

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

**HOLY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

SUN 14 FEB	<b>+6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	6.00pm Vigil	Augustine Kocharakkal, Anniv
		8.00am	Dcn. Neville Dyckhoff, Intention
MON 15 FEB	Feria	9.30am	Frost-Clarke-Gonsalves Family— Thanksgiving
		11.00am	Manuel Cunha, RIP
		12.30pm	Aidan Murphy, RIP.
		2:15pm	Polish Mass
		8.30am LIVE STREAM ONLY	Geary O'Carroll, RIP
TUES 16 FEB	Feria	8.30am	Stephen St John Maule, RIP
		12 noon	Jonathan James Aquino, Anniv.
WED 17 FEB	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY Psalter Wk. 4</b>	8.30am	Helen Callan, RIP
		12 noon	For the Sick
		7.00pm	For the People
THUR 18 FEB	Lent feria	8.30am	Augustine Kocharakkal, Anniv
		12 noon	Stephen St John Maule, RIP
		7.00pm	Polish Mass
FRI 19 FEB	Lent feria	<b>12noon</b>	<b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b>
		6pm <b>6:30pm</b>	Sonnie Maguire, RIP <b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b>
SAT 20 FEB	Lent feria	11.00am	Marian Kendal, Intention
		6:00pm Vigil	For the People.
SUN 21 FEB	<b>+1ST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	8am	Jim Dines, Anniv.
		9.30am	Denyse St Rose—Thanksgiving
		11am	Dermot Cribbin, RIP
		12.30pm	Ben Dennehy, Anniv.
		2:15pm	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 14th February 2021  
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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



**TODAY' MASS**  
**"Be cured!"**

*We are like the lepers who cry out to Christ who alone can cure us. He feels sorry for us and touches us with his grace telling us to be cured. We belong to him through the company of the saints and are now called to do everything for the glory of God. We are a people of joy because we know that Christ delivers us from our sins.*

**First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 45-46**

During the time of Moses, people believed they could get leprosy and other similar diseases just by being near people who had such skin disorders. Therefore, it was the custom to send these people away from their homes and villages to live. They even had to identify themselves as "Unclean, unclean" to warn others to stay away from them. The suffering that the afflicted people endured from their diseases was compounded by the suffering of being separated from their families and friends.

**Second Reading: First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 10: 31-11:1**

In this reading Paul is very specific about how we should do everything for the honour and glory of God. Even simple daily acts like eating and drinking can be done in awareness of God's presence and with gratitude for God's blessings. Paul advises us to give no offense to anyone and to please others by placing their needs before our own whenever possible. When we do these things, we are imitating Christ as Paul did.

**Gospel: Mark 1:40-45**

Today's story describes a man who is so excited and happy that he has to tell everyone he meets what has happened to him. The man with leprosy firmly believed that Jesus could cure him and he begged Jesus to do so. Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand, touched the afflicted man, and said, "Be cured." And the man's deformities were immediately healed. Although Jesus instructed him to speak only to the priest about his cure, the man could not restrain himself. He told so many people, that Jesus had to retreat to the desert to avoid the crowds who followed him everywhere.



**Holy Rood  
Catholic Church, Watford**

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES**—Lent starts on Wednesday with Masses at 8:30am, 12noon & 7pm. It is a holy day of fasting and abstinence.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
—Fridays in Lent at 12noon and after the 6pm Mass at 6:30pm, in place of the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO BOOK ON THE EVENTS PAGE ONLINE TO ATTEND**

From Wednesday onward DURING Lent, the feel of the church is changed. *We refrain from saying the Alleluia* and the vestments the clergy wear for the Holy Mass are coloured purple. *We also refrain from bringing flowers into church.* The flower fast ensures that the impact of our Easter decorations will be all the greater.

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**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
Friday: from 7:15pm; 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:**  
*St Patrick -17 March*  
*St Joseph -19 March*  
*Palm Sunday—beginning of Holy Week-28 March*  
*Easter Sunday - 4 April*

**YOUNG CARITAS**—'LET US DREAM' LENTEN RETREAT  
Retreatants will attend three online sessions to share, grow, and discern together. Sessions will be held via Zoom between 18.30 and 19.45, fortnightly throughout Lent. Retreatants will be provided with a pack, containing a copy of 'Let Us Dream' and notebook to write down your reflections. We are delighted to say that the second session will be a panel, with Austen Ivereigh (who co-wrote 'Let Us Dream'), joining a panel with theologian, Kate Banks, and community organiser, Tom Chigbo. The panel will be led by Bishop Paul McAleenan. This retreat is for young people aged 18-35. Please go to <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/young-caritas-let-us-dream-lenten-retreat-tickets-138923194013> to register for this retreat.

**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. Please check out [www.righttolife.org.uk](http://www.righttolife.org.uk) regularly. *We pray for all unborn children and their parents that they may receive love and support from all who surround them. Lord hear us—Lord graciously hear us.*

**SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN** 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.

**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.

**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)

**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.*

## Catechism Corner

We are here on earth to know and love God, to do good and get to heaven. To be human means to come from God and go to God. Meanwhile we live on earth. Sometimes we feel God is near, sometimes far away. So that we find our way home, God sent his Son, who freed us from sin and evil and leads us into true life. He is the way, the truth and the life (Jn. 4:6).

**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 Pat Tuffery, RIP

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**  
Jan 2021—£7,076.00

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

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED**  
Jonathan Aquino, Jim Dines, Ben Dennehy, Augustine Kocharakal.  
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord