

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

**HOLY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

<b>SUN 07 FEB</b>	<b>+5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	6.00pm Vigil 8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 12.30pm 2:15pm	Sean Smyth, Anniv. For the People of the Parish. Alice Gubatanga—Intention Irish Fisher, Recovery. Marie Otu's Family Intention Polish Mass
<b>MON 08 FEB</b>	Feria	8.30am LIVE STREAM ONLY	Anita Nazziwa Family—Thanksgiving and God's Blessings
<b>TUES 09 FEB</b>	Feria	8.30am	Holy Souls  <b>NO 12NOON MASS</b>
<b>WED 10 FEB</b>	St Scholastica, Virgin	8.30am LIVE STREAM ONLY	Beryl Taylor, Anniv.
<b>THURS 11 FEB</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes <i>§ World Day for the Sick</i>	8:30am  12 Noon	Stephen St John Maule, RIP  Janet Kelly, RIP
<b>FRI 12 FEB</b>	Feria	6pm	Hilda Taylor, Anniv.
<b>SAT 13 FEB</b>	Feria	11.00am	Dcn. Neville and Veronica Dyckhoff— Thanksgiving
<b>SUN 14 FEB</b>	<b>+6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	6:00pm Vigil 8am 9.30am  11am 12.30pm 2:15pm	Augustine Kocharakkal, Anniv. Dcn. Neville Dyckhoff, Intention Frost-Clarke-Gonsalves Family— Thanksgiving Manuel Cunha, RIP Aidan Murphy, RIP. Polish Mass

**HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY- Violence against Women:** We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

**MAKING CONTACT AT HOLY ROOD**

Charity No: 233699

Parish Priest:	Fr Gerard O'Brien	<a href="mailto:gerardobrien@rcdow.org.uk">gerardobrien@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)

Address: Holy Rood House, Exchange Road, Watford. WD18 0PJ. (01923) 224085  
website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/>

**Other Parish Contacts:** Safeguarding Representatives: Andrew Danquah **Important new app:**  
<https://www.hestia.org/brightsk>

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

**Sunday 7th February 2021  
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year B

Weekday readings  
YR 1  
Psalms week 1



**TODAY'S 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 downhearted 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**



**Year of St Joseph** is being celebrated universally this year. St Joseph has moved to the sanctuary. *St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, Pray for us.*

**Bench Cleaning/Covid-19—Can we please ask you to bring some antibacterial wipes with you when attending church & wipe the area you have used before leaving the church. This will really help our dedicated team of stewards/cleaners and ensure we can keep open. Thank you.**

**REGISTER TO ATTEND MASS** You can sign up for Mass through the **EVENT** page on the website. This means that everyone thinking of attending MASS **MUST REGISTER THEIR NAME**—go to our website and then click on **EVENTS** at the top left corner of the page to find the days and times of Masses. **ONCE AGAIN THIS DEPENDS ON EVERYONE HELPING TO CLEAN THEIR SURROUNDING AREA BEFORE LEAVING THE CHURCH AFTER MASS!**

**MASS ONLINE:** *You can access our LIVESTREAMED MASS by going to YouTube website. Type in their search engine Holy Rood Watford livestream and click on the picture with 'LIVE' on it, at least 10mins before the start of Mass.*

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** There will be opportunity to adore our Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament on:  
**Tuesday 9am—11:45am**  
**Friday 6:30pm—8pm.**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
**Friday: from 6:30pm; Saturday: from 11am and 5-5:30pm.** Or you can contact Fr Gerard or Fr Joseph to arrange for your confessions to be heard at other times.

**SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**  
**Ash Wednesday - 17 February**  
**St Patrick -17 March**  
**St Joseph -19 March**  
**Palm Sunday – beginning of Holy Week -28 March**  
**Easter Sunday - 4 April**

**WORLD DAY FOR THE SICK**—Thursday 11 February., initiated by Pope John Paul II in 1992 to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness and for their caregivers. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes. People around the world take the time to pray for the sick and for those who work hard to alleviate the sufferings of the sick. Faith organisations mark this day especially, to provide the sick with medicines, food, and spiritual guidance. In this year of pandemic, never has it been more vital to pray for the sick, carers and medical staff.

*Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the sick, Pray for us.*

**RIGHT TO LIFE** - As Catholics we need to be aware of all issues that threaten human life. It is increasingly difficult to keep up with many concerns. The **Right To Life** website helps us in this cause, enabling us to contact our MP's. A current topic is the introduction of assisted suicide. Please check out [www.righttolife.org.uk](http://www.righttolife.org.uk) regularly.

*We pray for all women going through unexpected pregnancies, that they would experience peace and support in their situations, and experience the many blessings that motherhood brings. Lord hear us—Lord graciously hear us*

**SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN** The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step by step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation> The consultation ends on 26 February 2021.

**CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK** - Please visit: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

**St Vincent de Paul – REQUEST FOR FURNITURE**  
The SVP seek a set of bunk beds and carpet rugs for a family in need. Please contact Paul on 07887726061 if you can help. Thank you.

**FOODBANK** Parishioners donated 121.94KG worth of food to the Watford Foodbank in the month of January 2021. Thank you to all who have left food in the box at the back of the church. The clergy will continue to hand in the food donated during this time of pandemic to the Watford Foodbank.

**NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH CAFOD AS A VOLUNTEER.** CAFOD Westminster is looking for volunteers, who care about global poverty, to help us inspire others to act here, so we can tackle poverty and injustice across the developing world. Please get in touch with us on [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk) or 020 8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of our CAFOD online information sessions

**ST ANTHONY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL** Are you seeking an outstanding education in a Catholic Primary school in the parish for your child? We would love to welcome you at St. Anthony's where, due to families moving away, we still have a small number of places available for this school year in Year 1. Please contact the Acting Headteacher, Mrs Elaine Harrold, on 01923 226987 as soon as possible. Information about the school can be found on our website [www.stanthonys.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stanthonys.herts.sch.uk)

**SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP:** *If you would like to sponsor the lamp for a particular intention, the recommended donation is £10 for the week. You can book it with the clergy. Your sponsorship helps towards the costs of sanctuary candles. Thank you.*

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP** is sponsored this week for  
Cara Denapoli

**CONSECRATION TO ST JOSEPH—**  
*O dearest St. Joseph, I consecrate myself to thy honour and give myself to thee, that thou mayest always be my father, my protector, and my guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me a great purity of heart and a fervent love of the interior life. After thine example, may I do all my actions for the greater glory of God, in union with the Divine Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary! And do thou, O Blessed St. Joseph, pray for me that I may share in the peace and joy of thy holy death Amen.*

Thank you for all your contributions and donations to the parish—they provide for the church in these times of need.  
Offertory collection from Dec. 28, 2020 up to Jan. 30, 2021—£998.88.  
**STANDING ORDER**  
Dec. 2020—£6892.00.

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED**  
Luigi Anastasia, Tony Horabin,  
Andre Richard,  
Patrick Joseph (Sonny) Maguire,  
Salvatore Mistretta, John Vicary.

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED**  
Beryl Taylor, Hilda Taylor,  
Augustine Kocharakal.  
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord