



Parish Website

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)



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## Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

Email: [anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk)

## 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](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: [harpendensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:harpendensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) Tel: 07881 785 299

Parish Pastoral Council [ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk](mailto:ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk)

In Jesus' parable this Sunday, of the vineyard owner, there is a reversal of payment made to the workers at the end of the day. Those who came last and worked very little, are paid first and the exact same amount, as those who had laboured all day. The "sting" in the story is not so much that the last workers are paid first, but something else. It is the landowner's words of self-defence in the face of criticism, that is supposed to grab our attention. What might have shocked the first hearers of the parable and maybe ourselves as well, is the apparent injustice, the seeming unfairness, on the part of the landowner.

The vineyard owner's decision to "do as I please with my money" forms the heart of the parable. In the parable the landowner is to be understood as representing God. With this in mind, we can presume that God does what He wills, whether we "like it or not," so to speak. God's generosity cannot be outdone, and it may be very different from our own standards of conduct.

Today's parable, is a good reminder of God's gracious generosity. No one is excluded and all are welcome to receive it. In the face of divine goodness, human prejudice, narrowness and selfishness are in sharp contrast to the way God acts. Rather, we are challenged to mirror and express in our lives the bountifulness of God. This message is no less important today, than it was when first proclaimed.

We are always free to resist, or reject God's ways and close ourselves to His gifts. However, as we heard in the first reading: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways ..... so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts".

## FIRST COMMUNION 2024

Preparation for First Holy Communion next summer will be commencing this week.

**Next Tuesday evening, September 26<sup>th</sup>**, there is a meeting for all

parents, who have registered their children. This will take place in the Undercroft at 7.30pm.



## CONFIRMATION 2024

Preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, for young people in Year 9 or above, will be commencing next month. Application forms are available for collection, by the candidates, after all Weekend Masses. Please note the date for registration forms to be

returned, with Baptismal Certificates, if not Baptised at Our Lady of Lourdes, is **Friday September 29<sup>th</sup>**.

Dates for your diaries Parents Meeting  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 8pm First Session  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2pm to 4pm.



## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The PPC had their first meeting since the summer, last Tuesday. In accordance with the guidelines, a further four members have been appointed, they are Jane Rose, Caroline Rosser-Smyth, Dominique Peséz and Katie Metcalfe. Tony Fields has stepped down as an elected member, and another parishioner will be appointed, for the remainder of his term. We thank those who have agreed to serve the parish through the PPC, and Tony for his service.

## 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](mailto:harpندن@rcdow.org.uk)



## YOUTH FRIENDLY MASSES:

Youth friendly masses will resume this Autumn, once a month, on Saturdays 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, please join us to make it as youth friendly as possible.

**The first Mass will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October**, and then 11<sup>th</sup> November, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 13<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> June & 13<sup>th</sup> July.



## LOL YOUTH GROUP:

**Year 10 and beyond Save the date:**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 7.00pm to 8.30pm**

Our Parish Youth Group will start in October. 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.

*Come and be part of this exciting new project!*  
Future dates 11<sup>th</sup> November, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 13<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 17<sup>th</sup> March 10am - 3pm, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> June & 13<sup>th</sup> July.

**DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP  
SAVE THE DATE**



**QUIZ NIGHT**

**SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER AT 7.30PM**

**VENUE: LOURDES HALL**

Come along to a 'Brain Teasing' evening of fun and help to bring clear drinking water to the village of Kyangala Kenya.

£20 per person including a Godfrey's Fish & Chips Supper. BYO drink & glasses. to book your places please contact Betty Hines  
email: [Elizabeth.hines@gmail.com](mailto:Elizabeth.hines@gmail.com)  
or phone/text 07905 797729  
before 2<sup>nd</sup> October to guarantee a place.

**'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!

celebrate this feast there will be an extra Mass at 7.00pm, everyone is very welcome.

