

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
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2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) Year A 16th April 2023

Fr John Warnaby Parish Priest Tel: 0208 428 0088
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Office hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am-3pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 15th April	Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Easter	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 16th April	Second Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Gerry Archer RIP
	Divine Mercy Sunday	10.30am	Maurice Rodrigo & John Crowle RIP
Tuesday 18th April	Easter feria	7.00pm	Pat Leonard RIP
Wednesday 19th April	St Alphege	11.00am	Requiem Mass Helen Birch RIP
Thursday 20th April	Easter feria	9.15am	Michael Healy RIP
Friday 21st April	Easter feria	9.15am	Michael Lavery
Saturday 22nd April	Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Easter	6.00pm	Phil Carey

CONFESSIONS Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

Mass Intentions: Please leave plenty of time if you want a special date

Liturgy of the Word: 16 April 2023

Entrance Antiphon: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Acts 2:14, 22-33, Psalm 15, 1 Peter 1:17-21, Luke 24: 13-35

In our Gospel today Jesus appears to the disciples offering proofs of his resurrection by showing them the wounds of his passion; his pierced hands and side.

Jesus commissions his apostles to bring the good news of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. As Jesus was sent by his heavenly Father to proclaim the message of God's love, his first disciples and each one of us are called upon to do the same. Just as he gave his first disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit, so he breathes on each of us the same Holy Spirit who equips us with new life, power, joy and courage to live each day as followers of the Risen Lord.

Thomas struggled to believe in the Lord's rising from the dead. He doubted the women who saw the resurrected Jesus and he doubted his own fellow apostles.

Jesus does not condemn Thomas for his lack of faith. He appears to him and reassures him that he has indeed overcome death and risen again. When Thomas recognized his Master, he believed and exclaimed that Jesus was truly Lord and truly God! Through the gift of faith we, too, proclaim that Jesus is our personal Lord and our God. He died and rose that we, too, might have new life in him. The Lord offers each of us new life in his Holy Spirit that we may know him personally and walk in this new way of life through the power of his resurrection.

Today is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. We give thanks and praise to God for his endless mercy towards us and offer ourselves to be channels of his mercy and love to those around us.

"Only one thing is needed to please God: to do even the smallest things out of great love. Love – and always love."
(Sr Faustina Kowalska)

Divine Mercy-Sunday 16th April

This Sunday we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. There will be devotional prayers and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 2.15 to 3.30pm this afternoon.



The funeral Masses for Helen Birch RIP will take place on **Wednesday 19th April at 11am**. There will be no 9.15am Mass that day.

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From the Birch family:

Helen's coffin will be received into St Joseph's Church just before 7pm Mass on Tuesday 18th April. All are welcome to join us for this simple ceremony, especially if you are unable to join us for the Requiem Mass on the Wednesday. Everyone is welcome at the funeral.

Thank you all for the very many heartfelt messages of love for Helen, and for all the condolences and support you have given us. God bless you all, especially in this Easter season.

*Anne and Greg, Catherine and Nicholas*

## Our Easter Raffle

What a success the Easter Raffle was! **£556 was raised for Church funds**. All the winners have been contacted. A massive thank you to everyone involved in any way.

## Fr Peter Maher RIP

Funeral details for the late Fr Peter who died on Holy Thursday 6th April.

Fr Peter's mortal remains will be brought to St Joseph's Church, Gardenia Avenue, Luton LU3 2NS on Tuesday 9th May at 7pm. Requiem Mass will be celebrated by Canon John McArdle and the homily will be given by Canon Tony Brennan.

Fr Peter's Funeral Mass will take place on Wednesday 10th May at 1pm at Our Lady and St Michael, Crown Rise, Garston WD25 0NE. The celebrant will be Mgr Kevin McGinnell and the homily will be given by Fr Simon Penhalagan, priests of the Diocese of Northampton, at Fr Peter's request. Bishop Paul McAleenan will be present to represent the Cardinal. Cremation will follow at the West Herts Crematorium, High Elms Lane, Watford WD25 0JS.



As we start the new Tax year, don't forget to let us know if your tax circumstances have changed & you need to amend your Gift Aid Status. If you don't already give by Gift Aid and you find that you could, please pick up a Gift Aid declaration today. It doesn't cost you anything and means we can claim an extra 25p from the government for every £1 that you donate. You just have to be a UK taxpayer who pays enough tax to cover the amount of gift aid that is claimed back.

The new planned giving envelopes have arrived and are ready for collection at the back of church. It's still not too late to swap the way you give to the parish! **The most helpful way of supporting the parish is donating by standing order**, which also reduces our volunteers' work in counting.

If you would like to switch from envelopes or cash, to standing order, please let us know asap. Alternatively, pick up a standing order form at the back of the church.



## Offertory for Sunday 9th April 2023

**Monthly Standing orders for March: £1,762.00**

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|--------------|------------------|
| Envelopes    | £ 268.18         |
| Loose        | £1,004.73        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>£1,272.91</b> |

**Many thanks for your generosity**

**Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers**, especially Bebe Ryan, Dawn, Phil Carey and Alice Sheppard.