



Parish Website

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)



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## Parish Priest Canon Anthony Dwyer

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## Parish Administrator Mrs Melanie Armitage

The Parish Office is open Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

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twitter: [https://twitter.com/rc\\_olol?lang=en](https://twitter.com/rc_olol?lang=en)

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

## Parish Safeguarding Representative Mrs Brigid Brennan

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Today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, marks both an end and a beginning. It is the final feast of the Christmas Season, but, as with every Baptism, it marks a new beginning. At this time, we are commencing a new year, and we are also commencing 'Ordinary' time in the Church. When we hear of 'Ordinary' time it could sound mundane and uninspiring. But when we think of what this time follows, the season of Christmas, we might ask how can anything be ordinary again? How can life be ordinary when Christ our Saviour has come into the world, and, when through him, Emanuel, God-is-with-us? That is the wonderful reality of Christmas, and it is a reality that can, and should, make a difference in our lives.

Although the decorations, and the Christmas trees, have been taken down, hopefully, we don't also pack Christmas away too. The reality is that God-is-with-us every day of our lives, so, whatever we experience in life, be it joy or sorrow, we are never alone, for God does not abandon us, but He is with us, sharing, experiencing, whatever it is we may be encountering.

As we move into 'Ordinary' time so the memory of Christmas continues. The memory of what we have celebrated. And we have been able to celebrate so well, thanks to the efforts of those who contributed to our celebrations. So, a big 'thank you' to the Altar Servers, Readers and Ministers of Holy Communion, as well as to the various choirs, and to the flower arrangers, church cleaners and stewards, all of whom so willingly help us to celebrate in such a good way.

Thank you also for your generosity. For the offering on Christmas Day, as well as for your cards and other gifts, all of which are much appreciated. And to you, and your families, a happy and blessed new year.

## POPE BENEDICT RIP



This week, with the Church, throughout the world, we remember, and pray for Pope Emeritus, Benedict XI, who led the Church for almost eight years, until his resignation in 2013. Cardinal Nichols has described him as *'through and through a gentleman, through and through a scholar, through and through a pastor, through and through a man of God, close to the Lord and always, always his humble servant,'* May he rest in peace and rise in glory!

### ALTAR SERVERS

After three years, with our Altar Servers unable to gather on the feast of St Stephen, it was good this year to be able to do so. Two of our younger Servers, were enrolled in the Guild of St Stephen, and some of the more long-standing Servers, were given the appropriate cords, indicating how long they have carried out this ministry. Congratulations, and thanks, to all of them for their service on the sanctuary.

### WARM SPACES

For three Tuesdays now, thanks to our volunteers, we have been able to offer a warm space, to anyone who would appreciate such a facility. To date the take up has not been very high. However, we continue to offer a warm space, each Tuesday between 12noon and 3.00pm in the undercroft. We are able to offer warm refreshments, wi-fi access and newspapers. Please make anyone

aware, who you think might appreciate this facility.

### 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.

### LYDIE SMITH RIP

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Lydie Smith who died this week. Lydie's Funeral will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 11.30am. We remember her family in our prayers at this time.

## PARISH DIARIES 2023

Parish diaries, for the coming year, are now available free of charge in the porch and the Repository. Please take one and take one also for a friend or family member that isn't able to attend Mass themselves.

## SEEKING WORK

A Parishioner is seeking work as a Carer. Very experience and has good references. For further information, please contact the Parish Office or Canon Dwyer.

## BANISH THE BLUES SUPPER AND JAZZ EVENING.

This hugely popular annual event will be on **Saturday 28th January at Lourdes Hall at 7.00pm for 7.30pm (or after the 6pm Mass)**. Music will be provided by Lulu and the Hullabalooos with a supper during the intermission (bring your own drinks). Proceeds will go to the Developing World Group. **Tickets (£15 each) will be on sale after all the Masses from this weekend** or contact Marva on 07943 837277 for a group booking or to be added to the Parish table.

## YOUTH OF THE PARISH

**FLAME 2023 - SATURDAY 4TH MARCH 2023 - 12PM TO 5.40PM RISE UP**

<https://cymfed.org.uk/flame/>

This year's confirmation candidates will be joining thousands of other young catholic people at the OVO Wembley Arena on Saturday 4th March 2023 for an inspiring day of prayer, adoration, catechesis, reflection, celebration and praise. Everyone else aged School Year 9 (and not already in the confirmation course) through to University age are invited to join them for the day to experience this UK's largest catholic youth conference.

Tickets are £20 plus travel.

**Please contact the parish office, or Anne Pesez [anne.pesez@gmail.com](mailto:anne.pesez@gmail.com) before mid January if your child is interested in coming.**

## SING FOR ...4 JANUARY 2023

Please put the dates in the diary - something to look forward to in January! Adults and children are invited for this charity-fundraising singing project - more details to follow but there is a choice of Tuesday OR Sunday rehearsals.

**Tuesday 10th January 7.30-9.00pm**

### Undercroft

Tuesday 17th Jan, 24th Jan, 31st Jan  
AND ..... to widen the opportunity for more/ families to take part in this project :

**Sunday 15th January 3.00-4.00pm**

### Undercroft

22nd Jan, 29th Jan

**Performance SUNDAY 5th FEB 2pm Rehearsal, 3pm CONCERT**

Please email [katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk) to book a place £35 for the project per family (whether 1 person or 10!) Money, after expenses, to NOAH and Keystage Housing

## NEW PODCAST

A new Catholic weekly podcast 'A beautiful thing' launches on the 4th Jan 2023. It is taken from the line that Jesus says to Mary of Bethany, 'She has done a beautiful thing for me' (Mark 16:4).

The first series is called 'The twelve women of the gospel' where every fortnight actress and teacher Angela Ward dramatises a different woman from the scriptures with commentary and reflection. Other weeks there interviews with Christian women today. Available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and AnchorFM. To listen check : [pod.link/1652792346](https://pod.link/1652792346)

## CHARITY CONCERT AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Catenians, their families and friends are very significant supporters of Friends of the Holy Land and our mission to preserve a Christian Community in the Land where Our Lord was born, ministered, died and was resurrected.

With an increasing need among families in the Holy Land, FHL are holding our largest fundraising event to date, a Charity Concert featuring the London Welsh Male Voice Choir and the 'Three Priests,' at Westminster Cathedral on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm - 10.00pm.

Tickets, from just £20, can be bought through Eventbrite, search *LWMVC Concert at Westminster Cathedral*, go to <http://bit.ly/3iOath2> or by calling the FHL office 01926 512980

**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.

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK	
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> January 6.00pm	Christmas feria  THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A) Martin Newham (Sp Ints)
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> January 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)  People of the Parish Cameron Smart RIP (Recently Deceased) Zena Murphy RIP <b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568.</b>
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> January 9.15am	feria Sr Eileen (Sp Ints)
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup> January 9.15am	feria
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> January 9.15am	feria Rodger Clarke RIP
Thur 12 <sup>th</sup> January 11.00am	feria Johanna Gregory RIP (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv)
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> January	feria
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> January 6.00pm	feria  2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Jean & David Eldred RIP
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> January 8.30am 9.45am 11.30am	2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)  Caitrona Kelly RIP (Anniv) People of the Parish Agnes Pang RIP <b>Zoom Code 883 7014 5568.</b>
<b>CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS</b> 10.30AM - 11.00AM & AFTER THE 6.00PM VIGIL MASS	