

## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

<b>MON 20th April</b>	Easter Feria	Lucia Sepe RIP John Gobo RIP
<b>TUES 21st April</b>	Easter Feria—St. Anselm	John Rellis RIP Sharon Pilgrim RIP
<b>WED 22nd April</b>	Easter Feria	Thomas N J RIP Peter Ahern RIP
<b>THUR 23rd April</b>	ST GEORGE — Martyr and Patron of England	Cecilia and Noel Finn INTENTION Elizabeth Jacques RIP
<b>FRI 24th April</b>	SS Erkenwald and Mellitus	Francis Ugwu INTENTIONS Nell Duignan RIP
<b>SAT 25th April</b>	St. Mark	John and Kathleen Tobin INTENTIONS Special Intention
<b>SUN 26th April</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Easter</b>	Kulandai Emmanuel RIP Annette Briody INTENTION

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP**  
is sponsored for THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

**THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL**-For those suffering an ADDICTION. We pray that they may be helped and accompanied at this time.

### MAKING CONTACT AT HOLY ROOD

Charity No: 233699

Parish Priest:	Fr Derek McGuire	<a href="mailto:derekmcguire@rcdow.org.uk">derekmcguire@rcdow.org.uk</a>	(☎Opt 3)
Assistant Priest:	Fr Joseph Okoro	<a href="mailto:josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk">josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk</a>	(☎Opt 4)
Deacon:	Rev Neville Dyckhoff	<a href="mailto:nevilleydyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk">nevilleydyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk</a>	(☎Opt 5)
Parish Secretary:	Martha Stuart-Berrisford	<a href="mailto:watford@rcdow.org.uk">watford@rcdow.org.uk</a>	(☎Opt 2)
<b>Office hours:</b>	<b>Send an email or phone</b>		

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

website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/>

**Other Parish Contacts:** Safeguarding Representatives: Siobhan Garibaldi, Andrew Danquah and Bridget Basnayake

**Hospital Chaplain:** Deacon Anthony 07876 526935 or emailing: [anthonycurran@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:anthonycurran@rcdow.org.uk)

## Sunday 19th April 2020 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER—Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year A  
Psalms week 2



### URBI et ORBI

A summary of what our Holy Father said.

Pope Francis began by saying: “this is not a time for indifference because the whole world is suffering and needs to be united in facing the pandemic.”

He called on the nations of the world to overcome “indifference, self-centeredness, division and forgetfulness,” saying “these are not words that we want to hear at this time.” He appealed for “an

immediate global ceasefire” in all armed conflicts, as well as for the relaxing of sanctions and the reduction or forgiveness of the debt of poor countries. He urged an all-out effort to care for those who lack the basic necessities of life, including refugees and migrants.

He said the news of Jesus’ resurrection offers “the contagion of hope, a message transmitted from heart to heart.” But “it is no magic formula that makes problems vanish.” Instead, “it is the victory of love over the root of evil, a victory that does not bypass suffering and death, but passes through them, opening a path in the abyss, transforming evil into good: This is the unique hallmark of the power of God.”

Addressing Catholics worldwide who are deprived of the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist and Reconciliation, because of the pandemic, Pope Francis assured them that “the Lord has not left us alone! United in our prayer, we are convinced that he has laid his hand upon us, firmly reassuring us: ‘Do not be afraid, “I have risen and I am with you still!”’

Pope Francis prayed that the Risen Jesus may “grant strength and hope to doctors and nurses” who are putting their own lives at risk to care for their neighbours. He expressed gratitude and affection “to all who work diligently to guarantee the essential services necessary for civil society,” including “law enforcement and military personnel who in many countries have helped ease people’s difficulties and sufferings.”

Recalling that the lives of millions of people have been suddenly changed by the coronavirus pandemic, Pope Francis said, “for many, remaining at home has been an opportunity to reflect, to withdraw from the frenetic pace of life, stay with loved ones and enjoy their company.”

Pope Francis concluded his powerful message praying that the Risen Christ, “who has already defeated death and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, may dispel the darkness of our suffering humanity and lead us into the light of his glorious day, a day that knows no end.

Holy Rood  
Catholic Church, Watford



**HAIL HOLY QUEEN** Hail holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

**SUSPENSION OF ALL PUBLIC WORSHIP** Dear All, It is with regret that I have to inform you that the Bishops' Conference has decided that **ALL** public forms of worship should be suspended in our churches and that **ALL** churches be closed and remained throughout England and Wales till further notice. This is obviously due to the CORONAVIRUS pandemic which is disturbing our lives at this present time. There will be no sacraments during this time – no confessions, no Holy Communion, no baptisms, no confirmations etc. Since no one knows when this ban will be lifted, let us continue to unite ourselves SPIRITUALLY in a way that God can show us. The newsletter gives us the link that we need in order for us to access MASS remotely from home with a number of different options.

