



Parish Website

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN



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21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2024  
4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER  
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

## Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

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Jesus speaks of himself as the Good Shepherd. The image of the shepherd as the one who shepherds the flock, the people of Israel, is one of the themes of the Old Testament. In the gospel Jesus says, that he is the good shepherd. Hired hands might do a good job when things are going well, they will look after the sheep, and take them to fresh pastures, but, they do not own the sheep, and so will run away when life becomes difficult.

As the Good Shepherd, the one who really loves his sheep and does his best to look after them, will be ready, to even lay down his own life, for his sheep. This is certainly an image of Jesus, who is ready to die on the cross, in order to continue in his mission, of revealing the Father to us, his flock.

The shepherd invites us into a personal relationship with him. What a privilege that is, to be invited into an intimate relationship with Jesus. A relationship where we listen to him, so that we discern how he is calling us to follow him. What is the role in life, that Jesus is calling each one of us to follow today?

For the shepherd, we are not simply a flock of sheep running around, he knows each one of his sheep by name. He gently invites his sheep to follow him into new feeding grounds, and the sheep recognise him and follow him. The Good Shepherd is the model for all those who have a role to shepherd others, as parents, teachers or as spiritual leaders. The challenge for us all, regardless of our call in life, is to be ready, to lay down our lives for those under our care, in the example of the Shepherd.

## PRIESTS TRAINING FUND

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, when there is a second collection in support the Priests Training Fund. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men preparing to serve as priests in our Diocese. There are currently 49 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 13 of whom are from our own Diocese, as well as one seminarian in Valladolid, and one at the Beda. The Priest Training Fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serve God's people. We know you will be generous. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests. If you do not have a donation envelope, plenty are still available in the porch.

## PRIESTHOOD CELEBRATION

On Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>, Canon Dwyer will be celebrating 40 years, to the day, that he was ordained to the Priesthood. To mark this occasion, there will be a Mass of Thanksgiving, at 4.00pm on that day, followed by a reception in St Dominic's School. Everyone is very welcome to both the Mass and reception.

## NOTE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

'Anniversary of your Ordination' cards are on sale in the Repository!

## MASSES THIS WEEK

**Monday:** There is no Mass at 9.15am, as the funeral of the late Rita Hickey, will be taking place at 1.00pm.

**Thursday:** Mass will be at the earlier time of **8.45am**

## EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Easter flowers collection. If you purchased a Lily for a deceased relative/friend then they can be seen around the Church in the arrangements and in Our Lady's chapel along with the remembrance book.



## REST IN PEACE

### RITA HICKEY RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Rita Hickey who died recently. Rita's Funeral Mass will be on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 1.00pm. We remember Rita's daughter Siobhan and all the family in our prayers at this time.

## FIRST COMMUNION IN THE REPOSITORY

The First Communion season is approaching and there is a wide range of attractive gifts including bracelets, necklaces, photo frames and pens, together with First Communion cards. These are very reasonably priced and suitable as a memento of a very special occasion. Pop into the Repository and have a look.



## YOUTH FRIENDLY MASSES:

The Next Youth Friendly Mass will be today Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm 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!

## LOL YOUTH GROUP: SAT 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

Year 10 and beyond Save the date: today 20<sup>th</sup> April 7.00pm to 8.30pm 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. We will engage in conversations about life, faith and Jesus around the Alpha Youth Series.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN AN EXCITING PARISH-AND-BEYOND CHORAL JOURNEY** – rehearsing Vivaldi's Gloria and the Nelson Mass by Haydn. You will be singing and learning alongside experienced choral singers and performing with Alison Langer, Lawrence Thackeray and other soloists for the final performance. The aim is to encourage as many of our parish, our friends, our neighbours, our work colleagues, our family, fellow dog-walkers, fellow school parents.... you get the picture! to experience the joy of singing in a choir and learning new skills of reading/following music and ultimately performing as one of a powerful team. **Taking place at Our Lady of Lourdes Church and all at no cost other than your time and for a relatively short period of commitment.**



