

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

MON 21 September	ST MATTHEW, Apostle & Evangelist		Paoli Cassli, Anniv
TUES 22 September	feria	8:30am 12noon	Margaret St John Maule, Int Holy Souls
WED 23 September	St Pius of Pietrelcina,		Angela Holmes, RIP
THUR 24 September	Our Lady of Walsingham	8:30am 12noon	Tomasino Cristina, RIP Daisy Malig, Intentions
FRI 25 September	feria	6.00pm	Shaji & Soy 25th Wedding Anniversary
SAT 26 September	feria	11am 6pm	Fr Peter Rolph, Anniv Jose da Silva Faria, RIP
SUN 27 September	+ 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8am 9.30am 11am 12.30pm 2.15pm	It Lee Lim, RIP Angela Abarno ,Nick & Guiseppe, Anniv Paddy O'Connor, Anniv For the people of the parish Polish Mass

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

is sponsored for Sr. Catherine Joy's Intentions

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER – We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

MAKING CONTACT AT HOLY ROOD

Charity No: 233699

Parish Priest:	Fr Derek McGuire	derekmcguire@rcdow.org.uk	(☎Opt 3)
Assistant Priest:	Fr Joseph Okoro	josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk	(☎Opt 4)
Deacon:	Rev Neville Dyckhoff	nevilledyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk	(☎Opt 5)
Parish Secretary:	Martha Stuart-Berrisford	watford@rcdow.org.uk	(☎Opt 2)

Office hours: Send an email or phone one of the clergy

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
Important new app: <https://www.hestia.org/brightsk>

Hospital Chaplain: Deacon Anthony 07876 526935 or emailing: anthonycurran@rcdow.org.uk

Sunday 20th September 2020 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Landowner said: "You go into my vineyard too."

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Psalms week 1

The news last week that I would be moving to a different parish has caused lots of anguish in the parish. My thanks to all of you who have contacted me with lots of encouragement at this time. The Gospel this week speaks of the workers hired at different times – some for a long period and others for a short period. I have only been with you for a short period whilst others have been with you for a long period. No matter how long our "ministry" is, what is important is that we try to do God's Will.

My move also gives us the opportunity to reflect a little bit on the role of Bishops in the Church. The word "bishop" comes from the Greek word meaning "overseer". The Bishop has the possibility of having a bigger picture of the Diocese rather than our smaller vision of the localised church of Watford or wherever. It is important that we recognise this and as I said last week – let us not look back and lament but give thanks for what we have received and look to the future. In January your new Parish Priest Fr. Gerard O'Brien will arrive. I will be moving to Harrow-On-The-Hill – Our Lady and St. Thomas of Canterbury parish to begin my new assignment.

Every priest wants to give their best in the place where they have been assigned. I know that I have had to make difficult decisions whilst among you and that not everyone has been happy with every decision but I have tried to make these in the light of trying to strengthen the parish and not for any personal gain. From the number of emails and cards that I have received, I think that I have managed to achieve something in strengthening the parish during my two years among you. The journey is not finished yet and I continue to give myself completely in service of the whole parish – the whole people of God. We hear once again the words given to all of us "Go in to my vineyard" – may we continue to do this and give glory to God by the lives we are living here on earth.

Holy Rood
Catholic Church, Watford



*O God Almighty, who suffered death upon the cross,
particularly for my sins, be with me.*

Holy Cross of Jesus, have pity on me. Holy Cross of Jesus, be my protector.

Holy Cross of Jesus, take away all bitter pains, Holy Cross of Jesus, take away all evil.

Holy Cross of Jesus, let me walk in the way of salvation.

Preserve me from any temporal accidents, take away any danger of sudden death.

I always adore the Holy Cross of Jesus Christ: Jesus of Nazareth crucified, have pity on me

Make the spirit of evil leave me for all times. AMEN

As Fr. Joseph and Fr. Derek will be taking breaks soon, we will be in need of some extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist to help with the distribution of Holy Communion. If you are willing to take up your ministry once again, please let Fr. Derek, Fr. Joseph or Deacon Neville know your intention. ALSO we would like to invite some of our COUNTING TEAMS to form a once-a-month team to count any money that has been dormant for at least three weeks. Once again if you are willing to take up your position as a counter – let us know. When we have names we can then make up a rota. If you are a Reader and would like to help out by reading at the Mass you are attending – please email Fr. Derek or Fr. Joseph who will put your name on the list.

