



Parish Website

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

7TH JANUARY 2024
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (B)



© Chloe Le Tissier

Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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

Email: anthonydwyer@rcdow.org.uk

Parish 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

twitter: https://twitter.com/rc_olol?lang=en

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

Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

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

Parish Pastoral Council ppc@catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'epiphany' means to make known or to reveal. The Prophet Isaiah calls us to 'Arise, shine out because our light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising in us'. Through the birth of Jesus, and today's wonderful feast, we are the people on whom a great light has shone.

The shepherds left Jesus, Mary and Joseph, filled with the good news of this wondrous child. Just as the angels had proclaimed the good news to them, the shepherd in their turn shared their good news with others. In the same way, the Magi, after giving their gifts, also left the stable. They didn't stay there either. We are only told that they didn't go back to Herod, but went home another way. We can only assume, that they too told everyone what they had seen and heard in that small stable in Bethlehem.

As we look upon the crib, we cannot stay there. Like the shepherds and the magi, we too are called to move away and take the light of Jesus with us. We are asked not only to admire the light, but to be people of light. The light of the Epiphany is given to us as a gift, but we cannot keep it for ourselves. Through the quality of our daily lives, and how we treat each other, we are called to make our families, homes, parish communities and the wider world a better and brighter place for all people, especially the poor and the marginalised.

May the Light of Christ fill all our homes, families and our parish community, and may you all have a blessed and happy new year.

THANK YOU!

As always after Christmas, there are many 'thank you's to be expressed. Thank you to each one of you for your generosity, for the offering on Christmas Day, and also for your many cards, and other gifts received. Once again, we had lovely Christmas celebrations, and that is thanks to all those who assisted, in any way, our Altar servers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Ministers of Welcome, our choir and musicians, as well as the flower arrangers and church cleaners. It was good to see the great numbers attending the Carol Service and Christmas Masses - nearly double our normal attendance on an ordinary Sunday! Thank you to everyone, and especially for the inspiration of your example.



project and we can place boxes where needed as we go along !

REPOSITORY NEW YEAR SALE!

In the Repository this weekend, all boxes and packs of Christmas cards are reduced to half price and Christmas Wrapping Paper the bargain price of 10p per sheet! The Westminster Year Book is available and copies are £5 each.



Visit the Repository before or after Mass, if we don't have what you are looking for we offer an ordering service so please shop with us for Cards (for all occasions), Gifts for Weddings, New Baby, Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and general religious items.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday: Regrettably, once again, there will be no Mass, at 9.15am, on Monday morning, as there is no priest available to assist.

Wednesday: There is no Mass on Wednesday morning, as the Funeral Mass of the late Kathy Bearpark, will be taking place at 2.00pm.

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

The deadline for notices for the Newsletter is 2pm on Wednesdays. Thank you.



LOST PROPERTY - LAST CHANCE!

There is quiet a collection of lost property, in a box, near to the repository at the back of the church. If you have lost something, do please take a minute to look and see if it is there. Any items remaining, will be taken to a charity shop this week.

THE NOODLE BOX

"The Noodle Box" will be available inside the church for anyone who needs a hot snack . The box is full of pot noodle/pasta cups and instant soups and take away cups . They are free to take ! Please spread the word, especially as the cold weather is upon us . This is just a start to the



GETTING MARRIED?

Couples intending to get married, need to give at least six months' notice, as required by the Diocese. Pre-marriage preparation, provides an opportunity to reflect, not just on the wedding, which is for a day, but on the marriage, which is for life, as well as looking at the other necessary arrangements. Anyone getting married within the next year should be in contact with Canon Dwyer. If you know of couples hoping to marry in the coming year, please draw their attention to this notice.



FOR THE YOUTH OF THE PARISH
The next Youth Friendly Mass will be on
Saturday 13th January at 6pm

OLOL YOUTH GROUP:
Year 9 Confirmation Candidates & Year 10
and beyond Save the date:
Saturday 13th January 7.00pm to 8.30pm

SING FOR SEVEN

Nothing like a rainy afternoon between Christmas and New Year to have cheerful thoughts of our next Sing For project!

Sing For Seven - starting

Tuesday January 16th

7.30pm - 9.00pm in the Undercroft. The cost is £40 per person for hours of singing and a sense of achievement as the weeks progress! The money raised, and donations collected, are sent to Keystage Housing and NOAH.

All dates as follows:

Tuesday 16th January 7.30 - 9.00pm

Tuesday 23rd January 7.30 - 9.00pm

Tuesday 30th January 7.30 - 9.00pm

Tuesday 6th February 7.30 - 9.00pm

SATURDAY 10th FEBRUARY

3pm Performance

A fabulous line up of music and the perfect way to start the new year!

Please sign up and encourage family and friends to join you. Anyone interested can email me : katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk

BLUES SUPPER.

This very popular annual event will be on **Saturday 27th January** in Lourdes Hall at 7.00pm for 7.30pm (After the 6pm Vigil Mass). Live entertainment will be provided by Lulu and the Hullabalooos with a two-course supper during the intermission. **Tickets priced at £20 will be on sale after all the Masses this weekend or you can contact Marva on 07943 837277** to make a group booking or to pay by BACs. Everyone is welcome.

NOAH AND KEYSTAGE DONATION BINS

For NOAH, (**Blue Bin**) they ask for clothing (no undergarments, unless they are brand new and packaged); coats and jackets; shoes; toys; and bric-a-brac. You can also Gift Aid your donations for them by filling out a Gift Aid form, copies of which will be kept at the back



of church and also in a plastic pocket attached to the bin.

KEYSTAGE (Yellow Bin)

have asked for tinned foods and non-perishable foods e.g. cereals, biscuits, chocolate; and socks, gloves, scarves and toiletries.



Thank you all so much for your ongoing support which is much appreciated by both NOAH and Keystage.

LIVESIMPLY QUOTE

Creation is not some possession that we can lord over for our own pleasure; nor, even less, is it the property of only some people, the few: creation is a gift, it is the marvelous gift that God has given us, so that we will take care of it and harness it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude.

Pope Francis.



MASS INTENTIONS

<p>Saturday 6th January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12.00 Noon</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 7th January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.45am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.30am</p>	<p>Christmas feria</p> <p>Baptism Adams Family</p> <p>The Epiphany of the Lord Peter Trueland RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Kathy Bearpark RIP (Months Mind)</p> <p>John Affleck RIP (Recently Deceased)</p> <p>Martin Newham (Special Intentions)</p>
<p>Monday 8th January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am</p>	<p>Baptism of the Lord</p> <p>No Mass</p>
<p>Tuesday 9th January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>John Coffee RIP (Recently Deceased)</p>
<p>Wednesday 10th January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.15am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2.00pm</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>No Mass</p> <p>Requiem Mass for Kathy Bearpark</p>
<p>Thursday 11th January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.00am</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>Doran Family Intentions</p>
<p>Friday 12th January</p>	<p>feria</p>
<p>Saturday 13th January</p> <p style="color: red;">Youth Friendly Mass</p> <p>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</p> <p>Sunday 14th January</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8.30am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9.45am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11.30am</p>	<p>feria</p> <p>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Caitriona Kelly RIP (Anniversary)</p> <p>Jarlath McConville RIP</p> <p>People of the Parish</p> <p>Johanna Gregory RIP (Anniversary)</p>

CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS

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