**REPOSITORY**

The Repository has some new attractive stock. There are modern engaging books for children including colouring books, Mass books, and Bible stories written and illustrated in a way which will appeal to children. We also have some beautiful new Statues, Crucifixes, and Baptism gifts, and a wide selection of cards including a new range of 'I lit a candle' cards which are always popular. Come and have a look and you will be surprised at what we stock.



**SEASON OF CREATION**

Pope Francis

"Consumerist greed, fueled by selfish hearts, is disrupting the planet's water cycle. The unrestrained burning of fossil fuels and the destruction of forests are pushing temperatures higher and leading to massive droughts. Alarming water shortages increasingly affect both small rural communities and large metropolises."

The Season of Creation concludes on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, feast of St Francis of Assisi. To



**SING FOR 6 CONCERT**

You are all invited to join us for the Sing for 6 Concert on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Oct at 3pm in aid of Noah & Ketstage Housing. Entry is by donation of items required by Noah & Keystage Housing (hats gloves, socks for winter, new underwear & toiletries) Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Undercroft.

### **HOMELESSNESS GROUP DONATION BINS**

Donations to the Keystage Housing Yellow Bin dropped off over the summer months. Jane from Keystage Housing has been in touch and they are deperate for non perishable food and toiletries. If you could add a few items to your weekly shopping they would be very grateful, please drop off any donations into the yellow bin in the courtyard of the Church  
Thank you!

### **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER NON-RESIDENTIAL ENRICHMENT WEEKEND FOR COUPLES:**

30<sup>th</sup> Sept & 1<sup>st</sup> Oct at St. George's Parish Centre - Sudbury. (Saturday 9am to Sunday 5.00pm). This is a great opportunity as a couple to affirm, enrich and explore your unique relationship (NB: There is no group sharing). For more information go to: <https://wwme.org.uk/book-a-weekend/>

### **CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY TO LONDON'S UNIVERSITIES**

The following information about the Catholic Chaplaincies to London's Universities has been provided by Fr Philip Miller, the Senior Chaplain, for possible use in parish newsletters:

Are you a student at one of the universities or colleges in London, or in Hatfield? Our Catholic Chaplaincy is for you! It's based at Newman House, 111 Gower Street, WC1E 6AR. We have Sunday Masses for students and regular events during the week. And in many of the universities and colleges we also have campus-based Catholic societies and activities. Go to:

[www.universitycatholic.net](http://www.universitycatholic.net) to find out more. You will be made very welcome at our Catholic community here, a 'home from home.'

If you are heading to a university outside London, then why not take a look at

<https://www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk/> to identify the Catholic chaplaincy in your place of study. Your Catholic chaplains look forward to meeting you!

### **"....OF WALKING ON THIN ICE ...."**

This is a film which was made of over 1000 people, who made a Camino to Cop26. They walked 500 miles from London to Glasgow, taking over eight weeks. The route to Glasgow passed through Harpenden, where they stayed overnight. The

film will be shown in Harpenden Quaker Meeting House at 7pm, next Saturday 30th September. It will be preceded at 6.30 by a short walk from Church Green and followed by a discussion of the issues raised by the film. Everyone is welcome.

### **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](mailto:harpendenct@rcdow.org.uk)

## MASS INTENTIONS

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b> 12 Noon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</b></p>	<p><b>St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</b> Baptism Kiely Family</p> <p><b>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b> Sandra Lindsay RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p><b>25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b></p> <p>People of the Parish Michael Fox RIP (Recently Deceased) Julia Salmon RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September</b> 9.15am</p>	<p><b>feria</b> Valderma RIP</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September</b> 9.15am</p>	<p><b>feria</b> Jane Collier (Special Intentions)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September</b> 9.15am</p>	<p><b>St Vincent de Paul, Priest</b> Sarah Cullinane RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September</b> 11.00am</p>	<p><b>feria</b> Diane Clark RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b></p>	<p><b>SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL &amp; RAPHAEL, Archangels</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</b></p>	<p><b>St Jerome, Priest &amp; Doctor</b></p> <p><b>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b> Duncan Gallagher RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p><b>26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b></p> <p>John Francis Conway RIP (Anniversary) People of the Parish Tommie Hegarty RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</b></p>

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