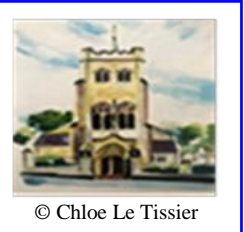




OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

2ND NOVEMBER 2025
ALL SAINTS (C)



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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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OLoLHarpenden>

Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

Email: harpendensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Tel: 07881 785 299

Parish Pastoral Council ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk

Communications Team: comms@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk

Today as we celebrate the Feast of All Saints — it is a joyful reminder that holiness is not reserved for a few extraordinary people, but is the calling of every Baptised person. The saints we honour are not distant figures from the past, but men and women who allowed God's grace to shape their ordinary lives in extraordinary ways. Some are well known — Francis, Thérèse, Teresa of Calcutta — while countless others remain unknown to the world, but known to God. And let us not forget that amongst those unknown figures, also included are member of our own families, as well as our friends.

The Feast of All Saints invites us to see holiness not as perfection, but as openness — a willingness to be led by the Spirit and to reflect God's love wherever we are. The saints show us that holiness takes many forms: in the care of a parent, the patience of a teacher, the quiet service of a neighbour, the honesty of a worker, or the forgiveness offered in difficult relationships. Each of us is called to let the light of Christ shine through the unique circumstances of our lives.

The Gospel for this feast gives us the Beatitudes — Jesus' description of the blessed, the happy, the saints-in-the-making. They are the poor in spirit, the gentle, the merciful, those who hunger for justice, those who make peace. These are not just words of comfort, but a portrait of what the Christian life is meant to look like.

As we give thanks for all the saints, named and unnamed, we are reminded that we too are part of that great communion — pilgrims on the same road to God. We can ask for their prayers, learn from their example, that we may live our faith with joy, humility, and courage, and one day share with them the fullness of life in God's presence.

ALL SAINTS

Today, we celebrate the feast of All Saints. We remember, and give thanks for, all those who have faithfully completed their earthly journey, and are now enjoying the fullness of life with God in heaven. Today, we remember not just the canonised saints, but all those who have followed in God's way, and are now experiencing the joy of being with God in heaven.

ALL SOULS

Having celebrated All Saints, tomorrow Monday, and for the rest of November, we remember and pray for all those still on their journey to God. During November a number of Masses will be offered for the Holy Souls. If you would like anyone to be included in these Masses, please collect a sheet and envelope, from the church porch, note the names of those you wish to pray for, and return to the Parish Office or Presbytery. **Mass will be celebrated at 9.15am on Monday.**

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Remembrance Sunday, when we remember, and pray for, all those who died in the two world wars, and other conflicts since. The Harpenden Churches will be having their service on Church Green, starting at 10.50am.



A better world needs all of us

FAMILY FAST DAY

Thank you very much for your contributions for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day, when we were asked to deny ourselves, in some way, and so show solidarity with some of the poorest people in our world. £1,895 has been donated. Your



contributions, and self-denial, will be used to benefit some of CAFOD's projects. If you have yet to contribute, you can leave your donation at the Parish Office. If you wish to 'Gift-Aid' your contribution, please use one of the CAFOD envelopes.

FOR THE YOUTH OF THE PARISH

The next YOUTH FRIENDLY MASS will be next Saturday 8th November 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. Contact the Parish Office if you would like to be involved.



OLOL YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group for those in the Confirmation Group and those young people in Year 10 and beyond will be Saturday 8th November after the Youth Friendly Mass. Join us for some food, fun and faith sharing.

Date for your diary the December Youth Mass & Youth group will be on Saturday 13th December

PARISH ADVENT SERVICE INVITATION

The choir will lead our Advent Service on Sunday 30th November at 6pm

We are inviting children from Year 3 to Year 13 to come and join with the choristers and adult choir for this service which will include part of

Handel's Messiah arranged for young voices. The commitment is four Thursday rehearsals and times as follows:

Thursday 6th November 7.00-8.00pm

Thursday 13th November 7.00-8.00pm

Thursday 20th November 7.00-8.30pm

Thursday 27th November 7.00-8.30pm

Sunday 30th November 4.00-5.00pm

Rehearsal, followed by supervised tea

6.00pm Advent Service, to last around one hour.

