floral Demonstration 'A Touch of Sparkle' on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm at Katherine Warington School Lower Luton Road Tickets £15 on the evening Wine Soft Drink and Mince Pie Included for more information please call 07747018620

## HARDYNGE CHOIR

Invite you to join them at St John's Church, Harpenden on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm for Christmas in Blue, Festive Jazz and Christmas Close Harmony. Supporting the Hospice of St Francis. Tickets are £16, Students £8 and under 16 are free. Seasonal Refreshments are included in the ticket price. book online: [www.hardyngechoir.org](http://www.hardyngechoir.org) or call 0845 475 1644

## MASS INTENTIONS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b><br/>11.00am</p> <p><b>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</b></p> | <p>feria<br/>First Reconciliation<br/>Baptism<br/><b>33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b><br/>Winifred Nicholls RIP (Anniversary)</p>  |
| <p><b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b></p> <p>8.30am<br/>9.45am<br/>11.30am</p>          | <p><b>33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b></p> <p>Eileen Wilbur RIP (Recently Deceased)<br/>People of the Parish &amp; Holy Souls<br/>Errol Yates RIP (Anniversary)<br/><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b></p> |
| <p><b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b><br/>9.15am</p>                                    | <p>feria<br/>No Mass</p>  |
| <p><b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b><br/>9.15am</p>                                   | <p><b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b><br/>Jimmy &amp; Jane Doran (Special Intention)</p>  |
| <p><b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b><br/>9.15am</p>                                 | <p><b>St Cecilia, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b><br/>Rene Conter RIP</p>   |
| <p><b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b><br/>11.00am</p>                                 | <p>feria<br/>Holy Souls</p>   |
| <p><b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b></p>   | <p><b>St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, &amp; Companions, Martyrs</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b></p> <p><b>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</b></p>             | <p>feria</p> <p><b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, King of the Universe (A)</b><br/>Mary Kelly RIP (Anniversary)</p>   |
| <p><b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November</b></p> <p>8.30am<br/>9.45am<br/>11.30am</p>          | <p><b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, King of the Universe (A)</b></p> <p>Jean &amp; Patrick Ward RIP<br/>People of the Parish &amp; Holy Souls<br/>Jack Shaw RIP (Anniversary)<br/><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b></p>         |

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