



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

22ND OCTOBER 2023

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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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

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The Pharisees never missed any chance, or opportunity, to try and trap Jesus. They were always hoping that he would say or do something that would trap him, and make him look foolish, in front of his friends and followers.

Just because we are followers of Jesus, it does not mean we are exempt from living in the real world. We go to work, earn our wages and spend our hard earned money on the things we need to stay alive. Bills have to be paid and we too today we have to pay tax to keep our economy going.

In a book called *The Little Prince*, it says, it is with the heart that one can truly see, what is essential, invisible to the eye. In our own daily lives, we need to be aware of what we consider, being essential. Is it having more money, so that we can spend it on things that we want, rather than need? The newspapers and the television constantly bombard with us advertisements. Promising us that certain material things, will make us happy, secure and fulfilled. This is not true. The real good news, is that our dignity does not come from spending money, on things we don't actually need. Our dignity and value comes from being created, loved and known by God. This is good news that will last. It is not, some trendy statement that will go out of fashion.

We do well to reflect on what is truly, and deeply, essential to us. According to Jesus and the gospel, what is essential, is love, forgiveness, peace, justice and concern for the poor. As we do so this, may we learn give to God what is God's.

ANOTHER TASK

St Albans Deanery, of which we are a part, has recently been bereaved by the death of one of our Parish Priests, while another has had to stand aside for health reasons. This, inevitably, affects other priests in the Deanery. The Cardinal has asked Canon Dwyer to, temporarily, become the Parochial Administrator for the two Borehamwood parishes, while continuing as Parish Priest of Harpenden. Your patience and understanding will be much appreciated in this new situation, as well as your prayers for vocations to the Priesthood.



CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

Thank you for your recent contributions, following the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. £2,760 was donated. If you haven't yet made a donation, it is not too late to do so. CAFOD envelopes are available in the porch, in which you can place your offering, and return to the parish office. The CAFOD envelopes should also be used if you wish to Gift-Aid your contribution.

THURSDAY MASS

Next Thursday, Mass will be celebrated at the earlier time of 9.15am, and not the usual time of 11.00am

- Apologies for changing Mass times, but this is simply to ensure that, while it is possible, Mass is celebrated six days a week. Until recently there were a number of priests who could be called upon to assist, but, and it is a sign of the times, that number is now decreasing. We are fortunate that Mgr Turner generously assists us, but he is also in demand in other places.

MASS COUNT

Every year, for four Sundays, each Catholic Church, is asked to count the numbers attending each Mass. You may be interested to know that the average, total, Mass attendance this year was 524 per week. In 2018, the year before the pandemic, the average, total, Mass attendance was 775 per week. A drop of 251 parishioners over five years. Again, the question can be asked: what has happened to those who no longer attend? How can each of us reach out to them?

DON'T FORGET!

Next Sunday, 28th October, the clocks go back one hour.



SWITCH OFF

Fortunately, it's not too often that mobiles ring in in church, and for that we are grateful! After all, when we come to Mass it is God we come to talk to, to listen to. What is distracting, though, is when a mobile rings, someone leaves the church, takes a call, and then returns. The message there would seem to be that talking to family or friends, is more important than wholeheartedly giving time to God. Do we not need to get our priorities right?

MONTH OF THE ROSARY

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. The prayer of the Rosary leads us through those significant events of our Lord's life, providing us with an opportunity to prayerfully reflect on these important moments in our faith. During this coming month do try to give some time to pray this great Gospel prayer.



HOLY SOULS

We commence the month of November, in a couple of weeks. During the month a number of Masses will be offered for the Holy Souls, if you would like anyone included in these Masses, please email, or drop in, the names to the parish office. and



these will be added to the Holy Souls book which will be placed before the Altar in November

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT next Tuesday, 2.00pm to 3.00pm at the Convent, 18 Kirkdale Road. At 2.30 we will pray the Rosary for the suffering people of the Holy Land and for an end to the appalling violence.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like a Mass offered for someone who is deceased, or an anniversary, or for any other intention, please contact the Parish Office. It is customary to make an offering and the Diocese recommends £10 per Mass. If this is unaffordable, please feel free to make an offering you can afford.