This short choral 'project' is for anyone from Year 3 to Year 13 - to experience singing with the choristers and to explore the world of choral music. No experience needed. Please email Katie Metcalfe to sign up:

katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk

ADVENT GROUPS

As in previous years there will be groups meeting during Advent to read, reflect and pray together. The material will be based on 'A Feast for All Peoples - Pathways to Synodality' produced by the Diocesan Agency for Evangelisation in collaboration with the School for Synodality. The Groups are friendly, faith sharing opportunities and held in members' homes. Please consider joining a group and reply, stating your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice of day and

time (morning/afternoon/evening) Please contact:- juliaandnigel057@gmail.com OR marbretherese@google-mail.com We look forward to seeing you beginning last week of November.

ST DOMINIC'S RECEPTION ADMISSIONS

The Admissions process for Reception places for September 2026 will opened soon. If you would like a tour of the school for entry into Reception 2026, please contact the school office on 01582 760047. School Tours will take place on Wednesday 12th November at 9.30am and Wednesday 26th November at 1.30pm For more information please see the school website

<https://www.stdominic.herts.sch.uk>

Canon Dwyer will be available to discuss the possibility of signing form on Tuesday 25th November and Monday 8th

December. Please call the Parish Office to book an appointment.

PLACES AVAILABLE AT ST DOMINIC'S

St Dominic Catholic Primary School has spaces available in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 classes for current academic year and welcomes enquiries from parents of children who are interested in a rounded catholic education that includes academic, religious and social skills. St Dominic's has recently been assessed by OFSTED and rated as OUTSTANDING. Please contact school office on 01582 760047 to arrange visit.

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

There are many ways in which we can grow in our faith, and we all have a duty to ensure we are doing that. The Agency for Evangelisation, of our Diocese, have a number of events such as 'A Week of Accompanied Prayer' and 'How to converse with God', coming up, which

help us to do that. In the porch you will find leaflets with more information, or you can email evangelisation@rcdow.org.uk.

JIM FEENEY RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Jim Feeney who died recently. Jim's Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 6th November at 11.00am. We remember Margery and the family in our prayers at this time.

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/2023/05/LOL-Database-New-Parishioner-Form-May-2023.pdf> Completed forms can be emailed or posted into the Parish Office. harpenden@rcdow.org.uk



FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Any notices for the next Newsletter please email the Parish office by lunchtime on Wednesday. Thank you.



GOOD NEIGHBOURS NEEDED

Help make our parish welcoming! We're looking for friendly volunteers to act as local representatives in their area.

What's involved:

- Be a contact for parishioners (we provide names and letters).
- Welcome new parishioners (we provide details).
- Deliver Christmas and Easter leaflets locally.

We especially need help in Roundwood, Townsend Lane–Moreton End Lane, Crabtree, and Rothamsted Estate/Hatching Green.


Interested? Please Email


goodneighbours@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk thank you!


FOR THE YOUTH OF THE PARISH HERTFORDSHIRE YOUTH SUMMIT


If you are aged 14–17 — this event is for you! You're invited to the Hertfordshire Summit at *Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City*.

Come and spend the afternoon with other young people from across the region for games, workshops, social time, and prayer. We'll have Adoration and Mass, we'll have fun, and together we'll take inspiration from Saint Carlo Acutis on how we can strive for holiness as teenagers today.

 Date: Saturday, 22 November 2025

 Time: 13:00-19:00

 Bring a packed lunch or snacks (no nuts). Parish social after Mass!

 To register your interest, please contact the parish office. Don't miss out — and don't forget to invite your friends!

<https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/big-hertfordshire-summit/>

REPOSITORY – POP IN FOR A LOOK!

Come and browse — there's much to see, Gifts and cards for your family! Candles, cribs, and calendars too, Something special waits for you. Support the Repository — don't delay, And share the joy this Christmas Day!

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

Join us in the Undercroft and enjoy making a beautiful Christmas wreath. There will be three workshops with ten places in each one:



Tuesday 9th December 10am -12 noon

Tuesday 9th December 2pm - 4 pm

Wednesday 10th December 7pm - 9 pm.

Tickets cost £35 and include all materials and refreshments. To secure a place in advance, e-mail

julie_moroney@yahoo.co.uk. Payment

can be made by bank transfer (Julie will give you the DWG account details),

cheques made payable to WRCDT

Harpenden, or cash. Please write your

name and 'Wreath Making' on the

envelope and hand it into the parish

office. All proceeds will go to the ongoing

work of the Developing World Group.

ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

PARISH ADVENT TALKS 2025

The Adult Faith Formation group at St Alban and St Stephen (14 Beaconsfield Road, AL1 3RB) are offering two Advent Talks whose focus is the Holy Land.

