



Contactless
Giving

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

21ST JUNE 2026

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Three times in today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples: *"Do not be afraid."* He knows that following him will not always be easy. The disciples would face opposition, misunderstanding and even persecution. Yet Jesus encourages them to trust in the loving care of their Heavenly Father.

Fear is one of the most powerful forces in our lives. We worry about our health, our families, our future, the state of the world, and sometimes even about our faith. Fear can make us hesitant, cautious and reluctant to step forward. Into those fears, Jesus speaks a message of confidence and hope: *"Do not be afraid."*

This confidence does not come from believing that nothing bad will ever happen. Rather, it comes from knowing that God is with us whatever happens. Jesus reminds us that not even a sparrow falls to the ground without the Father knowing, and that every hair on our head has been counted. In other words, each of us is known, loved and valued beyond measure.

We are now well into Ordinary Time. Yet there is nothing truly "ordinary" about Christian life. Having celebrated the great mysteries of Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi, we continue to live in the light of those events. The risen Christ walks with us each day, and the Holy Spirit continues to guide and strengthen us.

Ordinary Time is the season in which the extraordinary grace of God is worked out in the ordinary circumstances of daily life. As we face the week ahead, may we hear again the Lord's reassuring words: *"Do not be afraid."* Trusting in his love, let us live and witness to the Gospel with courage, confidence and joy.

FIRST COMMUNION 2027

Now that this year's First Communion preparation has concluded, so we begin planning for next year. Registration forms for children in year 3 and above, from September, can be collected after Mass today. When complete, these should be returned to the Parish Office with a Baptismal Certificate, unless Baptised at Our Lady of Lourdes. It is expected that those applying are from practicing Catholic families, i.e. attending Mass every Sunday.

ANOTHER RESPONSIBILITY

Some of you will be aware that Father Michael Mannion, the Parish Priest of the Redbourn and Wheathampstead Parishes, has recently retired for health reasons. Until such time as a new appointment is made, Canon Dwyer has been appointed Parochial Administrator of both parishes, in addition to his duties in this parish. Quite simply, this means that he will be responsible for the pastoral care, and running, of both parishes for the time being. Your patience and understanding will be appreciated!!

RELAX TOGETHER!

The coming weeks look to be quite a sociable time in the Parish. There are a number of events coming up which promise to be very enjoyable, and which give us the opportunity to come together as a community, and to relax, and enjoy ourselves together. Hopefully, there is something for suit different tastes.

CHOIR CONCERT

This Sunday afternoon the Choristers and Choir are presenting Mozart's Requiem in D minor, K.626, featuring soloists Alison

Langer, Bethan Langford, Lawrence Thackery and Piran Legg. The concert takes place at 5.00 pm in the Church.

Tickets: £10 (£5 concessions), available on the door.

PARISH PICNIC – SATURDAY 28 JUNE

After the 11:30am Mass, please join us for our Parish Picnic in Rothamsted Park. Bring your own food and drink, and a picnic blanket. Outdoor games are very welcome! We'll walk across to the park together after Mass. Please say a prayer for sunshine. We look forward to a wonderful afternoon together.

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL

This very popular annual event, takes place on Sunday 5th July in the Presbytery garden.

Tickets will be on sale at £10 each after all Masses this weekend.

PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN

It had been hoped to have a parish pilgrimage to Spain, in October this year. The take up, however, has been disappointing, so the Pilgrimage will not be going ahead, as we have not reached the number required by the travel company.

THE HOLY FATHER WRITES.....

More Human: Pope Leo has just published a new encyclical Magnifica Humanitas. It speaks about what it means to be human in our time, especially with in the age of AI. There will be 3 short workshops to introduce and explore aspects of this timely document with input, as well as reflection and prayer, in St Aloysius Parish Hall, Phoenix Rd, London NW1 1TA, Mondays 13 July, 21 September, 23

November, 7.30-8.45pm. All Welcome! Register to attend here. These workshops will also be online. Information at info@fcjecojustice.co.uk.

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP APPEAL

Next weekend, the Developing World Group (DWG) will be making an appeal at the end of all Masses.

They will be asking for your prayers, your time, and your support. If you would like to become involved in their fundraising activities, they would be delighted to welcome new members. They will also be seeking financial support for their work. There will be a second collection at all Masses in aid of the Developing World Group. Thank you for your generosity and support.

