



Parish Website

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN**  
**25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**  
**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (A)**



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**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](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: [harpdensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:harpdensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) Tel: 07881 785 299

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



*Wishing you, and your families,  
a blessed and happy Christmas!*



## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

### CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm the children's Nativity Play takes place in church. See below for further details.

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

#### Christmas Eve:

Mass During the Night at 10.00pm, with Carols from 9.30pm.

#### Christmas Day:

8.30am Mass: with carols.

9.45am: Christmas Family Mass - see below for further details

11.30am: Mass with choir.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>, Mass at 10.00am each day.

#### New Year's Eve:

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December, Mass at 6.00pm

#### New Year's Day:

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January: Masses at 9.45am and 11.30am. **NO MASS AT 8.30am.**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January: Mass at 10.00am

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, Masses resume normal weekday times.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January, Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord**, a Holyday of Obligation. Masses at 9.15am & 6.00pm.

### CHRISTMAS OFFERING

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

### WARM SPACES

Since last Tuesday, thanks to our volunteers, we are now able to offer a warm space, to those who would appreciate such a facility. We are offering a warm space, each Tuesday between 12noon and 3.00pm in the undercroft.



We are able to offer warm refreshments, wi-fi access and newspapers. Please make anyone aware, who you think might appreciate this facility.

### CALLING ALL CHILDREN

The 9.45am Mass on Christmas Day will be the Christmas Family Mass. So, children if you like dressing up, come to this Mass, dressed as a favourite Nativity character. There may be something for each of you as you leave Mass. If a child has a particular allergy please let the helpers know, who are distributing the goodies!

### ALTAR SERVERS

Once again, our Altar Servers will be able to honour their patron, St Stephen. The Mass will be at 10.00am tomorrow, St Stephens Day. We will be enrolling some new Servers, and 'upgrade' some of the longer standing servers.



### LOST PROPERTY

There is quiet a collection of lost property, in a box, near to the repository at the back of the church. If you have lost something, do please take a minute to look and see if it is there. Any items remaining, will be taken to a charity shop at the beginning of the new year.

### PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed over Christmas and will re-open on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.



## NEXT NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is the last until after Christmas. Our first newsletter of 2023 will be available on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

## FOR THE CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS



### CHILDREN'S NATIVITY SERVICE - CHRISTMAS EVE 2022

We are pleased to say that we will be having a Children's Nativity again this year. The service will be at 5.00pm on Christmas Eve, and is a lovely reminder to the children about the reasons for celebrating this great feast. This year we are dramatising the story "Leah, the Innkeeper's Daughter" which will be read by an adult, but we do need a cast of many - (shepherds, angels, wisemen, townsfolk etc.)

**So, if you would like your child to take part please come to the rehearsal in church on Friday 23rd December at 10:00am to 12.30pm**, when we will be reading the story to the children and asking for them to take various parts (There are no speaking parts!) Your child does need to be at this rehearsal to take part on Christmas Eve. We have some costumes, but if you have anything suitable then they would be most useful.

**The children need to be primary school age and if they are taking part in the nativity they will need to be in church at 4.30pm on Christmas Eve.**

(contact Ginny St John Glew, 01582 620322 or email [ginny.sjg@gmail.com](mailto:ginny.sjg@gmail.com))

## PARISH DIARIES 2023

Parish diaries, for the coming year, are now available free of charge in the porch and the Repository. Please take one and take one also for a friend or family member that isn't able to attend Mass themselves.

## SEEKING WORK

A Parishioner is seeking work as a Carer. Very experience and has good references. For further information, please contact the Parish Office or Canon Dwyer.

## YOUTH OF THE PARISH

**FLAME 2023 - SATURDAY 4TH MARCH 2023 - 12PM TO 5.40PM RISE UP**

<https://cymfed.org.uk/flame/>

This year's confirmation candidates will be joining thousands of other young catholic people at the OVO Wembley Arena on Saturday 4th March 2023 for an inspiring day of prayer, adoration, catechesis, reflection, celebration and praise. Everyone else aged School Year 9 (and not already in the confirmation course) through to University age are invited to join them for the day to experience this UK's largest catholic youth conference.