HOW TO REGISTER YOURSELF TO ATTEND MASS SO THAT WE DO NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY OF 90 people. The easiest way to reserve a place at Sunday or weekday mass is to go online to our website, fill in your name, phone number and declare that you are symptom free and BOOK. Website is <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/events/> Please wait for the confirmation of the booking which appears on the website page immediately after booking. **There is no confirmation email sent.**

IF YOU CANNOT VISIT THE WEBSITE THROUGH THE INTERNET PLEASE PHONE ONE OF THE CLERGY OR SEND AN EMAIL TO watford@rcdow.org.uk. PLEASE DO NOT TURN UP FOR MASS IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED ONLINE OR WITH THE PRIESTS.

MASS In the next few weeks Fr. Derek will be taking a break in Scotland and then Fr. Joseph will be going to Nigeria – both to see their families. We have decided that during this period of absence the church will be open on **Tuesday for Mass at 8.30 and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until Mass at 12Noon. On Thursday there will be only ONE Mass and that will be at 12Noon. On Friday we will have Mass at 6p.m. followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions at 6.30p.m. On Saturday we will have Mass at 11am followed by Confessions at 11.30a.m. The Vigil Mass will be at 6p.m. Sunday – Masses will be at 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 12.30pm.** We are grateful to the stewards who are helping us to open up the church. Those who were volunteering for Thursday mornings may like to volunteer for Tuesday mornings instead? Others may like to begin volunteering for the times that we are open – please let Fr. Derek or Fr. Joseph know.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES. Due to the present situation with the CORONAVIRUS we are not sure when we will be able to begin the Confirmation and First Holy Communion programmes. HOWEVER registration can now be completed. Please visit the website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2020/09/First-Holy-Communion-Form.docx> for First Holy Communion and for Confirmation <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2020/09/Holy-Confirmation-Form.docx> Fill in the forms and email to watford@rcdow.org.uk

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 or <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/how-to-participate-in-mass-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/>

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS. Throughout the year we normally have “special collections” for different charities. The Bishops’ Conference has recommended, in the light of the effect of COVID-19, that we only highlight the collections organized by the Holy See and our Diocesan collections.

STANDING ORDERS FOR PARISH GIVING. Many thanks to our parishioners who have opted to use the STANDING ORDER method – we are hoping to encourage the WHOLE parish to take on this important means of giving to the church. If you would like more information please contact Fr. Derek or Fr. Joseph who will send you out the relevant information.

ALTERNATIVES BABY BOX project is up and running again,. We are in need of first size nappies and baby toiletries. Please put these in the box.

THE FUNERAL OF ALEX MUIR will take place this week. As Government restrictions are in place we can only have 30 people at the funeral – this will be by family invitation only. We know you will understand.

MRS ELVIRA MAZZONE formerly of Mildred Avenue has died in her nursing home in Harpenden. Elvira was known to so many here in the parish. Let us pray that she may Rest In Peace.

Watford Food Bank continues to receive contributions. People can leave things at the presbytery or you could donate financially—
www.watfordfoodbank.co.uk

CHURCH CHAIRS STILL AWAITING COLLECTION.

Just before Lockdown, we removed our chairs and parishioners had requested for them as a “keep-sake”. Over 200 have already been given out but there are about 100 waiting to be collected. In order for us to vacate the space in the parish Centre, parishioners now need to contact us and arrange collection. PLEASE CONTACT US OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

Thank you to all who contribute using the Standing Order method—it provides for the church in these times of need.
STANDING ORDER—AUGUST £ 5436.00

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Elvira Mazzone, Margaret Skinner, Alex Muir, Marlene Godfrey, Lee It Lim, Elizabeth Moriarty, Victor Gonzalez, Joyce Price, Raymond Mangan.

ANNIVERSARIES

Joseph Antony, Josie Deane, Albert Okeke, Paoli Cassli, Fr Peter Rolph

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord