



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN



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24TH MARCH 2024

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (B)

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

Presbytery: 1, Kirkwick Avenue, Harpenden AL5 2QH Tel: 01582 712245

Email: anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk

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

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

Parish Pastoral Council ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk

Every Palm Sunday, as we listen to the reading of the Passion, so, once again, we begin our Holy Week journey. As we listen to that reading, it is as if the route, we are to travel, is being set out before us. We remember the journey that Jesus travelled, through his passion, to his death on the cross; we are not just to be spectators, or simply recalling an historical event, but we are to be participants, participants in the Lord's Passion and death. Holy week is not celebrated by just attending Mass on Easter Sunday, but by attending on Holy Thursday and Good Friday as well.

One Spiritual writer, describes our Holy Week journey as being like a ship. She writes: "This great ship of Holy week will carry us surely, strongly, into the Passion of Christ..... All we have to do now is board the ship and allow it to take us all the way. We have nothing else to do but let it take us. We have not to do the navigating ourselves, we have not to labour with the oars, we have not to see where we are going or what distance we are covering: all that is being done for us. We have only to say 'Let it be done. Give me all you want to give. Be my Saviour, be my God'"

We make our Holy week journey, not alone but, as part of our parish community, and in union with the whole Church. Everyone is welcome to participate, to seize the opportunity, to make this special journey. And let's not forget those we may not see in church too often, invite them to join the journey, give them one of the Holy Week leaflets. We all have a duty to reach out, to encourage. We look forward to journeying through Holy Week, together, and to celebrating the great mysteries of our faith.

HOLY WEEK



HOLY WEEK, Today Palm Sunday, we begin our Holy Week Journey, the journey through Jesus' passion and death, and to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Do try and participate, as fully as possible, in these great events. As Jesus gave himself for us, on the Cross, so may we follow him closely on Thursday, Friday and Easter Sunday.

MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY: Mass at 9.15am

MONDAY 7.30pm: Penitential Service

The Lenten Penitential Service, takes place, tomorrow, Monday at 7.30pm. Reconciliation is an essential part of our Lenten journey, and our preparation for Easter. Do make every effort to attend.

WE BEGIN OUR EASTER TRIDUUM

MAUNDY THURSDAY:

8.00pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper, and the washing of feet.

- After Mass, the Stripping of the Altar, when we will join the congregation at St Nicholas Church for the 'Stripping of the Altars'
- Watching at the Altar of Repose, until Night Prayer at 10.45pm.

GOOD FRIDAY

A Day of Fasting & Abstinence

10.30am: The Walk of Witness,

with other Harpenden Churches, commences from Rothamsted Park Gates.

11.30am: Children's Stations of the Cross - For More Details Please See below.

3.00pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion

- During this Liturgy, a collection is made for the Holy Places.

HOLY SATURDAY

11.00am: Morning Prayer

8.00pm: Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY:

Masses at 8.30am, 9.45am and 11.30am.

Everything that is happening during Holy Week, and Easter, will be found in the leaflet, which is available in the porch. So, please be sure to collect one. These details can also found on the Parish web-site.

EASTER OFFERING

The offering on Easter Sunday, is one of just two collections in the year that contributes to the stipend that priests in parishes receive, and assists in their personal upkeep. Recent guidance, from the Diocese, indicates that the contributions received on Easter Sunday, by standing order, cannot be included in the Easter offering. If you normally support the parish in this way, but wish to contribute to this collection, you can do so via the 'Easter Offering' envelopes, or the card machine. Contributions given by the planned giving envelopes, or Easter envelopes, as well as the 'loose' collection, are included in the Easter Offering.

CLOCKS SPRING FORWARD



Remember to change your clocks next Saturday evening as, next Sunday 31st March at 1am the clocks spring forward 1 hour to British Summer Time.

THE UNDERCROFT

The Undercroft is intended for the use of parish groups, and other parish activities. If you wish to use the Undercroft please contact the Parish Office, on each occasion you would like to use it, to make sure that it is available. Keys for the Undercroft are to be collected from the Parish Office.