**REHEARSAL DATES**

**STARTING WITH AN HOUR A WEEK:**

- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 8.00-9.00pm
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 8.00-9.00pm
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 8.00-9.00pm
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 8.00-9.00pm
- (23<sup>rd</sup> May - no rehearsal)
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May 7.00-8.45pm *optional listening week, revision etc.*

**BUILDING UP IN THE FINAL WEEKS:**

- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 7.00-8.45pm
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 7.00-8.45pm
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 7.00-8.45pm

**THE PERFORMANCE:**

**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE**

**2.00pm Rehearsal, 4.00pm CONCERT**

**KEYSTAGE EGGSTRAVANGANZA!**

A huge **THANK YOU** from Keystage Housing for all the Easter Egg donations!

We collected at least 125 eggs which is fantastic and meant every service user had a small treat this Easter!

They always need: TVs, kitchenware, bedding, men's clothes and the following in particular:

Microwave, Kettles, TV's, Trainers size 9

Please contact Cathy Seaton if you have any of these items to donate.

[Cmann100@hotmail.com](mailto:Cmann100@hotmail.com)

In addition you may have noticed that the donation bins now have locks on them.

It is still possible to open the bin lids to deposit donations but you will need to put items in smaller bags. Please do NOT leave bags next to the bins.

Unfortunately items have gone missing from the bins on a regular basis and therefore have taken this precaution. It is not full proof but will hopefully be a deterrent.

Please contact Cathy Seaton if you have larger donations.

**ST DOMINIC'S JOB VACANCY**

**1:1 LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT**

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, energetic, and caring Learning Support Assistant, to support a child on a one-to-one basis both in the classroom and at break time and lunchtimes.

You will work closely with the class teacher and will need to be able to adapt your skills to suit the specific needs of the child. A calm, patient and consistent manner is essential, and experience of working in a similar role is desirable. See noticeboard in the porch for full details. For any queries regarding this vacancy, please contact Mrs B Burke, Business Manager on [sbm@stdominic.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sbm@stdominic.herts.sch.uk)

Please apply via the Teach in Herts website - [www.teachinherts.com](http://www.teachinherts.com)

**Closing Date:** Monday 29th April 2024 - 9.00am

**Interview Date:** Wednesday 1st May 2024

**Start Date:** ASAP

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April**  
 12.00 Noon  
 5.00pm

Youth Mass  
 Vigil Mass 6.00pm

**SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> April**  
 8.30am  
 9.45am  
 11.30am

**Easter Feria**

Baptism Lewis-Laverty Family  
 Confirmation Candidates Reconciliation Service

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY)**

Teresa Cusick RIP (Recently Deceased)

People of the Parish  
 Theresa Coughlan RIP (Recently Deceased)  
 Allan Healy RIP (Recently Deceased)  
**Zoom Code 883 7014 5568**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**  
 No Mass at 9.15am  
 1.00pm

**Easter Feria**

Funeral Mass for Rita Hickey

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**  
 9.15am

**ST GEORGE, Martyr, Patron of England**

Valerie McGarry RIP (Anniversary)

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April**  
 9.15am

**SS Erkenwald & Mellitus (Diocesan)**

Gordon Lewis RIP

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April**  
 8.45am

**ST MARK, Evangelist**

Sarah Aiguanfo (Special Intention)

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

**Easter Feria**

**Wedding**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April**  
 12.00 Noon

Vigil Mass 6.00pm  
**SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> April**

8.30am  
 9.45am  
 11.30am

**Easter Feria**

Jeremiah Family  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Lorraine Houlihan RIP (Anniversary)

Annie Conway RIP (Anniversary)  
 People of the Parish  
 Diana Newham RIP (Anniversary)  
**Zoom Code 883 7014 5568**

### CONFESSIONS

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