CHRISTMAS IN THE REPOSITORY

You will have seen that Christmas has arrived on the High St. Not to be outdone, the Repository now has its Christmas stock on display. Come and see our range of Christmas cards both traditional and modern, together with cribs and figures, again traditional and modern which are suitable for children. We also have Christmas candles, tree decorations, and children's books, together with Advent calendars. All are very reasonably priced.

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

It's that time of year again. Reception Admissions for children starting in September 2024. Applications open 1st November and close 15th January 2024.



Reception Open mornings for September 2024.

Wed 15th November 9.30am to 10.30am

Wed 22nd 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 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.

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP LET'S AUCTION YOUR 'LOLLY IN THE LOFT'



Please donate any valuable items your family doesn't need. *eg. Grandma's silver teaspoon collection, Grandpa's watch, Mum's pearl necklace, Dad's miniature car collection!* The 'Lolly' will be auctioned by Tring Auctioneers and all proceeds will help to bring clean drinking water to the village of Kyangala, Kenya. Drop off your 'Lolly' on Wednesday 8th November between 10.30am and 8.00pm* at 10 Holly Bush Lane, Harpenden, AL5 4AT. Tea and Cake provided too! For more

information email:

louisamvphillips@googlemail.com
or phone 07734190488 * Or any other day by arrangement.



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDARS
You are all warmly invited to join us for..



Advent Service -
Sunday 3rd December 6pm



Choristers Christmas Concert -
Thursday 7th December 7.30pm



Carols by Candlelight -
Friday 22nd December 6pm

KEYSTAGE HOUSING REQUEST

We have received a request from Keystage Housing for a TV and a Radio for 2 of their clients. If you are able to help please contact Cathy Seaton from our Homelessness Group cmann100@hotmail.com



SING FOR CHRISTMAS!

The Sing for Christmas is a singing project designed to raise funds for Keystage Housing and NOAH while learning new pieces and having some respite from the norm! All rehearsals are extremely informal, concert at Our Lady of Lourdes.

REHEARSALS:

Sun 19th Nov 3.00-5.00pm OLOL Undercroft
Tues 21st Nov 7.30-9.00pm OLOL Undercroft

Please email Katie: katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk to book a place.

PERFORMANCES:

Thursday 23rd November 4.30-5.30pm
Wheathampstead Christmas Market - details to follow.

Friday 8th December 7.00-9.00pm OLOL
extra rehearsal/ fundraising performance

Wednesday 13th December - Catenians
Christmas Dinner we are the entertainment in return for a donation to Keystage Housing and NOAH time and venue t.b.c. but will be local and 8pm ish .

FOR THE YOUTH OF THE PARISH

The next Youth friendly mass will be on Saturday 11th November at 6pm. 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 10 and beyond Save the date:

Saturday 11th November 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

9th December, 13th January, 10th February, 17th March 10am - 3pm, 13th April, 11th May, 8th June & 13th July.



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 21st October 12.30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p>	<p>feria Baptism Winters Family 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Oscar & George (Special Intentions)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 22nd October</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>Mary Casey RIP (Recently Deceased) People of the Parish Joan Gardner RIP (Anniversary) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 23rd October 9.15am</p>	<p>feria Thomas Fitzpatrick RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 24th October 9.15am</p>	<p>feria Buckley Family (Special Intentions)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 25th October 9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 26th October Time Change 9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 27th October</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 28th October</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p>	<p>SS SIMON & JUDE, Apostles</p> <p>30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Zena Murphy RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 29th October Clocks go back one hour</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>Cathal Carey RIP (Recently Deceased) People of the Parish Private Intentions Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>

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