

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR THE CHURCH,
THE WORLD, THE PARISH & ONE ANOTHER

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUN 4 FEBRUARY	5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm Vigil	Pedro Malig RIP
		8.00am	Pro Populo (For the People)
		9.30am	Ned & Theresa Ryall Anniv
		11.00am	Silvia Cirillo & Gaetano De Mare RIP
		2.15pm	Polish Mass
		5.00pm	For God's Blessing for Matthew Malczenko
MON 5 FEB	St Agatha	8.30am 12 noon	Holy Souls Maura Fitzgerald RIP
TUES 6 FEB	St Paul Miki and Companions	8.30am 12 noon	Philip McGovern RIP Hannah Morris RIP
WED 7 FEB	feria	8.30am 12 noon	Maggie O'Connor Intention Batt Ring RIP
THUR 8 FEB	feria	8.30am 10.00am 12 noon 7.00pm	John Grimes RIP Funeral: Winston David RIP Mary Bridget McGovern RIP Polish Mass
FRI 9 FEB	feria	8.30am 12 noon	Philip McGovern RIP Rosie Ballinger RIP
SAT 10 FEB	St Scholastica	11.00am 6.00pm Vigil	Michael Joseph & Teresa Helen Daly RIP Pedro Malig RIP

CONFESSIONS: Saturday's from 11:30am & 5.15pm - 5:35pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Saturday 5.15pm - 5.40pm

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY:

UNIVERSAL: Say 'No' to Corruption. That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

TEXT GIVING THROUGH YOUR MOBILE PHONE: Easy, safe, convenient, do it anytime.

Text: "Parish HROOD" to 70800 to donate £5 to Holy Rood Parish. Thank you.

MAKING CONTACT AT HOLY ROOD

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Richards shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 3)
 Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Okoro josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 4)
 Deacon: Rev. Neville Dyckhoff neville Dyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 5)
 Parish Secretary: Deirdre Edwards watford@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 2)

Hall Bookings: via the office or watford@rcdow.org.uk (**Office Hours Mon-Fri, 10am to 1pm**)

Address: Holy Rood House, Exchange Road, Watford. WD18 0PJ. (01923) 224085

website: www.holyroodrc.com.  Facebook.com/HolyRoodWatford Charity No: 233699

Other Parish Contacts: Safeguarding Representative: Siobhan Garibaldi 07929 490090

Hospital Chaplain: Colette Lennon 01923 217994

Sunday 4th February 2018

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings for today are on page 134 of the Parish Mass Book

Sunday cycle
Readings Year B
Weekday readings
Year 2
Psalms week 1



TODAY' MASS

Christ gives meaning to our lives. Without him life would be no better than hired drudgery, but with his spirit in us all our service of others is done for love of him. It is a service which brings us perfect freedom. The world needs Christ and it is our duty to bring him to everyone.

First Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7

In this reading we meet a holy man who had always loved and served God well. Job had great wealth and a wonderful family. But then he suffered one tragedy after another, and lost everything, including his family.

We all know how Job feels. Life is not always easy. We suffer pain, loss, fear, and anger. But, like Job, we must remember God's unfailing love for us. By faith, we praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted.

Second Reading: First letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

The Christians at Corinth have been complaining again! They are unhappy because Paul has asked for their support. In his reply to them, Paul rather huffily tells them that preaching the gospel is not always easy but he has to do it. We too are called to bring the Good News of Jesus to others. Sometimes that will be difficult, as it was for Paul. But we need to remember that many around us are broken hearted and without hope. They experience the misery of which Job complained. And they need our help.

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Mark describes for us how Jesus' day begins and ends with taking care of others. He heals Simon's mother-in-law, he cures others who are sick, he drives out demons from those who are possessed. He comforts the down-hearted and discouraged. The crowds follow him wherever he goes. Even when he goes off to a lonely place to pray and be renewed, Jesus is tracked down by his disciples who say, "Everybody is looking for you!" Without complaint, Jesus responds at once by heading for the nearby villages to heal and preach and comfort.

Holy Rood
Catholic Church, Watford



PARISH CENTRE DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sun 4	First Holy Communion class	9.30am
	Tea and coffee after	11.00am Mass
	Baptism Preparation Course	2.00pm
Mon 5	Cocaine Anonymous	7.00pm
Tues 6	Parent & Toddlers	9.30am
	Life Ascending/Ascent	12.30pm
Wed 7	RCIA	8.00pm
Fri 9	Alcoholics Anonymous	8.00pm

THANK YOU... last weekend students from St Michael's Catholic High School made an appeal to support students going to the Shrine of our Lady of Lourdes to be alongside the sick. We raised over £1100.00 to support them. Thank you to all who gave to this appeal. Please keep our young people in your prayers.

