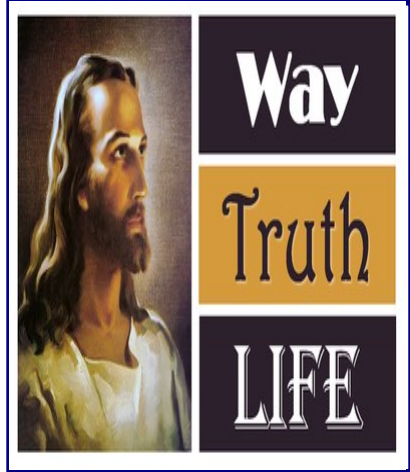


The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey  
 St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW  
 carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk  
 www.carpenderspark.org.uk



**5th Sunday of Easter (Year A) 7th May 2023**

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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday 6th May	Vigil: 5th Sunday of Easter	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 7th May	5th Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Helen Birch RIP
		10.30am	Fr Peter Maher RIP
Tuesday 9th May	Easter feria	7.00pm	David Irwin RIP
Wednesday 10th May	Easter feria	9.15am	Peter Wall RIP
Thursday 11th May	Easter feria	9.15am	Helen Birch RIP
Friday 12th May	Easter feria	9.15am	Pam Harris RIP
Saturday 13th May	Vigil: 6th Sunday of Easter	6.00pm	First Communion children & families

**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: 7 May 2023**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O sing a new song to the Lord,  
 for he has worked wonders;  
 in the sight of the nations  
 he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**Responsorial Psalm:** May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
 as we place all our hope in you.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
 No one can come to the Father except through me.'  
 Alleluia!

**Next week's Readings:** Acts 8:5-8, 14-17    Psalm 65    I Peter 3:15-18    John 14:15-21

One of the greatest truths of the Christian faith is that we can know the living God. Our knowledge of God is not simply limited to knowing something *about* God, but we can know God personally. To see Jesus, the only begotten Son of the Father, is to see what God is like. In Jesus we see the perfect love of God - a God who cares intensely and who yearns over each one of us, loving us to the point of laying down his life for us upon the Cross. Jesus is the revelation of God - a God who loves us completely, unconditionally and perfectly. Jesus also promises that God the Father will hear our prayers when we pray in his name. That is why Jesus taught his followers to pray with confidence, "Our Father who art in heaven... give us this day our daily bread".

Jesus told his disciples that they would do the same works which he had done - and even greater works! During his earthly ministry and before his resurrection, when Jesus was present to his disciples in Galilee and Jerusalem, he was subject to the physical limitations of time, space, and circumstances. Now as the Risen Saviour who is glorified and seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven, the Lord Jesus makes his presence and power known to every place on earth through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit who lives and works through all the members of the body of Christ on earth.

Theresa of Avila (1515-1582) wrote: "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks in compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

## 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

## Priest Training Fund – Thank you

Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. It is not too late to make a donation if you wish. Envelopes are available in the back of the church, or by contacting the parish office. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood.

For more information, or to make a donation, visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)

## Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse?

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work.

For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on *6 - 9 July 2023* or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on *13-15 October 2023*, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

## Job vacancies –Diocese of Westminster

There is a printed list of the current vacancies on the noticeboard near the Door of Mercy. Please take a look as there is a great range of jobs from Parish Cleaner to Door Manager. Plus a range of locations across the Diocese. The list is also updated weekly and available online via <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>



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 contact the Parish office. Alternatively, pick up a standing order form at the back of the church.



## Offertory for Sunday 23rd April 2023

Envelopes £ 370.40

Loose £ 200.61

**Total £ 571.01**

**Many thanks**

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