SYNOD 2024

Following the two Listening Sessions, for Synod 2024, and the receipt of other reflections, all of those comments have now been amalgamated with responses from other parishes in the Deanery. They will, in turn, be included with the Diocesan Report, and eventually the National contribution. Our parish responses, have been summarised, and will be found on the Parish website at <https://www.catholicchurchharpندن.org.uk/synodal-gatherings/>

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Join us this evening Sunday 24th March at 7.30pm as we take a guided tour through the reflections of individuals caught up in the events of Good Friday. This will be a tour of the 14 stations of the cross where at each station there will be a monologue by an actor representing a witness to that particular station. It begins at High Street Methodist where the first group of tourists (30) led by a guide start their journey from there across to St. Nicholas church and then to Our Lady of Lourdes. We will be the 14th station.....Jesus is laid in the tomb....and will have the replica of the tomb, an actor playing Joseph of Arimathea, the choir singing and then refreshments in the Undercroft. The first group starts at 7.30 pm and the second group at 8pm.....the journey lasts 45 minutes. As the tour will take place inside as well as outside, coats will be required. Free tickets must be booked in advance via www.highstreet.church/easter

MASSES THIS WEEK

There will be no 11.00am Mass on Maundy Thursday.

WALK OF WITNESS, GOOD FRIDAY MORNING



For several years now, our parishioners have acted as marshals on this Churches Together walk through the town. It simply means they ensure that the procession crosses the various road junctions safely. It starts at Rothamsted Park gate at 10-30am, finishes with a short service on Church Green and lasts for approximately an hour. We need two more marshals to control one of the road crossings so ably boded adults are asked to volunteer please. Qualified First Aiders would be a bonus. Hi Viz jackets will be given out. **Please do help by advising Dennis Cooper at denniscooper@outlook.com ASAP please.**

REST IN PEACE

JOAN GUY RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Joan Guy who died recently. Joan's Funeral Mass will be on Tuesday 2nd April at 11.00am. We remember Terry and all the family in our prayers at this time.

RITA HICKEY RIP

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

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS 2024

Our children's Stations of the Cross will be at 11.30am on Good Friday 29th March, and will last about 45 minutes. This is a really good opportunity for children to understand and take part in Christ's Passion on Good Friday. We are looking for children to take parts in the form of a tableau for each station. The children have to be from years 3 to 6, to take part. We need about 12 actors (no speaking parts), who will have to be in church from 9:30am on Good Friday. We will do the rehearsal, have a small break, and then



perform our Stations of the Cross at 11.30am. This allows any other family members to join in The Walk of Witness in the town, and then join us in church. If your child wants to be part of the Stations of the Cross please email

Maria (maria@oloughlin.co.uk) or phone 01582 624024 by Monday 25th March. In the event of too many volunteers we will take the first names on the list. Thank you.

EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you for your contributions last Sunday for the Easter Flowers. Donations can still be made via the card machine in the porch, or by dropping them into the Parish Office/Presbytery letterbox. In addition a Lily may



be purchased (at £5) in memory of a loved one. Please write clearly the name of the loved one in CAPITAL LETTERS on an envelope, place the donation of £5 inside and post through the Presbytery letterbox or drop it into Melanie in

the Parish Office. Their names will then be added to a remembrance book which will be displayed in the Church during the Easter season.

ST. PATRICKS' DAY LUNCH

St. Patricks' Day celebration and lunch raised an incredible £1200 for Sr. Margaret's ministry to the poor in Barcelona, South Africa. God bless the generosity of all who came, and those who couldn't but gave a donation. You were honorary Irish for the celebration! And your singing raised the roof. A huge THANK YOU to our Ladies Group who organised such a lovely parish event. Thank you very much on behalf of

Sr. Margaret. Sr. Regina 🙌🌸🙌

NEW STOCK IN THE REPOSITORY

The repository has now been restocked with a wide selection of cards for all occasions including Exams, Thank You cards, New Home, New Baby etc. in addition to Easter cards, Mass cards, Sympathy cards, Baptism and Wedding Anniversary cards.



These are of excellent quality on par with shops on the High Street and considerably less expensive. A new range of children's books and bibles are also available, again all reasonably priced. Before you buy cards from elsewhere, come and have a look in the Repository.

KEYSTAGE HOUSING DONATION BINS (Yellow Bin)

We have received a request for Towels, and Waterproof jackets please from Keystage. These can be left in the yellow bin in the Courtyard of the Church. They have also asked, if anyone has a TV they are no longer using and would like to donate it. Please contact Cathy Seaton if you are able to help, Cathy's email is cmann100@hotmail.com

EASTER EGGS FOR KEYSTAGE HOUSING

If you can please donate an Easter Egg, eggs- can be mini eggs/ crème eggs or single chocolate eggs. At the weekend, please place you donated eggs inside the yellow bin. If you want to drop your donation in during the week, please drop it into Melanie in the Parish Office.