COULD YOU BE A LOURDES HELPER? Sick, infirm and elderly pilgrims need your support. The Diocese are looking to recruit volunteers to lend medical and practical support for their pilgrimage this summer from 21st to 27th July. If you or someone you know might be able to assist, please contact the Pilgrimage Office 0207 798 9173, westminsterstfrai@gmail.com or to find out more, lourdes@rcdow.org.uk

ASCENT/ LIFE ASCENDING GROUP Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 6th February in the Parish Centre after midday Mass and the Rosary. Come along and join us for a Bring & Share Lunch with pancakes. Annual subscriptions are now due—£10 each. Everyone is welcome. Contact Winnie 01923 334998 for more information.

PALM CROSSES - It's that time of the year again. Please bring in any old palm crosses you have, so that they can be burnt to make the ash for Ash Wednesday which is on the 14th February.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED
Winston David
ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED
Fr Joseph Keating, Mary Kemp, Mary Coelho, Marie Magee, Ned & Theresa Ryall,
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord

BROWN MASS ENVELOPES are available at the back of church for requesting Masses. You can even Gift Aid your offering on the same envelope if you wish. Just hand it to the clergy or post through the presbytery letter box. The diocesan recommendation for a Mass offering is £10 or whatever you can afford.

SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Ash Wednesday - 14 February
- St Patrick -17 March
- St Joseph -19 March
- Palm Sunday – beginning of Holy Week -25 March
- Easter Sunday - 1 April

SPEC are looking for young people enthusiastic about their faith and willing to share it with others, to spend a year living in community with other people their age; in return they receive formation in the faith, training in youth work, experience living in community. For information, email spec@rcdow.org.uk or call 0203 757 2503.

FHC CHILDREN Please remember to bring your Mass card to church each week, to help you to learn the responses for the Holy Mass. Parents, please help your children with this important undertaking. Those children attending the 11.00am Mass should remain in church with their families rather than attending the children's catechesis, which is primarily for children who have not made their First Holy Communion.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction is celebrated every Saturday evening 5.15pm - 5.40pm Come along and bring your joys, concerns and thanksgivings to the Lord.

SVP QUIZ NIGHT Thank you to everyone who supported the quiz last Saturday. It was a very successful evening raising £916.

BEING AT MASS IN GOOD TIME DOES MATTER! When Cardinal Basil Hume was alive he offered wise words to all Catholics: "if you are not in church to hear the words of the Holy Gospel proclaimed - you've not attended the Holy Mass!"

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
is sponsored this week
In Thanksgiving from the Melig Family

MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS Saturday 10th March at Westminster Cathedral at 2.30pm. At the end of the homily parents will be invited to write the name of their deceased child; these will be collected and taken to the sanctuary.

THE DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT FOR HOLY ROOD 2018. The annual levy on the parish to support the work and mission of the wider Diocese of Westminster this year is **£52,975.89** (last year it was £46,123). This equates to approx. **£4,414** per month and is in addition to our own day to day running costs, utility bills, salaries and office expenses, repairs, and maintenance, liturgical costs etc. So thank you for your continued support of your church. Our mission starts here in this place and we couldn't manage it without you.

MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS: please ensure your child's name and photograph is on the card in order to collect stickers. It's worth taking a photograph of your card at regular intervals in the event of its loss. Many thanks

BAPTISM CERTIFICATES Should you require a copy of a Baptism Certificate - please make your request via email or telephone together with dates if known to Deirdre in the Parish Office. Many thanks

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Envelopes £784.57 Loose £964.37
Standing Orders: £516.79
Thank you to all who have contributed to the daily running costs and the mission of your church

HOLY ROOD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Applications are now open to apply for Holy Rood Catholic Primary School Nursery for September 2018. Further details can be found at <http://www.holyroodcatholicprimaryschool.co.uk/Admissions/Nursery-Admissions/>, in person or by phoning the school office 01923 481340. Applications are welcome from children who's D.O.B is between 01.9.2014 - 31.08.2015. Applications closing date is 23rd February 2018

ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Applications are now open to apply for St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School Nursery for September 2018. Further details can be found on our website at www.stanthonys.herts.sch.uk in person or by phoning the school office on 01923 226987. Applications are welcome from children who's D.O.B. is between 01.09.2014 – 31.08.2015. Applications closing date is 23rd February 2018.

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 19th May at 3pm. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2018. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if you have no email).

SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE AND SWITCH ON YOUR HEART AND MIND TO THE LORD

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LEPER
PLEADED
HEALING
EVIDENCE
RECOVERY
TOWN
STRETCHED
HAND
TOUCH
KNEES
CURED
OFFERING