PATRICIA KELLY RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patricia Kelly who died recently. Patricia's Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 9th July at 11.00am. We remember her family in our prayers at this time.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Music and Children's Liturgy Groups are hosting an end of term party for the children who come to the 9:45am Mass. Please join us in the Presbytery Garden (weather permitting) after Mass on **Sunday 12th July** for drinks and party food. All children and their families are welcome.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING IN SCHOOLS

Would you like to learn how Catholic Social Teaching (CST) can be integrated into the school curriculum? Join us at Saint Alban and Stephen Parish Centre on Thursday 9 July, 2.30–3.30pm for a talk by Miss Maria Gallego, Head of Biology and Deputy Head of Science at Nicholas

Breakspear School. "Catholic Social Teaching: From Pope Leo XIII to Nicholas Breakspear School" Hosted by the Herts Circle of the Newman Association.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed for annual leave and will re-open on Wednesday 24th June. Any notices for the Newsletter please email the Parish office by lunchtime on Wednesday Thank You.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let the Parish Office know if you have moved/changed any of your contact details so we can keep our records as up to date as possible.

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.catholicchurchharpندن.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Parishioners-Registration-Form-2025.pdf> Completed forms can be emailed or posted into the Parish Office. harpندن@rcdow.org.uk

GRAFITTI SKATEJAM

Harpندن Town Council have joined with graffiti artist Mark Tanti to provide an opportunity for students to learn about this art form and take part in a fantastic community project. There will be two half-day sessions, on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd June, and as such these would likely suit students who have just finished their exams or art students. More information can be found here: <https://harpندن.gov.uk/graffiti> and

places must be booked in advance by emailing harpenden.town.council@harpenden.gov.uk. Spaces are limited and training begins at 10am.

HARPENDEN GREEN LOOP

As part of the Town Council's strong commitment to promoting environmentally friendly living, health and wellbeing and the Town's green spaces, the 'Harpenden Green Loop' has been created as a convenient, attractive walking and cycling route around Harpenden. The Harpenden Green Loop connects various paths, open spaces and trails to make a complete 15km (9.3mile) route which can either be walked or cycled in its entirety or in sections, you can join the Loop at a number of points along the way. Whether you are familiar with the footpaths, cycle paths and green spaces of Harpenden, or not, the Harpenden Green Loop is a great excuse to explore and enjoy time outdoors and is an easy way to connect with nature, discover new areas of Harpenden from home, school or work and is a convenient route to get from A to B sustainably.

You can find the map and all the details, including step by step walking and cycling directions at:

www.harpenden.gov.uk/loop

Please feel free to share with your friends, colleagues and members.

We hope you will give it a try!

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

Celebrant: Rt Rev Peter Collins, Bishop of East Anglia,

When: 1st August 2026

Where: Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

Time: 12:00 to 17:00, beginning with the Pilgrim Mass at noon.

Coach from Harpenden: Chef Peking at 7.30am Price: £30 Adults & £12 Children Further information about the pilgrimage, livestreaming and coach meeting points can be found on the website

<https://prolifepilgrimage.org/>

To book contact Geraldine 07971028415

MASS INTENTIONS

<p>Saturday 20th June</p> <p>Youth Friendly Mass</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 21st June</p> <p>8.30am</p> <p>9.45am</p> <p>11.30am</p> <p>5.00pm</p>	<p>St Alban, Martyr</p> <p>12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p>Cindy Gallagher RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>George Scarlett RIP</p> <p>Margaret Dennehy RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p> <p>Choir Summer Concert – Mozart Requiem</p>	<p>PLEASE PRAY FOR:</p> <p>Anniversaries</p> <p>Cindy Gallagher RIP</p> <p>Margaret Dennehy RIP</p> <p>Recently Deceased</p> <p>Lucy Gomes RIP</p> <p>Fr Peter Dwyer</p> <p>Prayer for the Faithful Departed</p> <p>Loving Father, welcome those who have gone before us into Your peace. Comfort all who mourn, and keep us united in faith and hope until we meet again in Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.</p>
<p>Monday 22nd June</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>SAINTS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE</p> <p>Lucy Gomes RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>	
<p>Tuesday 23rd June</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>Feria</p> <p>Private Intentions</p>	
<p>Wednesday 24th June</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST</p> <p>Helen Edwards (Special Intentions)</p>	
<p>Thursday 25th June</p> <p>11.00am</p>	<p>Feria</p> <p>Sam Scarlett (Special Intentions)</p>	
<p>Friday 26th June</p>	<p>Feria</p>	
<p>Saturday 27th June</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 28th June</p> <p>8.30am</p> <p>9.45am</p> <p>11.30am</p>	<p>ST JOHN SOUTHWORTH, Priest & Martyr</p> <p>SAINTS PETER & PAUL, Apostles</p> <p>Anne Carey RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>Francisco Pujol RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Ita Long RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>	