Fr John Deehan (Ecumenical Catholic Chaplain at St Albans Cathedral) will speak on '*The Holy Land – Gift or Entitlement?*'

at 7.45pm on Monday 1st December. The

talk will focus on the Biblical Theology of the Holy Land, drawing mainly on the Old Testament scriptures. Fr Paul McDermott

(Parish Priest, St Edward the Confessor, Golders Green – RCOW Holy Land Pilgrimage Co-ordinator) will speak on

'*The Word was Made Flesh Here*' at

7.45pm on Monday, 8th December. The

talk will cover the geography of the Holy Land at the time of Jesus. Refreshments

available and everyone is welcome to join us in the parish hall

HELP NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAIR (SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER)

For many decades the parish has organised a Christmas Fair, in Lourdes Hall, which has raised tens of thousands of pounds for the parish, and for other good causes. For the last 25 years, this event has been organised by Marva Hall and she has decided that this will be her last year in charge. We urgently need one or more of you to step up to work with her this year with a view to taking over in 2026. Please contact Marva (07943 837277) or the Parish Office for more information. Without new leadership, this will be our last Christmas Fair.

AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC – INVITATION FROM THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION

Join us for an Afternoon of Music on Sunday, 23rd November, 1:30pm for 2:00pm at Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden, AL5 1PD. Enjoy a performance by Alison Langer (soprano) with her accompanist, featuring classical and popular songs, followed by afternoon tea at 3:00pm. Tickets: £15 per person. To book: Email Madeleine Hopkins at maderic@btinternet.com with your name, parish, and number of tickets (include a stamped, addressed envelope if confirmation by post is needed).

Payment options:

- Bank transfer: The Newman Ass Herts Circ, Sort code 20-74-09, Account 70645427, Reference: Your surname + "MusicAft"
- Cheque: Payable to The Newman Association (£15 per person)

Please note: we are unable to accept cash payments.

We look forward to sharing a lovely afternoon of music and fellowship with you!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 22nd November

Hertfordshire Youth Summit

Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City. 1pm – 7pm

Sunday 23rd November

Newman Musical

Afternoon with Alison Langer, Sunday 23rd November in Lourdes Hall

Sunday 30th November

Advent Service at 6pm in Church

Saturday 6 December:

Christmas Fair at the Lourdes Hall from 12pm – 2pm.

Sunday 7th December

5pm in Church

The Harpenden Music Foundation presents the gift of Music at Christmas

DWG Christmas Wreath Making in the Undercroft

Tuesday 9th December

10am – 12 Noon

2pm – 4pm

Wednesday 10th December

7pm – 9pm

Sunday 21st December 6pm

Carols by Candlelight

MASS INTENTIONS		
Sat 1st Nov 12.00 Noon Vigil Mass 6.00pm Sun 2nd Nov 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am	Feria Baptisms Cridland & Greany Families ALL SAINTS Maura Grimshaw RIP (Anniversary) Elizabeth Castro RIP People of the Parish Maureen Jack RIP (Anniversary) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568	PLEASE PRAY FOR: Newly Baptised Dylan & Leo Loving God, we thank You for the precious children welcomed into Your family through Baptism. Surround them with Your love and joy, and help their parents and godparents to guide them in faith as they grow. May these little ones always know they are loved by You and by our parish family. Amen. Prayer for the Holy Souls Merciful Father, We remember all the faithful departed, especially those who are in need of Your loving mercy. Grant them rest, ease their suffering, and bring them into the light of Your presence. May our prayers, sacrifices, and acts of love help them on their journey to You, and may we one day rejoice with them in eternal life through Christ our Lord. Amen. RIP Anniversaries Maura Grimshaw RIP Maureen Jack RIP
Mon 3rd Nov 9.15am	ALL SOULS DAY Holy Souls	
Tues 4th Nov 9.15am	St Charles Borromeo, Bishop Holy Souls	
Wed 5th Nov 9.15am	Feria Johanna Gregory RIP	
Thur 6th Nov 11.00am	Feria Requiem Mass Jim Feeney	
Fri 7th Nov	Feria	
Sat 8th Nov Youth Friendly Vigil Mass 6.00pm Sun 9th Nov 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am	Feria THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Luke Kealy RIP (Anniversary) Remembrance Sunday Peter Trueland RIP (Anniversary) People of the Parish Deceased of 2 World Wars & Other Conflicts Zoom Code 883 7014 5568	
CONFESIONS SATURDAYS 10.30AM – 11.00AM & AFTER THE 6.00PM VIGIL MASS		