**EVERY THURSDAY EVENING**—at 7p.m. a bishop will celebrate Mass in his Cathedral for all our frontline workers in the NHS and our care homes, for the sick and their families. Next THURSDAY will be from Westminster Cathedral.

**ON-LINE RETREAT FROM WALSINGHAM.** Eight days from the evening of the 19th April (SUNDAY) until 26th April. Conferences will be at 10am and 4p.m. each day on the [walsingham.org.uk](http://walsingham.org.uk) website. Another way of uniting ourselves.

**WATFORD TOWN CENTRE CHAPLAINCY**—in the current climate support can be obtained by phoning 07483178582 or by emailing the team: [frances@watfordtcc.org](mailto:frances@watfordtcc.org) for anyone who usually works in the Watford Town Centre and needs chaplaincy support at this time. You may have time to watch the new film which you can find at: [www.watfordtcc.org/volunteer](http://www.watfordtcc.org/volunteer).

**GETTING MARRIED?** The next marriage preparation course was due to be on the 2nd May at Holy Rood for those intending to marry in 2020/21. in the light of our present situation we have CANCELLED this event but we will keep you updated as and when we have further details. Depending on future developments there may be a disruption to the dates for marriages already booked. This is due to the fact that the Government are giving the public clear guidelines for family celebrations and other social settings. Let us hope and pray that the present situation will pass soon and weddings can go ahead.

**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL Saturday 30th May, 3pm.** THIS MASS HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE CURRENT SITUATION.

**PROVIDING SUPPORT DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC.** Whilst many of us will have family and friends to support us during the current situation there may be members of our community who will find themselves in need of help and assistance. If you require help during this difficult time please contact the parish on 01923 224 085 and Father Derek and Father Joseph will work with the parish volunteer groups, including the SVP, to try and assist you as much as possible.

**INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS.** The 52nd International Eucharistic Congress will be taking place from **14th – 21st September 2020** in Budapest, Hungary. This wonderful week of catechesis, Mass, processions and cultural events will bring together people from around the world to deepen our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. The Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest, Cardinal Erdő, has invited all of us in the Diocese of Westminster to take part. All travel arrangements from England, accommodation and entry to the events is being organised by Tangney Tours, with 5 night and 7 night options available. To find out more and to book, visit [www.iec.tours](http://www.iec.tours)

**THE MASS ONLINE.** If you have access to a computer or smartphone you can follow a live-streaming of Masses online by going to [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) or <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/how-to-participate-in-mass-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/> and then search for one of the following parishes and a few more: St Joseph and the English Martyrs, Bishops Stortford; St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Borehamwood; St Mary, Hampstead; St Anselm and St Cecilia, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Our Lady of Lourdes, New Southgate; St Monica, Palmers Green; Holy Apostles, Pimlico, Our Lady & St Vincent, Potters Bar, St Thomas More, Swiss Cottage. Mass times are available online.

**MASS REQUESTS/OFFERINGS** If you would like to offer masses for your intentions, please phone the parish number and dial 3 for Fr. Derek or 4 for Fr. Joseph to book a Mass over the phone.

**Watford Food Bank continues to receive contributions. People can leave things at the presbytery or you could donate financially—  
[www.watfordfoodbank.co.uk](http://www.watfordfoodbank.co.uk)**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION:** Some people have contacted us regarding their Sunday offerings. As we cannot come in to the church at this time, we suggest that you keep aside your weekly offering and when we return to normal practice, you will be able to give your offerings then. THANK YOU. We are also grateful to those who give by Standing Order as these continue in this time of crisis, there is some income for the parish. THANK YOU—it is such a help at this time.

**Bedford, Morison and Cordery ALMSHOUSE charity**—offering accommodation for single men and women, over 60 and capable of independent living. The Charity does not offer medical care. Further details contact: Site Manager on 07957945718 or a Trustee on 07785223860

*It has been wonderful for myself, Fr. Joseph and Deacon Neville to talk to so many of our parishioners on the phone during the last week. Thank you for all your offers of support at this time. Thanks to the few families who have contacted us with their details. IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN CONTACTED—please phone us –to let us know how you are –as we may have a wrong number for you.*

**Standing Order for March—£5730.**  
**Thank you to all who contribute using this method—it provides for the church in these times of need.**

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED**  
John McCullagh, Timothy Clancy, Elizabeth Jacques, Lucia Sepe, Peter Ahern, Kathleen Murphy, Stuart Bell, John Rellis  
**ANNIVERSARIES**  
Bill Gallagher, Bill & Mary Devlin.  
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord