

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 19th 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

Your talent is Gods
gift to you
What you do with it is
your gift back to God

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 18th November	Vigil: 33rd Sunday	6.00pm	Fr Tim O'Connor RIP
Sunday 19th November	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Maurice Rodrigo & John Crowle RIP
		10.30am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 21st November	Presentation of BVM	7.00pm	Holy Souls
Wednesday 22nd November	St Cecilia	9.15am	Sarah Murphy
Thursday 23rd November	feria	9.15am	Martin Francis O'Sullivan RIP
Friday 24th November	feria	9.15am	Holy Souls
			followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 25th November	Vigil: Christ the King	6.00pm	Helen In Thanksgiving

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: 19th November 2023

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Responsorial Psalm: O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

Even if you have to die, says the Lord,
keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17, Psalm 22 I Corinthians 15: 20-26,28 Matthew 25: 31-46

In our Gospel today, Jesus preaches a parable about a businessman who leaves town and entrusts his money with his workers. This would have made perfect sense to his audience; wealthy merchants and businessmen often had to travel abroad for extended periods and leave the business to others to handle while they were gone.

Jesus' story tells us something about how God deals with us, his disciples and servants. The parable speaks first of the employer's trust in his servants. When he goes away, he leaves them with his money to use as they think best. In a way, this was a test to see if his workers would be reliable in their use of the resources entrusted to them. The master rewards those who are industrious and have shown that they could be faithful stewards of his property.

The Lord entrusts the subjects of his kingdom with gifts and graces and he gives them the freedom to use them as they think best. With each gift and talent, God gives sufficient means, by grace and wisdom, to use them in a fitting way. As the parable of the talents shows, God honours those who use their talents and gifts for doing good. Those who are faithful with even a little, are entrusted with more!

There is an important lesson here for us. No one can stand still for long in the Christian life. We either get more or we lose what we have. We either advance towards God or we slip back. God asks us to serve Him with the gifts, talents, and graces he has given us, and to develop those talents in his service.

Lord Jesus, be the ruler of my heart and thoughts, my home and relationships, and be the inspiration of my work and service. Help me to make good use of the gifts, talents, time, and resources you give me for your glory and your kingdom.



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 and are free of charge!
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 07511 668812 or Ann Farrell on 01923 242 314 for any offers of help.

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.

Christmas Concert

Watford Phoenix Choir will be performing a selection of songs at a fundraising concert on **Saturday 9th December 5.30pm-8pm at St Mary's Parish Church, Watford**. All money raised will be donated to the local charity New Hope.

New vestments needed for St Joseph's Church

A couple of parishioners who attended the Requiem Mass at Borehamwood for Fr Dominic McKenna commented that Fr John was wearing a different purple vestment to everyone else! This is because our parish does not possess a set of diocesan vestments. We would like to purchase a set of purple, green and red. Each one is approximately £100 (for a chasuble and matching stole) plus postage and import fees.

It has been suggested that parishioners might like to donate these vestments as a gift to the parish.

Please contact Linda in the parish office if you think you can help.

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

Fr Brian O'Mahony will be giving an online talk on *Tuesday 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.
See posters at the back at Church.

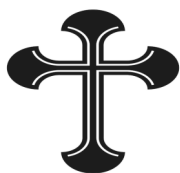
Aid to the Church in Need Christmas Carol Service.

Celebrate Christ's coming with uplifting, traditional music by The Schola Cantorum of the London Oratory School, conducted by Charles Cole with organ and brass ensemble. Free entry: a collection will be taken for ACN's work with persecuted Christians. **Wednesday 13th December 7-8pm at The Oratory**, Brompton Road, London, SW7 2RP. Book via <https://acnuk.org/event/christmas-carol-service-festive-reception-2023/>

Parish Hall for Rent

The parish hall is available for groups who are interested in renting on a regular, weekly basis.

Please speak with Fr John or contact Linda in the parish office (carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk) should this be of interest.



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, Kathleen Andrews and Dave Jessop.

Offertory for 12th November

Loose £ 461.04

Envelopes £ 193.92

Total £ 654.96

Monthly standing orders for Oct

£1,954

Many thanks