



Parish Website

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023  
5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)



© Chloe Le Tissier

## 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)

Once again, the Gospel today is according to John. The Gospel recounts another sign, the raising of Lazarus. The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead. Then Martha's sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus' impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.



### FRIDAYS IN LENT

Each Friday of Lent, Mass will be celebrated at 7.00pm, followed by the Stations of the Cross. Friday is the traditional day for 'making the Stations', so attending Mass, and the Stations of the Cross, during Lent, is a positive activity during this season.

### LENTEN ALMS

Traditionally, during Lent, anything that we save through self-denial is donated to the 'Lenten Alms'. Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. You can place your contributions in the 'box' to the right of Our Lady's Altar, or, if you wish to 'Gift-Aid' your contribution, you can use one of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal envelopes, which will be found in the porch, and return it to the Parish Office.

### EASTER DAY BY DAY BOOKS

Day by Day books for Easter 2023 are available in the Repository and they each cost £1.

### PALM SUNDAY

Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, we commence our Holy week journey. Palms will be blessed, and distributed at each Mass.



The 9.45am Mass will commence earlier at 9.30am, on Church Green, when the palms will be blessed with the congregation from St Nicholas' church, followed by the processions into our respective churches.

doing, and talking about, during their first year. It will also provide an opportunity, to hear about some other initiatives, that have been taking place in the parish. It would be encouraging to have a good attendance. Everyone Welcome.

### HOLY WEEK POSTER

The Holy Week Posters have arrived and are available in the porch free of charge, courtesy of the Knights of St Columba.

### LENT PENITENTIAL

The Lenten Penitential Service, will take place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30pm. Reconciliation is an essential part of our Lenten journey, and our preparation for Easter. Do make every effort to attend.

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Everything that is happening during Holy Week and Easter, will be found in the leaflet, available after Mass today. So, please be sure to collect one. The leaflet can also be found on the Parish web-site.

### EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you for your contributions over the last few weeks for the Easter Flowers. Donations can still be made via the card machine in the porch or by dropping them into the Parish Office. 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 it 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.



### PARISH MEETING TODAY

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place, **this afternoon, at 3.00pm, in the Undercroft**. This is an opportunity to hear what the PPC have been

## GOOD NEIGHBOURS - GREAT START

53 parishioners volunteered to be their local street or area 'Good Neighbour' representative, which is a wonderful start in our quest to simply reach out to those Catholic families who live nearby.

The Volunteers will now start the process of contacting their neighbour, simply to say 'hello' and ask about their welfare. The initial contact will be by a hand-delivered letter from Canon Anthony to all households on the parish database. Should you not receive one in the next four weeks then please email the parish office because it suggests that you may not have registered your presence in the parish. Most areas are now covered, but extra help is still needed in the Roundwood, The Avenues, Central Harpenden, Milton Road to Dalkeith Road, Eastmoor Park/East Common and West Common areas so please volunteer if you are able. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code below to see which area you live in.

*Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Harpenden - Seeking Christ Together.  
Our aim is to be a parish of Missionary Disciples, helping everyone to realise that they have a call through their Baptism, finding and sharing the good news, and seeking Christ together.*



## CLOCKS GO FORWARD THIS WEEKEND

Just a reminder that the clocks go forward one hour this weekend.



## DARREN MCKAY RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Darren McKay. Darren's Funeral will be on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00am.

We remember all Daren's family in our prayers at this time

## THANK YOU

As always, the Ladies Group hosted a wonderfully enjoyable St. Patrick's Day Lunch. A special thank you to them. And thank you very much also to all who came and to Parishioners who gave a donation, though they were unable to attend. Together we raised the incredible sum of £1890 !! God bless you and reward you for your generosity, which brings hope and help to many families in the Barcelona settlement. They will remember you in their prayers

*Sr. Regína*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

From time to time, there may be a person, or intention, you would like to pray for. If so, there is now a book available, on the table with the gifts, for you write down the prayer intention.



The book will be brought up, at those Masses, where there is an offertory procession, and placed on the Altar.

## REPOSITORY NEW STOCK



The Repository has a new range of attractive colouring books for children, also gifts and cards for Birthdays, Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and much more. Everything is very reasonably priced, come and have a look.

## GOOD FRIDAY

### CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our children's Stations of the Cross will be at 11.30am on Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 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](mailto:maria@oloughlin.co.uk)) or phone 01582 624024 by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. In the event of too many volunteers we will take the first names on the list.



### NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

Join us every Wednesday after the 9.15am Mass for a Parishioner led Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. Everyone is welcome.

### ST. ALBANS AND DISTRICT FOODBANK



Milk and juice collections for the foodbank will be taken up next weekend. So please, if you can, bring a carton of UHT milk or long-life juice to the church next Saturday or Sunday. Thank you. LiveSimply group

### HOMELESS GROUP

Keystage Housing would like donations of Easter eggs (small or large) for the residents of their Homeless Hub. If you are able to help with this please place donations in the yellow donation bin before Easter or contact Cathy Seaton [cmann100@hotmail.com](mailto:cmann100@hotmail.com)

### PARISH FAMILY FUN QUIZ EVENING

Join us in Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 7.30pm (After the 6pm Vigil Mass) in Lourdes Hall for our Family Fun Quiz Evening. This is a Charity even in aid of CAFOD and jointly hosted with LiveSimply. Tickets will be available after Masses this weekend.



