



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

23RD JULY 2023

16TH 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>

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In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples.

All three parables use commonplace experiences to describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The first parable alerts us to the two-fold reality of the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will not be realized until the final judgment. In the meantime, as Jesus' explanation to the disciples cautions, any effort to judge the progress of the Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward.

The second and third parables call to our attention the abundance that will result from the small beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a mustard seed—the smallest of all seeds—will become a large bush, so too God will bring his Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom.

Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the sower we are warned against judging others. To judge and uproot the "weeds" prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven.

FIRST COMMUNION 2024

Registration for First Holy Communion, next summer, is now taking place. To participate in the preparation children should be in year 3, or above, from September 2023. It is also expected that the children, and their parents, are attending Mass each Sunday. Over the years it has become a source of concern, that quite a number of the First Communion families, do not regularly attend Mass each week. This year the hope is that parents can be encouraged to take the promises, made at their children's Baptism, more seriously. These new arrangements are not 'closing the door' on anyone, but a pathway to a renewed and deeper commitment. Parents who would like their child to be enrolled for First Holy Communion preparation, need to make an appointment to meet with Canon Dwyer. To make an appointment, please call the Parish Office, Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 12.30pm.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION IS 31ST JULY 2023.

CONFIRMATION 2024

Preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, for young people in Year 9 or above, will be commencing after the summer holiday. Application forms are available for collection, by the candidates after all Weekend Masses. Completed forms and copies of Baptismal Certificates, if not Baptised at Our Lady of Lourdes, should be **returned to the parish office by Friday September 15th.**



GROWING OUR FAITH

Were you here, last Sunday at the Mass said by Fr Stephen Wang, in which he recommended that we grow our faith by listening to Catholic podcasts, daily reading of scripture or spiritual books? If so, we have links to some life-changing resources on our website:

<https://www.catholicchurchharpندن.org.uk/exploring-our-faith-resources/> These are all resources that are used and recommended by other members of our parish.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

With the schools now closed for the summer, it seems that holiday time, for many, is finally here. As St Dominic's closes, it is an opportunity to thank the Headteacher and staff, for their dedication, and good work, in what has been another busy year. We wish them all a restful and happy holiday, as well as children and parents.



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Next weekend, will be the last newsletter until September. So, if there is anything to be included for early September, you might want to send it in for next week's newsletter. **Items for the newsletter should be sent in by Wednesday lunchtime.**

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE 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/2023/05/LOL-Database-New-Parishioner-Form-May-2023.pdf>

Completed forms can be emailed or posted into the Parish Office. harpندن@rcdow.org.uk



FUNERALS

Please pray for those who have died recently.

MARIAN ROSEBLADE RIP

A Funeral Service will take place on
Monday 31st July at 11.00am.

May she rest in peace, and let us pray
for the comfort of her family

HARPENDEN SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICA

Come and enjoy a traditional English cream tea blended with a touch of Uganda!

SUNDAY 13 August 2023

2PM - 6PM

1 ORCHARD AVENUE
HARPENDEN AL5 2DW

Suggested Donation £5pp

Children Free

RSVP: wendy.howson@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there!

More Details on the Noticeboard



GETTING MARRIED?

Couples intending to get married, need to give at least six months' notice, as required by the Diocese. Pre-marriage preparation, provides an opportunity to reflect, not just on the wedding, which is for a day, but on the marriage, which is for life, as well as looking at the other necessary arrangements. Anyone getting married within the next year should be in contact with Canon Dwyer. If you know of couples hoping to marry in the coming year, please draw their attention to this notice.



ST DOMINIC'S JOB VACANCY PART TIME TEACHING ASSISTANT



St Dominic Catholic Primary School is a vibrant and caring school where children are valued and we aspire to excellence. The governing body of this outstanding school, wish to

appoint a dedicated and energetic teaching assistant to join our team. The position is part time during term time with a working pattern of 5 days, Monday to Friday, from 08:30 to 1.15pm, which will include covering lunchtime duties both in the playground and dining room.

This is a fixed term position until 19/7/2024.

The Full Details are on a Poster in the Porch.

For more information about the school please check our website www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk.

Application via www.teachinherts.com

Closing Date: 7/8/2023

YOUNG ADULTS FORMATION

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such *Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham.*

There are two choices of dates: 14th - 21st August or 30th August - 6th September.

To find out more, please enquire by 31st July by emailing the COLW Sisters

at freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP SAVE THE DATE



QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER AT 7.30PM

VENUE: LOURDES HALL

Keep an eye out for more details to follow after the summer in September

'LOLLY IN THE LOFT'

WEDNESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

(10AM AND 8PM).

Please donate any items of potential value that your family don't want (eg. Grandma Flo's tea set, Grandpa's pocket watch. Mum's pearl necklace, Dad's piano stool) to us on Wednesday 8th November.

(Venue & details tbc.)

The 'Lolly' will be auctioned by Tring Auctioneers and all proceeds will go towards the Developing World Group projects.

Happy 'Lolly' gathering!

SUMMER PILGRIMAGES

THE GK CHESTERTON PILGRIMAGE

The 13th Annual GK Chesterton Pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 29th July. Bishop David Oakley of Northampton will preach at the Mass at 2.30pm at The Bridgettine Convent, Fulmer Common Road, Iver, SLO ONR. Please send any prayer requests to;

CatholicGKCSociety@yahoo.co.uk or text them to 07795205114. Details of the many different ways in which you can be involved on the day, as well as printable GKC prayer cards can be found on their website,

www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk

THE PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION AND

PRAYER for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 5th August, and will be led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. Details of a coach leaving from a point near you are on the noticeboard.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM ON SATURDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2023.

The annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on the 23rd September 2023. The theme this year is "Mary, Mother of our Home". Please make a note of the date in your diary and more details will follow.

CATHOLIC LISTENERS TELEPHONE HELPLINE SERVICE

Catholic Listeners is a confidential telephone helpline service, a Diocese of Westminster initiative, for those who are returning to the faith. The helpline is all about listening to others, and to those who might have become isolated during the pandemic. Although not a counselling service, the helpline is staffed by a professional team of volunteers who are trained to signpost callers to other services and agencies. The service aims to help those in need of a safe space to talk. Operating from 4pm to 7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays calls are free on 0800 448 0704.

For information email

Catholiclisteners@gmail.com

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

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Spaces are still available on the annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, which takes place from 19th to 27th November, led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. It will include visits to Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Flights will be from Heathrow. Costs are £2265 per person sharing, £682 single room supplement; travel insurance essential. Booking forms are available from Elizabeth Uwalaka in the Pilgrimage Office or at www.tangey-tours.com/WHL A poster with more details is on the noticeboard.

MASS INTENTIONS

<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 22nd July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">6.00pm</p>	<p>ST MARY MAGDALENE</p> <p>16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Rita Dooley RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 23rd July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;"> 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am </p>	<p>16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>People of the Parish Joyce Martin RIP (Anniversary) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 24th July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 25th July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">9.15am</p>	<p>ST JAMES, Apostle</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 26th July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">9.15am</p>	<p>SS Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ann Holttum RIP</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 27th July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">11.00am</p>	<p>feria Paddy Kealy RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 28th July</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 29th July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;">Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p>	<p>SS Martha, Mary & Lazarus</p> <p>17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) David McConnachie (Special Intention)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 30th July</p> <p style="text-align: right; padding-right: 10px;"> 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am </p>	<p>17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>Karol Gajewski RIP (Anniversary) Anne Charleston RIP (Anniversary) People of the Parish Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>

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