

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

# Humility

is not thinking less of yourself  
but thinking of yourself less  
- CS Lewis

## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 5th November 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 4th November	Vigil: 31st Sunday	6.00pm	Larry Lyons RIP
Sunday 5th November	31st Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Maurice Rodrigo & John Crowle RIP
		10.30am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 7th November	feria	7.00pm	Deceased Mullahy family RIP
Wednesday 8th November	feria	9.15am	David Williams
Thursday 9th November	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	9.15am	Holy Souls
Friday 10th November	St Leo the Great	9.15am	Joyce Winters RIP followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 11th November	Vigil: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	Tom Conlon RIP

### CONFESSIONS Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

When booking a Mass Intention please leave plenty of time if you want a special date.

### Liturgy of the Word: 5th November 2023

**Entrance Antiphon:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

**Responsorial Psalm:** Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

**Next week's Readings:** Wisdom 6:12-16, Psalm 62, 1Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus warned the scribes and Pharisees, the teachers and rulers of Israel, to teach and serve their people with humility and sincerity rather than with pride and seeking privileges and honour. They went to great lengths to draw attention to their religious status and practices. In their misguided zeal for religion they sought recognition and honour for themselves rather than for God. They made the practice of their faith a burden rather than a joy for the people they were supposed to serve.

Respect for God and for his ways inclines us to humility and to simplicity of heart - the willing readiness to seek the one true good who is God himself. We can easily mistake humility as something demeaning or harmful to our sense of well-being and feeling good about ourselves. True humility is not feeling bad about yourself, or having a low opinion of yourself, or thinking of yourself as inferior to others. True humility frees us from preoccupation with ourselves, whereas a low self-opinion tends to focus our attention on ourselves.

Humble people make a realistic assessment of themselves without illusion or pretense to be something they are not. Truly humble people regard themselves as neither smaller nor larger than they truly are. True humility frees us to be ourselves as God regards us and to avoid falling into either sadness or pride. A humble person does not want to wear a mask or put on a facade in order to look good to others.

Humility is the queen or foundation of all the other virtues because it enables us to see and judge correctly. Humility directs our energy and will to give ourselves to something greater than ourselves. Humility frees us to love and serve others willingly and selflessly.

*Lord Jesus, you became a servant for my sake to set me free from selfish pride and self-concern. Teach me to be humble as you are humble and to love others generously with selfless service and kindness.*

### Second Collection: Sick & Retired Priests

Our second collection today will be in support of the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund.

Most priests offer their resignation as a parish priest at the age of 75, but many continue to serve their communities, working in our parishes, schools, hospitals and chaplaincies. We must ensure no priest is worried about meeting essential costs during their senior years. Last year, the Diocese provided care to **82** retired priests, at a cost of £850,000.

By giving a gift to the SRP Fund today, you can help us to ensure all of our sick and retired priests are cared for at their time of need.

The envelopes are at the back of church. You can also give online by using your mobile phone to scan the QR code on the posters or visit <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/sick-and-retired-priests-fund>

You may also wish to consider becoming a Patron of our Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. If so, please take a leaflet home today, for more information.

Thanks for your generosity and please remember to pray for our clergy, in active ministry, retired or ill.



### Online talks –Jubilee 2025: Year of the Council and The Prayers and Gospels at Christmas

Fr Brian O'Mahony will be giving 2 online talks on Tuesdays 7th & 28th Nov at 7.30-8.30pm (Jubilee 2025)

Fr John Deehan has a series of 4 online talks on Thursdays 7.30-8.30pm starting on 23rd November (The Prayers and Gospels of Christmas) .

Suggested donation of £5 per talk. To register contact Warren Brown on [catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catadmin@rcdow.org.uk). See posters at the back at Church.

### Christmas cards for sale in the Repository.

Come and browse as we have had a re-stock and there are many other new items for sale.

### Senior Citizens Christmas Party – Saturday 25th November 12:30-5pm

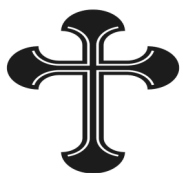


The Catholic Women's League CWL is holding a Senior Citizens Christmas party again this year. It will be held in our parish hall. Places are limited to 80. Forms are available from the back of Church. Please return the completed forms by Sunday 19th November to St Joseph's Church. **\*\*Lots of hands are needed to help out on the day\*\***

**Please contact Pauline James 01923 231 261 or Ann Farrell on 01923 242 314 for any**

### The Summit

Westminster Youth Ministry invites youth (age 13-18) to *The Summit* on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 7-9pm at Holy Rood Church, Watford**. Join in on an evening of food, games, and an encounter with Jesus. *The Summit* is an evening for youth to meet young people from the deanery and delve deeper into their faith through adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and confession. See poster on the noticeboard (side wall)



### November is the Month of the HOLY SOULS

Please complete the white forms with the names of any Deceased family members or friends whom you wish to be remembered at Masses during the month of November.

Enclose the form in the dedicated brown envelope *with a Mass offering*.

Then post in the wooden box at the back of Church.

**Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers** especially Bebe Ryan, Dawn Tannian, Phil Carey, Alice Sheppard, Christine Kempster, Richard Bailey, Kathleen Andrews and Dave Jessop.

### Offertory for 29th October

Loose	£ 324.89
Envelopes	£ 190.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 514.90</b>

*Many thanks*