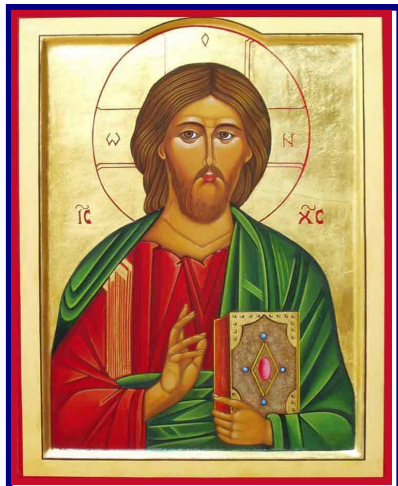


The Catholic Parish of Carpenters Park & South Oxhey  
 St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW  
 carpenterspark@rcdow.org.uk  
 www.carpenterspark.org.uk



**CHRIST THE KING (Year A) 26th 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 25th November	Vigil: Chris the King	6.00pm	Helen In Thanksgiving
Sunday 26th November	Christ the King	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.30am	Intentions of Clayton
Tuesday 28th November	feria	7.00pm	Timothy Anthony Foley
Wednesday 29th November	feria	9.15am	Holy Souls
Thursday 30th November	St Andrew	9.15am	Holy Souls
Friday 1st December	feria	9.15am	Rajakumar Indran Ints followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 2nd December	Vigil: 1st Sunday of Advent	6.00pm	Tom O'Connor 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: 26th November 2023**

**Entrance Antiphon:** How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
 to receive power and divinity,  
 and wisdom and strength and honour.  
 To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!  
 Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!  
 Alleluia!

**Next week's Readings:** Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1,3-8, Psalm 79 I Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate the solemnity of Christ the King. In a world filled with various forms and types of leadership and authority, we look to Jesus as our true king, the one who reigns with love, compassion, and selflessness.

Today's gospel presents a powerful image of Christ as the ultimate king and judge. He separates the sheep from the goats, not based on their wealth, status, or achievements, but on their acts of love and mercy. The king we honour is one who identifies himself with the stranger; the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and imprisoned. He calls us to recognise his presence in the least of our brothers and sisters.

In our first reading today, Ezekiel's prophecy paints a picture of God as the good shepherd, caring for his flock. This passage reminds us that our king is not distant or indifferent but deeply involved in our lives. God seeks out the lost, binds up the injured, and strengthens the weak. Our shepherd-king knows each one of us by name.

As we reflect on these readings, we are challenged to examine our lives. Do we recognize Christ as our king and allow him to reign in our hearts? Do we follow his example of humble service and selflessness in our lives, whether in our families, communities, or workplaces?

In a world that often values power, wealth, and success, Christ's kingship stands in stark contrast. He reigns not by force but by love. He leads not with arrogance but with humility. He serves for the well-being of others. This is the kind of leadership that our world desperately needs.

As we honour Christ the King, let us surrender our lives to His loving rule. Let us allow Him to be the King of our hearts, guiding us in acts of kindness, compassion, and love. Let us be a community that serves the least among us, recognising the presence of our King in them.

### First Holy Communion 2024

Registration has now opened for those children in Year 3 and above who would like to make their First Holy Communion next May/June 2024. The course will commence in January 2024. Please collect a registration form from our catechist Donna, or Fr John after Mass.



### Confirmation 2024

Registration has also opened for students in Year 9 and above who would like to make their Confirmation next Summer 2024. The course will commence in January 2024. Please would Candidates collect in person, a registration form from Donna, or Fr John after Mass.

**The most important preparation for both Sacraments is attendance at Mass. By applying for these courses it is expected that those participating express their commitment by joining the Parish community as we pray together at Mass.**

### **\*\*100 Club\*\***

The intention is to start a parish 100 Club in January to raise funds for the upkeep of the Church. There will be helpers at the back of the Church this weekend taking names and contact numbers for those wishing to express an interest. No money needed at this stage. Each entry/number will be £5 per month (minimum of 3 months) and you can purchase more than 1 entry! Perhaps an entry might be a 'good cause' gift for a family member or friend.

3 monthly prizes of £100/£50/ £25 and a yearly Christmas bonus prize of £500

### 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.

### Come and be reconciled!

Our Lady & St Michael Church, Garston will be hosting a Deanery Advent and Reconciliation service on **Saturday 16th December 12am-noon**. All welcome. No need to book. See poster at the back of Church.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk)) should this be of interest.

**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 19th November

Loose	£ 353.02
Envelopes	£ 146.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 499.24</b>

Many thanks