



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

3RD MARCH 2024
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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It is sometimes said, that money is the root of all evil. However, this is not actually what scripture tells us. What it tells us, is that the love of money is the root of all evil. There is absolutely nothing wrong with money, having money or spending money. When we work, we have the right to be paid a just and decent wage or salary. What the first reading from the Book of Exodus, and the gospel warns us about, is the danger, of putting our trust in money and wealth instead of trusting God.

We may remember from the Old Testament, that the Jewish People turned their back on God, and began to worship a calf, that they had made from gold. Today, we may not be worshipping a golden calf. But, we can become so attached and precious about, what we have, and own, that they can possess us, rather than the other way around. They can often have an unhealthy hold over us. On the radio, there is programme called 'Desert Island Discs.' Guests are asked to talk about their lives and their most treasured possessions. Before it ends, they are only allowed to bring one item on to the deserted island with them. If you were asked to choose one, (or two) of your most treasured and precious belongings, what would you decide to save and bring with you?

As we continue on our way through Lent, we are being asked to consider, what is essential to us, in our daily lives with each other. What do we treasure most in our lives? We are also being asked to consider our relationship with God. The Ten Commandments, are not simply a list of do's and don'ts. They are offered to us, as a set of guidelines. If we accept and follow them, they will help us to live well with each other, and with God. They offer us a quality of life, not a life-style!

LENT 2024



FRIDAY MASS & STATIONS

Each Friday during Lent, there will be Mass at 7.00pm, followed by the Stations of the Cross. This could be a good Lenten Practise. Giving an hour each week, to attend an extra Mass, and to follow Jesus' journey to Calvary, by making the Stations of the Cross'.

LENT GROUPS 2024

These groups are now up and running however, it's not too late to join them. Please email juliaandnigel057@gmail.com or rachellee987@gmail.com for more information.

LENT & EASTER IN THE REPOSITORY

Last few remaining Lent Day by Day books for adults are on sale in the repository for £1. We also have a wide range of Easter cards together with Lent reading books, colouring and activity books and magazines for children. These are ideal for preparing children to celebrate Easter.

St Patrick's Day and Mothering Sunday are also approaching and again, we have a range of cards for each of these festivals. Do pop in after Mass you'll be surprised at what we have to offer.

LENTEN ALMS

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024

If you can, please show your support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of our services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for, and with, some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.



CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

Thank you for your contributions, for CAFOD, last weekend. £2,515 Was donated. If you haven't done so it's not too late to make a donation. Donations can be handed into the Parish Office. If you wish to 'Gift-Aid' your donation, please use one of the CAFOD envelopes.

BEING WHOLEHEARTED

Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will find details of the different Lenten activities taking place in the parish. If you are still deciding what to do, you may find an idea here. Also, if you're struggling to enter in to this season, it's still not too late to do so, or if you've started, but stopped, there's plenty of time to start again. Whatever you are doing in Lent, try to be wholehearted, for example if your decision is to attend Mass during the week, then try to come on time, to be present for all of the Mass. In other words, keeping to your Lenten commitment, and so to be ready to celebrate the great feast of Easter.

THURSDAY MASS

Next Thursday, March 7th, Mass is at the earlier time, for Thursdays, of 9.15am.

SYNOD 2024

Last Tuesday we had the second of our 'Listening Sessions', in preparation for the Synod of Bishops, next October. And once again it was a fruitful experience, as well as an opportunity to listen to each other, and to hear some of the concerns and hopes that others carry. The comments made will be collated with those of the other parishes in the Deanery, and with the submissions of other Deaneries, form the Diocesan contribution, to the national response. We hope to share the outcomes with you, and they will also be considered by the Pastoral Council. Thank you to everyone who participated, or sent in their reflections, and to Sally Faiz for facilitating the sessions.

EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION

The Parish Flower Arrangers will have their annual Easter Flower Collection after all Masses next weekend. Donations can also be



made via the card machine in the porch. 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 hand it in with the flower collection after Mass, or post 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.

REST IN PEACE

MAUREEN FRANCIS RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Maureen Francis, who died recently. The Funeral will take place at West Herts Crematorium on Monday 11th March at 4.00pm. A memorial Mass will take place at a later date. We remember Maureen's family in our prayers at this time.

MARGARET MERRITT RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Margaret Merritt, who died recently. Margaret's Funeral will be on Thursday 14th March at 11.00am. We remember Margaret's family in our prayers at this time.

ALLAN HEALY RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Allan Healy who died recently. Allan's Funeral Mass will be on Monday 18th March at 11.00am. We remember Mary and all the family in our prayers at this time.