### SING FOR ... FIVE !

Our 5th charity singing project is starting after Easter ! The previous four projects have been amazing fun so please consider joining this one . A fun four weeks of song-learning followed by an informal fundraising concert for NOAH and Keystage Housing , two Luton-based charities supporting the homeless. It costs £35 per family to take part with the money , after expenses, going directly to the charities. Entrance to the informal concert is by donation of hygiene products, toiletries , clothing etc at the door. This is taken directly to the charities .

Participants can come on either a Tuesday evening 7.30-9.00pm or a Sunday afternoon 3.00-4.00pm or both .

#### Dates as follows:

Sunday 16th April 3.00-4.00pm  
Tuesday 18th April 7.30-9.00pm

Sunday 23rd April 3.00-4.00pm  
Tuesday 25th April 7.30-9.00pm

Sunday 30th April 3.00-4.00pm  
Tuesday 2nd May 7.30-9.00pm


Sunday 7th May - NO REHEARSAL AS CORONATION WEEKEND  
Tuesday 9th May 7.30-9.00pm

Sunday 14th May 2pm Rehearsal, 3.00pm CONCERT and TEA !

All events are directed by Katie Metcalfe , please email [katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk) to book a place . All welcome, all abilities, for wonderful community singing .

### YOUTH OF THE PARISH AND BEYOND

You are warmly invited to join us for our monthly youth friendly mass the next one is on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm. Get in touch with the parish office if you would like to contribute with your musical and singing talents.

  
*God Save the King*  
  
**Sing For The King**  
 The Mountains Shall Bring Peace

An appealing and accessible new anthem from RSCM and written by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

All choirs can buy the music and learn it and perform it whenever they see fit. At Our Lady of Lourdes we are rehearsing it over three Thursday evenings with a performance to family and friends on the final Thursday, 4th May, at 8pm.

All welcome to come and join with our choir and parish, rehearsals as follows:

Thursday 20th April 7.00-8.30pm  
 Thursday 27th April 7.00-8.30pm  
 Thursday 4th May 7.00-8.30pm

PERFORMANCE 8pm for family and friends and wider community.

Please email [katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk) to book a place

## WESTMINSTER'S ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

All are invited to join the Diocese of Westminster's annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes from 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023, led by HE Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Book now to avoid disappointment as places are limited via the Tangney Tours portal at: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/westminster-lourdes> If you have previously indicated 'St Frai Pilgrim' on an Expression of Interest Form, or know of someone with significant medical and mobility needs who intends to come to Lourdes, contact the Pilgrimage Office on 0207 798 9173 immediately, so the Medical Team and can look into assisting with requirements and care. Similarly, all individuals or groups intending to travel independently to join Westminster in Lourdes, by making their own travel and accommodation arrangement, must confirm this in writing to the Pilgrimage Office by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 as well as submit payment towards the Pilgrims' Levy at £35 per pilgrim. Visit the Lourdes Pilgrimage web page <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or contact Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage Office on 0207 798 9173.

## CATENIANS IN OUR PARISH

The local group of the Catenian Association has changed its name to Harpenden, Luton & District as it better reflects the area it covers. As well as meetings socially once a month and organising activities. We also support each other and the mission of the Catholic Church. We are a group of Catholic men and families who in this increasingly secular world, meet safe in the knowledge that we are universal network of like-minded people who share the same Gospel values. It would be wonderful to increase membership from Our Lady of Lourdes parish so do email John Williams at [john.williams58@btinternet.com](mailto:john.williams58@btinternet.com) or Dennis Cooper at [denniscooper4@outlook.com](mailto:denniscooper4@outlook.com) who we will happily provide more obligation free information.

### FOR THE DIARY

#### STRAWBERRY SOCIAL

in the Presbytery Garden.  
 Sunday 18th June at 3pm



### 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 NEXT WEEK

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">12 Noon 3.00pm  6.00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</b></p> <p>Baptism Logan &amp; Noonan Families Concert Gratitude to the NHS</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b></p> <p>Marie &amp; PJ Mahoney RIP</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b></p> <p>People of the Parish Mary Timlin RIP (Anniversary) Margaret Seaton RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568.</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lent feria</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am 11.00am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lent feria</b></p> <p>Funeral Service Darren McKay</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lent feria</b></p> <p>Michael Philippou (Special Intention) Followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.00am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lent feria</b></p> <p>William Dooley RIP (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">7.00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lent feria</b></p> <p>Kathy Hinson RIP (Recently Deceased) <b>Followed by Stations of the Cross - LiveSimply Group</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lent feria</b></p>



<p style="text-align: center;">6.00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PALM SUNDAY (A)</b></p> <p>People of the Parish</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PALM SUNDAY (A)</b></p> <p>Patrick Leonard RIP (Recently Deceased) Anna Whittle RIP (Anniversary) Jacky Vasquez RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568.</b></p>

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