



Contactless
Giving

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

28TH JUNE 2026

SAINTS PETER & PAUL (A)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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Today's Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul celebrates two very different men whom God chose to become pillars of the Church. Peter was a fisherman from Galilee, impulsive and often unsure of himself. Paul was a learned Pharisee, zealous in his beliefs and initially a fierce persecutor of Christians. Yet God worked through both of them, transforming their weaknesses, gifts, and experiences into instruments of His grace.

Peter's journey reminds us that holiness is not about never failing. He denied Jesus three times during the Passion, yet through repentance and trust in God's mercy he became the rock upon which Christ built His Church. Paul's life shows us the power of conversion. His encounter with the risen Lord on the road to Damascus completely changed the direction of his life and mission.

In the readings we hear today, Peter is dramatically freed from prison by the Lord, while Paul, nearing the end of his life, speaks with confidence of having "fought the good fight" and "kept the faith." Both apostles experienced hardship, persecution, and suffering, yet neither allowed fear to overcome their trust in Christ.

Their feast invites us to reflect on our own discipleship. Like Peter, we may sometimes stumble and fall. Like Paul, we may need continual conversion of heart. The good news is that God does not call perfect people; He calls ordinary people and gives them the grace they need to fulfil their mission.

As we celebrate these great apostles, let us pray for the Church throughout the world, for our Holy Father, and for ourselves, that we may remain faithful to Christ and courageous in witnessing to the Gospel in our daily lives.

PARISH PICNIC

This afternoon, starting after the 11.30am Mass, there is the Parish Picnic in Rothamsted Park. This is an opportunity for everyone to come together, to relax and to enjoy each other's company. Please bring your own food and drink, and a picnic blanket or seat. After the intense heat of the past few days, hopefully, this all be more tolerable, and most of all, very enjoyable.

CONFIRMATION

Next Saturday, we welcome Bishop Paul McAleenan, as he comes to Confirm 36 of our young people, including 1 from Redbourn Parish. Let us keep these young people in our prayers, as they receive God's Holy Spirit.

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL

This popular, annual, event, takes place on Sunday 5th July in the Presbytery garden. Tickets will be on sale at £10 each after all Masses this weekend. Proceeds will go to the Harpenden Family Contact Centre which provides safe spaces where children can meet the parents they don't live with.



FIRST COMMUNION 2027

Now that this year's First Communion preparation has concluded, so we begin planning for next year. Registration forms for children in year 3 and above, from September, can be collected after Mass today. When complete, these should be returned to the Parish Office with a Baptismal Certificate, unless Baptised at Our Lady of Lourdes. It is expected that those applying are from practicing

Catholic families, i.e. attending Mass every Sunday.

A DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP APPEAL

This weekend, the Developing World Group (DWG) will be making an appeal at the end of all Masses. They will be asking for your prayers, your time, and your support. If you would like to become involved in their fundraising activities, they would be delighted to welcome new members. They will also be seeking financial support for their work. There will be a second collection at all Masses in aid of the Developing World Group. Thank you for your generosity and support.



STUNNING PERFORMANCE

Last Sunday evening the Choir and Choristers presented Mozart's Requiem in D minor, K.626, together with four guest soloists. It was a truly lovely performance, and a great credit to all who gave their time to practice and to sing. Congratulations too to Katie Metcalfe who directed the event. Once again we're reminded how fortunate we are with all the musical talent that we have in our parish.

THE HOLY FATHER WRITES.....

More Human: Pope Leo has just published a new encyclical Magnifica Humanitas. It speaks about what it means to be human in our time, especially with in the age of AI. There will be 3 short workshops to introduce and explore aspects of this timely document with input, as well as reflection and prayer, in St Aloysius Parish Hall, Phoenix Rd, London NW1 1TA, Mondays 13 July, 21 September, 23 November, 7.30-8.45pm. All Welcome!

Register to attend here. These workshops will also be online. Information at info@fcjecojustice.co.uk.

LIVESIMPLY QUOTE

Human ecology is inseparable from the notion of the common good, a central and unifying principle of social ethics. The common good is “the sum of those conditions of social life which allow social groups and their individual members relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfilment”.