JOYCE THOMAS RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Joyce Thomas who died recently. Joyce's Funeral Mass will be on Tuesday 19th March at 2pm. We remember Alan and all the family in our prayers at this time.

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

JUST SMALL CHANGE

'How YOU are helping in Uganda'
Monday 4th March from 7pm-9pm
in the Undercroft

Peter and Jane Donaghue, two trustees of 'Just Small Change', a charity we have consistently supported, will be giving a talk



tomorrow, Monday 4th March at 7pm in the Undercroft. This is an excellent opportunity for you to find out how your support of the Developing World Group is helping the very poor in the Budaka district of Eastern Uganda to build their own pathway out of poverty with the help of Goats!

Using the funds, we donated 'Just Small Change' has organised an innovative Goat Breeding Programme and associated Savings and Loan Scheme in the village of Kadimukoli. Peter and Jane will give us feedback from the very grateful households they met on their recent visit. We look forward to seeing you and offering some goats milk to taste!

LOLO YOUTH GROUP

YOU'RE INVITED!

HOLY SPIRIT DAY

**on Sunday 17th March at 12.45pm - 5.45pm
in Lourdes Hall - Southdown Road.**

Lunch & snacks will be provided. RSVP
by 12th March to Anne Pesez details below

anne.pesez@gmail.com

WhatsApp - 07786 703 760

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDARS

**(Please Note Changes to the Previously
Published Dates)**

YOUTH MASSES

The next Youth Mass will be on Saturday 9th March at 6pm and again on Saturday 20th April at 6pm.

LOLO YOUTH GROUP

The next OLOL Youth Group will be on Saturday 20th April after the 6pm Mass.

ST PATRICK'S DAY LUNCH

" Important Change ..the lunch will not start until 1pm to enable people to attend Allan Healy's funeral"

This very popular annual event will be held on

Monday 18th March (the day after SPD) in the Undercroft from 1pm. Tickets priced £15 will include a welcome drink, a traditional Irish meal, barnbrack and Irish Coffee and will be on



sale at all the Masses this weekend. Proceeds will go to Sister Margaret's Barcelona Settlement in South Africa. EVERYONE is welcome.

'CHORDS'

Join Soprano Alison Langer and Guests, in a musical recital exploring strong women and motherhood. Music included lullabies and arias from Puccini to Kate Bush!

On Mother's Day weekend why not treat Mum to a superb afternoon on Saturday 9th March at 3.00pm in Church. For tickets and more information please email:

Alison_langer@hotmail.com

Ticket prices

Adults £8, Mothers £7, Children 12+ £4

**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR
THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY
Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th
May 2024 at 2:30pm.**



The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Melanie in the Parish Office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

Closer to the time the Agency for Evangelisation will send out, on behalf of the Cardinal, an invitation to the registered couples.

QUOTE FROM LAUDATO SI:

God, who calls us to generous commitment and to give him our all, offers us the light and the strength needed to continue on our way. In the heart of this world, the Lord of life, who loves us so much, is always present. He does not abandon us, he does not leave us alone, for he has united himself definitively to our earth, and his love constantly impels us to find new ways forward. *Praise be to him!*

MASS INTENTIONS



<p>Saturday 2nd March 12.00 Noon</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 3rd March 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>Lent feria Frankland and Halligan Families</p> <p>3RD SUNDAY OF LENT Kathy Bearpark RIP</p> <p>Eileen Soden RIP (Recently Deceased) People of the Parish Bridget Flanagan RIP (Anniversary) Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>
<p>Monday 4th March 9.15am</p>	<p>Lent Feria Fr Sean O'Brien RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>
<p>Tuesday 5th March 9.15am</p>	<p>Lent Feria Tommy Doran RIP</p>
<p>Wednesday 6th March 9.15am</p>	<p>Lent feria Felix Doran RIP</p>
<p>Thursday 7th March 9.15am</p>	<p>Lent feria Doran Family (Special Intentions)</p>
<p>Friday 8th March 7.00pm 7.30pm</p>	<p>Lent feria David & Clive (Special Intention) Stations of the Cross</p>
<p>Saturday 9th March 3.00pm</p> <p>Youth Mass Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 10th March 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am</p>	<p>Lent feria Musical Recital - Alison Langer & Guests</p> <p>4TH SUNDAY OF LENT Joan Crawford RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>People of the Parish Maureen Martin RIP (Anniversary) Marie Ducasse RIP Zoom Code 883 7014 5568</p>

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