

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HARPENDEN

11TH SEPTEMBER 2022 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)



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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During the year there are various moments when there is the opportunity to start again, September is one such time, prompted, as schools begin their new school year. For some it will be starting school for the first time, for others is will be a new beginning in a secondary school. And as well, later in the month, some of our young people will be off to university to continue their education. It's been good to hear of the successes of our young people, with their A levels, and GCSE's, we congratulate them, and wish them well, whatever their next step may be.

That 'starting again' is a part and parcel of our life of faith. God, in His goodness, allowing us to make a new start, often for the umpteenth time! It's good to know we can start again, that there is no limit to the new beginnings we can make. No doubt, we are all breathing a sigh of relief that the pandemic appears to be over; that life is, pretty well, back to normal. But what is not back to normal are the numbers attending Mass. Those who attend regularly will have noticed the reduced numbers, the fact that getting on for 300 parishioners have not returned, what are we to learn from this? What are we to do as a parish?

The task of reaching out is for all of us, Parish Priest and parishioners, so what are you going to do? How do you suggest we make contact with those who have 'disappeared?'

To live our faith, is to be responsible - responsible for our brothers and sisters.

So, at this time of new beginnings, what can we do together, what can you do, to encourage those who are 'missing' to practice their faith? What can you do, which demonstrates, how important your faith is to you?

LIVE-STREAMING

We've had a couple of messages, saying how much the Live-Streaming of Masses is appreciated. It is intended, to start live-streaming, some Masses, in the coming weeks.

PARISH WEBSITE

Don't forget the new parish website is now up and running, providing a variety of different information, about different aspects of parish life. If you haven't yet had a look, do take a few minutes to do so. You can visit it at:

www.catholicchurchharpenden.org.uk.

DEC PAKISTAN FLOODS APPEAL

CAFOD is part of the Disaster Emergency
Committee, a group of 15 leading international aid
charities that work together to respond as
quickly and effectively as possible during a
humanitarian emergency.

As you know devastating floods have hit Pakistan, leaving millions in urgent need of help to survive. A third of the country is now underwater (that's an area almost the size of Great Britain). Your donation will help CAFOD's local partners support communities with clean drinking water, food, emergency medical assistance and shelter. Please pray for those affected. A second collection will take place after all Masses this weekend, you also may donate via the Chip & Pin machine in the porch, select CAFOD Pakistan Flood Appeal and select the amount you would like to donate, or you can donate at cafod.org.uk/give

THANK YOU FROM CAFOD

Did you know that CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, helps some of the poorest and most marginalised people across the world? We can reach so many people because we are a member of Caritas Internationalis, the Catholic Church network with a presence in 165 countries. Our local experts work with people over the long-term, helping them to have the right skills, tools and opportunities to live with dignity and support their families. For example, in South Sudan we are helping families learn how to farm better as the climate gets hotter, so that they can cope better in the future when things get even more difficult. Find out more www.cafod.org.uk Thank you for your support.

FIRST COMMUNION 2023

The deadline has now passed for Registration. For those parents who have submitted their form please keep an eye out for an email from the Catechists.







OUR POPULAR 'DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP' QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY EVENING, 1ST OCTOBER'22

Everyone is welcome at this parish social event featuring an entertaining Quiz led by Ginny St John Glew. Tickets are £15.00 each including a fish and chip supper from Gadfrey's. Come and meet new friends on the open tables, or let us know if you want to make up a group table. In either case, please

email <u>elizabeth husegmail.com</u> or phone 07905 797729 as soon as possible to book your place. More details to follow.

SAVE THE DATE FOR:

RECYCLE YOUR UNWANTED TOOLS & GARDENING EQUIPMENT DROP-OFF ON SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER, LOURDES HALL, HARPENDEN

Our 'Developing World' and 'Live Simply' Groups will be repeating this successful event for WORKAID. This charity refurbishes tools, haberdashery items and gardening equipment to help disadvantaged people in Africa by providing tools and training for new skills.

Please start collecting any unwanted items you have and put them aside.

Full details will be provided soon of all the items needed by Workaid, with the delivery address & times, for Saturday 29th October and contact details. Happy decluttering!

PARISH OFFICE

Melanie, the Office Administrator is on holiday for the next week. The Parish office will re-open on Monday 19th September, so if you leave a voicemail, or send an email, please be patient.



PARISH WALK WEDNESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

This month we should like to ask the Live Simpliers in the parish to join us for our walk in the park. Graham Ryan has kindly offered to give us two short reflections on CAFOD's



'Fix the Food System' at the beginning and end of the walk before we go for coffee. I hope lots of you will come and join us for an interesting experience as Autumn begins: time of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness.'

We begin 10.00am after Mass outside the church and walk for about an hour.

All paces of walking catered for!

FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

It's perfectly understandable that, from time to time, small children can become restless during Mass. If this happens parents are welcome to take the children to the 'crying' room; which is on the right as you enter the church.

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM ON SATURDAY 24 SEPTEMBER FROM ST BART'S, ST ALBANS.

You are warmly invited to join our Diocesan Pilgrimage, which falls on the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham. Cardinal Vincent Nichols will be leading the Pilgrimage. Coach departs St Bart's at 7.50am and cost is £28 for adults and children are free. We will arrive in Walsingham for Holy Mass at 12 noon, followed by picnic lunch. For more information or to book please contact Margaret: margleahy@gmail.com or ring 01727 763832. Don't leave it too long if you want to be sure of a place! (for those unable to walk far, there is not a lot of walking to do)

SING FOR ... 3!

Our third project to raise money for Keystage Housing and NOAH. The past two projects have been enormous fun so please come along and enjoy some lovely music and a light-hearted few hours on a Tuesday.

The fee is £35 and payment details will be given once you sign up - email katiemjack@yahoo.co.uk

Each of the following Tuesday evenings in the Undercroft at Our Lady of Lourdes. 7.30-9.00pm

TUESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER
TUESDAY 27th SEPTEMBER
TUESDAY 4th OCTOBER
TUESDAY 11th OCTOBER
SATURDAY 15th OCTOBER from 2pm
INFORMAL CONCERT

SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation runs from 1st September to 4th October, Feast of St Francis of Assisi, the patron Saint of Ecology. Archbishop Martin of Armagh marks the beginning of the Season of Creation.

https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/45384

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