Laudato Si'

ANOTHER RESPONSIBILITY

Some of you will be aware that Father Michael Mannion, the Parish Priest of the Redbourn and Wheathampstead Parishes, has recently retired for health reasons. Until such time as a new appointment is made, Canon Dwyer has been appointed Parochial Administrator of both parishes, in addition to his duties in this parish. Quite simply, this means that he will be responsible for the pastoral care, and running, of both parishes for the time being. Your patience and understanding will be appreciated!!

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 30th June and will re-open as normal on Wednesday. Any notices for the Newsletter please email the Parish office by lunchtime on Wednesday Thank You.



PATRICIA KELLY RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patricia Kelly who died recently. Patricia's Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday

9th July at 11.00am. We remember her family in our prayers at this time.

SAVE THE DATE!

The Music and Children's Liturgy Groups are hosting an end of term party for the children who come to the 9:45am Mass. Please join us in the Presbytery Garden (weather permitting) after Mass on Sunday 12th July for drinks and party food. All children and their families are welcome.

SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE IN CELEBRATION OF MGR. TURNER'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

In response to Mgr. Turner's request that his 60th Anniversary be 'present free' a number of parishioners took his suggestion to make donations to The Passage, a charity dedicated to supporting people experiencing homelessness. The Passage has written to express its sincere gratitude to Mgr. Turner and the parish community of Our Lady of Lourdes for this generous gesture. They noted that the donations received over the past few weeks will make a significant difference to their work, helping to provide vital services and support to those most in need.

We thank everyone who contributed so generously in celebration of this special milestone. Your kindness is a wonderful tribute to Mgr. Turner's years of faithful service and a meaningful way of supporting those facing hardship.

PARISH PURCHASE A DEFIBRILLATOR

Harpenden, Luton & District Catenians have part funded a defibrillator for the parish and 20 parishioners, members of the parish 'welcomers' groups, attended a training course, given by NHS's Harpenden First Responder Vivienne Ford, a volunteer

trainer. The defibrillator will ultimately be, if possible, positioned outside the church so it can be used by the local community, initially it will be available during Masses and other church services.



Picture shows, Andrew Belderbos, who organised the purchase and the training course, volunteer trainer Vivienne and Dennis Cooper, President of the local Catenian group.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please let the Parish Office know if you have moved/changed any of your contact details so we can keep our records as up to date as possible.

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.catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Parishioners-Registration-Form-2025.pdf>

Completed forms can be emailed or posted into the Parish Office.

harpenden@rcdow.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

Celebrant: Rt Rev Peter Collins, Bishop of East Anglia,

When: 1st August 2026

Where: Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

Time: 12:00 to 17:00, beginning with the Pilgrim Mass at noon.

Coach from Harpenden: Chef Peking at 7.30am Price: £30 Adults & £12 Children Further information about the pilgrimage, livestreaming and coach meeting points can be found on the website

<https://prolifepilgrimage.org/>

To book contact Geraldine 07971028415

MASS INTENTIONS

<p>Saturday 27th June</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 28th June 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>ST JOHN SOUTHWORTH, Priest & Martyr</p> <p>SAINTS PETER & PAUL, Apostles (A)</p> <p>Anne Carey RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>Francisco Pujol RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Ita Long RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>	<p>PLEASE PRAY FOR:</p> <p>Anniversaries Ita Long RIP</p> <p>Recently Deceased Anne Carey RIP Francisco Pujol RIP Anthony Vasquez RIP</p> <p>Prayer for the Faithful Departed</p> <p>Loving Father, welcome those who have gone before us into Your peace. Comfort all who mourn, and keep us united in faith and hope until we meet again in Your heavenly kingdom. Amen.</p>
<p>Monday 29th June 9.15am</p>	<p>Feria</p>	
<p>Tuesday 30th June 9.15am</p>	<p>Feria</p>	
<p>Wednesday 1st July 9.15am</p>	<p>The Dedication of the Cathedral Church</p>	
<p>Thursday 2nd July 11.00am</p>	<p>Feria Anthony Vasquez RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>	
<p>Friday 3rd July 6.00pm</p>	<p>ST THOMAS, Apostle Confirmation Rehearsal</p>	
<p>Saturday 4th July 12.00 Noon</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 5th July 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>Feria Confirmation Mass</p> <p>14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</p> <p>Brian Armitage RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Phil Fitzgerald RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Thanksgiving mass People of the Parish (Hammond Family)</p> <p>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>	