

## HOLY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

<b>MON 4th May</b>	The English Martyrs	Imelda Leahy, RIP Margaret Brown, RIP
<b>TUES 5th May</b>	Easter Feria	Margaret Jones, RIP Jane Quill and Bridget Jackson, Anniv
<b>WED 6th May</b>	Easter Feria	NHS Staff and Care Workers Maria Grimaldi, RIP
<b>THUR 7th May</b>	Easter Feria	Carmela Bajak, Anniv Tim Clancy, RIP
<b>FRI 8th May</b>	Easter Feria	Victims of Covid, RIP Emerita Mercado-Gracia, Intentions
<b>SAT 9th May</b>	Easter Feria	Bertorelli Childrens' intentions Sheila Cain and Margaret Worrow, Anniv
<b>SUN 10th May</b>	<b>+ 5th Sunday of Easter</b>	Margaret Brown, RIP Celia and Noel Finn Intentions

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP**  
is sponsored for Mila, Amaya and Ellie—Thanksgiving

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY-We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and to the poor, may be an invigorating influence in the Church.

### 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:nevilledyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk">nevilledyckhoff@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 3rd May 2020**  
**4th SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year A  
Psalms week 4



**“Christ gives eternal life to all who listen to his voice”**

*Christ is the Good Shepherd who will lead us to springs of living water where God will wipe away all tears from our eyes. We are light to the nations so that the salvation of Christ may be preached to the ends of the earth. We have a mission to everyone even though at times people*

*will turn against us because of our belief. We remain full of joy in the Holy Spirit.*

Listening to God's voice can happen in many different ways. It has been wonderful for us to hear the different things that are going on in the parish now that our doors are closed. People who have been caught up in themselves are finding ways of helping others through offers of shopping, cleaning, chemist visits and the list could go on and on. During the times of crisis we tend to listen in a different way and respond accordingly. We have a lot to be thankful for.

This week one of our Daily Newspapers highlighted this especially for us who live and work in Watford. The headline read: “Watford focused on “war” - not football.” The article then described how Scott Duxbury, the Watford chief executive was thinking about people and not football at this time. Indeed the Watford Club's staff have served up more than a thousand meals a day, washed a similar number of overalls and provided meeting rooms and facilities for health workers at Watford General Hospital. The article went on to reveal that the club's 20 executive boxes have been converted into bedrooms for medics and counselling rooms. AND about 300 fans have volunteered their help.

The Gospel is still being preached, maybe in very different ways, but people are listening to the Good Shepherd gently calling us to HIS way of living. **THIS WEEK LET US FIND NEW WAYS OF LISTENING TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND RESPONDING TO HIS VOICE CALLING US ANEW TO PREACH HIS WORD**

**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 remain closed 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. The next masses are as follows:  
7 May: Bishop Marcus Stock, [Leeds Cathedral](#), 14 May: Bishop Robert Byrne CO, [Newcastle Cathedral](#), 21 May: Bishop Mark Davies, [Shrewsbury Cathedral](#), 28 May: Bishop Terence Draine, [Middlesbrough Cathedral](#)

**Missed the ON-LINE RETREAT FROM WALSINGHAM?** GO TO [walsingham.org.uk](http://walsingham.org.uk) website. Another way of uniting ourselves. Also on Walsingham web—Series by Fr. Stephen Wang—SYCAMORE. Visit the website for more details.

**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?** 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.

**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/>

**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.

**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.

**St. Michael's Catholic Grammar School**—is continuing with Admissions timetable as set out for entry SEPTEMBER 2021 and the same deadlines apply. Please check the website for correct procedure and completed applications can be submitted electronically.

**BEDFORD, MORISON AND CORDERY ALMSHOUSE CHARITY** is 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

*Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Philip McMichael—a former curate here in Holy Rood in the 70's. Philip died in the last few weeks.*

*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 weeks. Thank you for all*

**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)**

***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.***

During this lockdown we have been confined to our homes, no matter how modest or luxurious. Our home is a place we feel safe in, a space we can rest and relax. However, our true home is heaven, St. Paul tell us, it is there we will rest. All our life is a preparation for that place of security and peace where God waits for us.

**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**  
Philip McMichael, Antonio Savino, Zefer Rodrigues, Antonia Messere, Jim Duff, Wilma Banaag, John McCullagh, Timmy Clancy, Patrick Smith.  
**ANNIVERSARIES**  
Jane Quill, Bridget Jackson, Carmela Bajak, Sheila Cain, Margaret Worrow.  
**Eternal rest grant to them O Lord**