



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN



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5TH MAY 2024
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

Presbytery: 1, Kirkwick Avenue, Harpenden AL5 2QH Tel: 01582 712245

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Words such as "commands" and "commandments", may sound somewhat out of place when we are speaking of friendship and love. We may not associate "commands" with friendship and love, because those we count as our friends, are not usually in the habit of commanding, or ordering, us to do what they want. We derive little joy from being ordered to do something.

Not, that there can be any ignoring those commands to friendship and love. God, presented in the gospel passage as "Father", loves Jesus. Jesus remains or abides in God's love so deeply, that this love flows on to his friends. They are to love one another as Jesus has loved them. This is his commandment or commission to them and, by extension, to us. It directs them/us to live for each other and put their lives/our lives on the line for one another.

Countless doctors and nurses, carers, and many others, across the globe are doing precisely that right now. Remaining in the love of God or of Jesus and doing what God or Jesus commands, seem to be one and the same thing. In other words, love is not just an emotion: it is always expressed in action that is in tune with, and for the sake of the other. The disciples need no further explanation.

Jesus' whole life and his courage in the face of impending death, have shown them what it means to love one another. Living in the friendship of Christ's disciples, is not some abstract goal. Too often we affirm the goodness of our selfless companions on the journey, only when we come to lay them to rest. As we approach the end of the Easter season, we might give thanks for the love of our friends, for their witness to holiness, and for the joy that they bring to our lives.

ASCENSION

Next Thursday is the feast of the Ascension of the Lord, and a holyday of obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 9.15am and 6.00pm.



BANK HOLIDAY

As tomorrow Monday is a Bank Holiday Mass will be celebrated at the later time of 10.00am.

MASSES NEXT SUNDAY

Masses next Sunday will be celebrated at 6.00pm (Saturday), 8.30am and 9.45am, and the Anniversary Mass at 4.00pm. **Please note that there is no Mass at 11.30am, next Sunday.**

PRIESTS TRAINING FUND

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend, £2,270.00 was donated. If you haven't yet made a donation, it is not too late to do so. Envelopes will be found in the porch, and can be returned, with your donation, to the parish office.

9.45 FAMILY MASS - WAYS FOR CHILDREN TO GET INVOLVED

Last week, Angel stood up at the end of Mass and told you about a project we have launched to get children more actively involved in the 9.45am Mass. This project is a result of your feedback from the parish survey and the Pizza and Pop evening. We would love to see all of your children getting involved. All you need to do is email the address that is on the leaflet,



'familymass@catholicchurchharpندن.org.uk' and you will receive a link enabling you to select the task your child would like to do and the date they would like to do it. We appreciate that children might like to try several tasks before hopefully finding one they enjoy. If you

didn't receive a leaflet last week, make sure you pick one up today."

PRIESTHOOD CELEBRATION

Next Sunday May 12th, Canon Dwyer will be celebrating 40 years, to the day, that he was ordained to the Priesthood. To mark this occasion, there will be a Mass of Thanksgiving, at 4.00pm on that day, followed by a reception in St Dominic's School. Everyone is very welcome to both the Mass and reception.

GIFT FOR CANON DWYER

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the gift from the Parish for Canon Dwyer. There will be another opportunity for anyone that missed last weekend's special collection and donations will be collected after all Masses this weekend, you can also donate via the card machine.

'Anniversary of your Ordination' cards are also on sale in the Repository!

ANNIVERSARY PARTY FINGER FOOD

A sign-up sheet from the Ladies Group is available in the porch this weekend for you to 'sign up' for whichever food donation you would like to bring to the Celebration. The suggested items are Finger Food only please. However, if you wish to make a monetary offering towards the wine, or food please bring your donation to the Parish Office, or pop through the Presbytery Letterbox addressed to the Parish Office. Food donations then to be delivered to St Dominic's School Hall on the day (12th May) between 10.30am & 1.00pm, or handed in at the 8.30am Mass to the Ladies group. Thank You.

SHEILA SAWARD RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Sheila Saward who died recently. Sheila's funeral will take place on 29th May at 11.00am. We remember Derek and all the family in our prayers at this time. May she Rest in Peace.

SUMMER CONCERT 23RD JUNE AT 3.30PM PARISH-AND-BEYOND CHORAL JOURNEY

Tickets will be on sale after
all Masses from this
weekend and after

Thursday's choir practices

for the Choir's Summer

Concert. Vivaldi's Gloria and the

Nelson Mass by Haydn will be performed by
our community of singers and we will also be
joined by Alison Langer, Lawrence Thackeray

and other soloists. Ticket prices:

Adults £15, Concessions £10 & Children £5



WALK IN AID OF HARPENDEN MENCAP



Fraser Rosser-Smyth, one of our parishioners,
will be walking 1300km in 60 days from Geneva
to Rome in support of Harpenden Mencap this
summer. You may be aware that his brother
Max, who serves on the Altar, is currently in
supported living at Stairways and Fraser has
seen first hand the vital work Harpenden
Mencap does in our local community. His
JustGiving page is linked below, however his
page should also come up simply by searching
his name on the JustGiving website. Any
support in the form of prayer is equally sought.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/fraser-rosser-smyth-](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fraser-rosser-smyth-1711211816774?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Ffraser-rosser-smyth-1711211816774&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)

[1711211816774?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Ffraser-rosser-smyth-](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fraser-rosser-smyth-1711211816774?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Ffraser-rosser-smyth-1711211816774&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)

[1711211816774&utm_source=copyLink&utm_ca](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fraser-rosser-smyth-1711211816774?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Ffraser-rosser-smyth-1711211816774&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)

FIRST COMMUNION IN THE REPOSITORY

The First Communion season is approaching and
there is a wide range of attractive gifts
including bracelets, necklaces, photo frames
and pens, together with First Communion
cards. Pop into the Repository and have a look.

YOUTH FRIENDLY MASS & OLOL YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Friendly Mass, & Youth
Group will be next Saturday, 11th May at
6.00pm followed by the Youth Group at
7.00pm



KEYSTAGE HOUSING **THANK YOU!**

We have received a message from Jane at
Keystage Housing thanking our Parish for the
donations they have received over the last few
weeks. In April Keystage housing received so
many useful donations from the Parish
We received, 30 Towels, 6 Duvets, 2 Blankets,
15 Duvet Covers, 1 TV, 1 Smart phone, A
Rucksack & Men's Clothing. All of these
donations make so much difference to our ex
homeless residents, when they arrive the
majority have nothing, It really makes their
day when we can say yes, we can help you
because of the generosity of donors. The
donations in April directly helped and
supported 22 Individuals who were very
grateful, and the most important thing is it
helps them to feel cared about and that they
matter. With the warmer months hopefully
approaching Keystage would like to ask for
garden plants and shrubs for their hostels.
Please contact Cathy Seaton if you have any
donations. cmann100@hotmail.com

HARPENDEN CHILD CONTACT CENTRE (HCCC) AGM

HCCC is holding its AGM on **Tuesday 14 May
2023 at 7.30 pm** in the Church Hall at All
Saints, Station Road, Harpenden, AL5 4UU.

This will be an opportunity to hear more about
HCCC and the service it provides. There is a
guest speaker from Herts Police after which
there will be drinks, nibbles and an opportunity
to chat and network. Please contact
brigid.brennan@virginmedia.com for more
information.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 4th May

THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

Vigil Mass 6.00pm

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Fr Robert Dudley RIP (Anniversary)

SUNDAY 5th May

8.30am

People of the Parish

9.45am

Maureen & Bill Thornton RIP (Anniversary)

11.30am

Joyce Thomas RIP (Recently Deceased)

Zoom Code 883 7014 5568

Monday 6th May

Easter Feria

10.00am

Sr. Christina McGarry (Special Intention)

Tuesday 7th May

Easter Feria

9.15am

Michael Pawel Ziolo RIP (Recently Deceased)

Wednesday 8th May

Easter Feria

9.15am

John Ramswell RIP (Anniversary)

Thursday 9th May

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

9.15am

Tony Taylor RIP (Recently Deceased)

6.00pm

Paul Roseblade RIP (Recently Deceased)

Friday 10th May

Easter Feria

Saturday 11th May

Easter Feria

11.00am

First Holy Communion Mass (1)

Youth Friendly Mass

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Patricia Peters RIP (Recently Deceased)

SUNDAY 12th May

8.30am

Martin Stears-Handscorn (Special Intention)

9.45am

People of the Parish

11.30am

NO MASS

4.00pm

Canon Dwyer's 40th Anniversary of Ordination Mass

Zoom Code 883 8273 4462

CONFESSIONS

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