Keystage Housing need 180 Easter Eggs

By Wednesday 27th March. Thank you all so much for your ongoing support which is much appreciated by both Noah and Keystage Housing.



ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 at 2.30pm

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Melanie in the Parish Office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Lourdes Pilgrimage 19th- 26th July 2024 - Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on

020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.

SING FOR EIGHT

Join us for a four-week singing project for all ages and abilities with funds raised for two homeless organisations Keystage Housing and Noah.

When: Tuesdays April 16/23/30 and May 14th 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Where: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Harpenden Cost £40 per singer, includes all rehearsal sessions and final performance. **Contact Katie Metcalfe** email katiemusic@yahoo.co.uk

YOUTH FRIENDLY MASSES:

The Next Youth Friendly Mass will be on Saturday 20th 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!

OLOL YOUTH GROUP: SATURDAY 20TH APRIL

Year 10 and beyond Save the date:
Saturday 7th October 7.00pm to 8.30pm
Our Parish Youth Group is starting next week 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. We will engage in conversations about life, faith and Jesus around the Alpha Youth Series.

HARPENDEN SENIOR'S FAIR - 10TH APRIL FROM 10:30 AM TO 1:30 PM AT THE EMC.

Free entry. 30+ exhibitors include charities, voluntary & commercial organisations offering a range of support, health, medical and welfare services, and social activities of interest to Seniors. The Harpenden History Society will provide a preview of their new local history Museum. Refreshments available from Harpenden Village WI (donations to the Rennie Grove Hospice).

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 18th April 8.00-9.00pm

Thursday 25th April 8.00-9.00pm

Thursday 2nd May 8.00-9.00pm

Thursday 9th May 8.00-9.00pm

Thursday 16th May 8.00-9.00pm

(23rd May - no rehearsal)

Thursday 30th May 7.00-8.45pm optional listening week, revision etc.

BUILDING UP IN THE FINAL WEEKS:

Thursday 6th June 7.00-8.45pm

Thursday 13th June 7.00-8.45pm

Thursday 20th June 7.00-8.45pm

THE PERFORMANCE:

SUNDAY 23rd JUNE

2.00pm Rehearsal, 4.00pm CONCERT





Holy Week

<p>Sat 23rd March</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>SUNDAY 24TH MARCH</p> <p>8.30am People of the Parish</p> <p>(9.30am on Church Green) 9.45am</p> <p>11.30am</p>	<p>Lent feria</p> <p>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</p> <p>May Doyle RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Lily Daisy O'Reilly RIP</p> <p>Maureen Jack RIP Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p>Mon 25th March</p> <p>9.15am</p> <p>7.30pm</p>	<p>MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK</p> <p>Louisa Conter Luchiari (Special Intention)</p> <p>Penitential Service</p>
<p>Tues 26th March</p> <p>9.15am</p> <p>12.00 Noon</p>	<p>TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</p> <p>Osz Family (Special Intentions)</p> <p>Chrism Mass Westminster Cathedral</p>
<p>Wed 27th March</p> <p>9.15am</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</p> <p>Ellen Hanrahan RIP</p>

Triduum



<p>Thurs 28th March</p> <p>8.00pm</p> <p>10.45pm</p>	<p>THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (MAUNDY THURSDAY)</p> <p>People of the Parish Zoom Code 848 8113 9254</p> <p>followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose</p> <p>Night Prayer</p>
<p>Fri 29th March</p> <p>10.30am</p> <p>11.30am</p> <p>3.00pm</p>	<p>FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (GOOD FRIDAY)</p> <p>The Walk of Witness (Commences from Rothamsted Park Gates)</p> <p>Children's Stations of the Cross</p> <p>Celebration of the Lord's Passion Zoom Code 831 5815 0270</p>
<p>Sat 30th March</p> <p>11.00am</p> <p>Easter Vigil Mass 8.00pm</p> <p>SUNDAY 31ST MARCH</p> <p>8.30am</p> <p>9.45am</p> <p>11.30am</p>	<p>HOLY SATURDAY</p> <p>Morning Prayer</p> <p>THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT</p> <p>People of the Parish Zoom Code 846 4925 8602</p> <p>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>People of the Parish Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>