Tickets are £20 plus travel.

**Please contact the parish office, or Anne Pesez [anne.pesez@gmail.com](mailto:anne.pesez@gmail.com) before mid January if your child is interested in coming.**

## HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT GROUP AMAZON WISH LISTS.

**CREATED FOR Noah and Keystage**

The link to **KEYSTAGE'S** is

<https://amzn.eu/3HSwWDw>:

**NOAH** the link is <https://amzn.eu/1YCWRpo>.

We do want to emphasise that we know there are many good causes out there and also how difficult things are financially, particularly at the moment so please don't feel under any pressure to donate to the bins and the Wishlists - or indeed to either. If you are able to contribute in some way, this will be very much appreciated by both NOAH and Keystage.

If anyone is interested in becoming more involved with the group, please contact Monika Westgate at [monikamoko@hotmail.com](mailto:monikamoko@hotmail.com).

## NOAH and Keystage DONATION BINS

**For NOAH**, (Blue Bin) they ask for clothing (no undergarments, unless they are brand new and packaged);



coats and jackets; shoes; toys; and bric-a-brac. You can also Gift Aid your donations for them by filling out a Gift Aid form, copies of which will be kept at the back of church and also in a plastic pocket attached to the bin.

**Keystage** (Yellow Bin) have asked for tinned foods and non-perishable foods e.g. cereals, biscuits, chocolate; and socks, gloves, scarves and toiletries. Thank you all so much for your ongoing support which is much appreciated by both NOAH and Keystage.

#### **WISHLIST ADDRESS UPDATE**

If you have problems in sending to the gift registry address it appears this is due to the Amazon settings. Please try entering the address manually. **For NOAH that will be 141 Park Street Luton Beds LU1 3HG.**

**For KEYSTAGE it will be Park West House 29 Park Street West Luton LU1 3BE**

#### **SING FOR ...4 JANUARY 2023**

Please put the dates in the diary - something to look forward to in January! Adults and children are invited for this charity-fundraising singing project - more details to follow but there is a choice of Tuesday OR Sunday rehearsals.

**Tuesday 10th January 7.30-9.00pm Undercroft**

Tuesday 17th Jan, 24th Jan, 31st Jan AND ..... to widen the opportunity for more/ families to take part in this project :

**Sunday 15th January 3.00-4.00pm Undercroft**

22nd Jan, 29th Jan

**Performance SUNDAY 5th FEB 2pm Rehearsal, 3pm CONCERT**

Please email [katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk) to book a place £35 for the project per family

( whether 1 person or 10 !) Money, after expenses, to NOAH and Keystage Housing

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK

SEASON OF CHRISTMAS



<p>Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 5.00pm Mass During the Night Carols from 9.30pm 10.00pm</p> <p>Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p><b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b> Nativity Service People of the Parish</p> <p><b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b> People of the Parish People of the Parish People of the Parish <b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568.</b></p>
<p>Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am</p>	<p><b>ST STEPHEN The first Martyr</b> Altar Servers Mass</p>
<p>Tue 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am</p>	<p><b>ST JOHN, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</b> Peter Trueland RIP</p>
<p>Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am</p>	<p><b>THE HOLY INOCENTS, Martyrs</b> Sr Loretta (Ints) Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help</p>
<p>Thur 29<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am</p>	<p><b>ST THOMAS BECKET, Bishop &amp; Martyr</b> Christy Kelly RIP</p>
<p>Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Dec</p>	<p><b>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY &amp; JOSEPH</b></p>
<p>Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Dec  6.00pm</p>	<p>7<sup>th</sup> Day in the Octave of Christmas</p> <p><b>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (A)</b> Theresia Lee RIP (Anniv)</p>
<p>Sun 1<sup>st</sup> January</p> <p><b>2023</b></p> <p>8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p><b>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (A)</b></p> <p><b>NO MASS</b> People of the Parish Kathleen Porter RIP (Anniv) <b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568.</b></p>

CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS

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