

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

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

SUN 28 MAR	+PASSION SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	6.00pm Vigil	Pedro Lorenzo Malig, RIP
		8.00am	Vic Ramboanga, Jr. —Thanksgiving.
		9.30am	For the People
		11.00am	Maria Jose Costa-Santos Santasiero— Intention.
		12.30pm	Manuel Javier Sr., RIP
		2:15pm	Polish Mass
MON 29 MAR	Monday of Holy Week	8.30am LIVE STREAM ONLY	Cyril Okosi, RIP
TUES 30 MAR	Tuesday of Holy Week	8.30am	Private Intention
		12 noon	Andrew Kiely, RIP
WED 31 MAR	Wednesday of Holy Week	8.30am LIVE STREAM ONLY	Neil King—Recovery
THUR 01 APR	THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM MAUNDY THURSDAY	8.00pm	Raj Lincoln, Anniv.
FRI 02 APR	GOOD FRIDAY	12:30pm	The celebration of the Passion of the Lord.
Day of fasting & abstinence		3:30pm	The celebration of the Passion of the Lord.
		7:30pm	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
SAT 03 APR	HOLY SATURDAY Easter Vigil	8:00pm	For the People
SUN 04 APR	+EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION	8am	Leena Appadou—Intention.
		9.30am	Sheila Cain, RIP
		11am	For First Holy Communion Children and Confirmation Candidates.
		12.30pm	For the People
		2:15pm	Polish Mass

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR MARCH— Sacrament of Reconciliation: let us pray that we may experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

MAKING CONTACT AT HOLY ROOD

Charity No: 233699

Parish Priest:	Fr Gerard O'Brien	gerardobrien@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)

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



Sunday cycle

Readings

Year B

Weekday

Readings

Year 1

Psalms

Week 2

**Holy Rood
Catholic Church, Watford**

**PALM SUNDAY
HOLY WEEK
28th March 2021**



TODAY'S MASS

The triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem gives way to his Passion and Death. Yet Jesus is King and within a week will rise triumphant from the dead. He is the firm ground of our hope that all suffering in this life are lost in the power of his Resurrection.

Holy Week is the holiest week of the entire liturgical year, beginning on Palm Sunday and continues until Easter Sunday. It celebrates the Paschal Mystery; the life, death resurrection and ascension in to heaven of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Palm-Passion Sunday is a dual feast, Palm Sunday because palm branches are blessed and carried in procession to commemorate the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem, and Passion Sunday because the Passion Narrative is proclaimed. It is the only Sunday when two separate Gospels passages are read.

The Easter Triduum. The Triduum is the most solemn moment of the Church's year. It lasts three days. It begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper, continues with the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, and reaches its culmination with the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

Holy Thursday. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and commemorates the institution of the Eucharist and the institution of the priesthood.

Good Friday. The celebration of the Lord's Passion is a sombre liturgy with three major parts: the proclamation of the Passion, the veneration of the Cross, and the reception of Holy Communion. In addition, there is an extended set of General Intercessions for some of the most important concerns for the Church and the world.

The Easter Vigil. Weeks of fasting and self-denial are directed towards this, the highest point of the Church's year when the Resurrection of the Lord is celebrated in an extraordinary way. This begins with the Service of Light, the lighting of the Easter Candle and the singing of the Easter Proclamation - the Exsultet - and followed by the Liturgy of the Word and Eucharist.

Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday is the daytime celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. The congregation is jubilant over the risen Christ and the triumph of his Most Holy Cross. The church is festively decorated. The vestments are white and gold. The Glory to God and the Alleluia are restored.

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS—Dear Jesus, hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priests. Give them deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of their priestly lives. In loneliness, comfort them, in sorrows, strengthen them, in frustrations, point out to him that it is through suffering that the soul is purified. O loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests, comfort them, be their joy and strength, and especially help them to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy. Amen.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS —Friday at 7:30pm. *To attend please book online on the events page.* There will be collections for the Holy Places on Good Friday. Please support with your donations. Thank you.



DURING Lent—the feel of the church changes. *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.

THE VEILING OF IMAGES IN CHURCH—The images or statues in church are now veiled and remain covered until the first Mass of Easter. The veiling expresses the churches sorrow at this time and helps us to focus on the final days and the Passion of Christ, gently reminding us how sin separates us from God.

LENTEN ALMS GIVING – These exceptional times are tough for all, in so many ways, including financial. If you are able to offer almsgiving may I suggest this year to look at the Church In Need, <https://acnuk.org> – Virtual Sunday Lunch 21st March 1pm next week; CAFOD, <https://cafod.org.uk/> & Cardinal's Appeal <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/cardinals-appeal>. Envelopes will be available throughout Lent. Don't worry if you are struggling financially; prayer is more powerful.

REGISTER TO ATTEND MASS—Everyone thinking of attending MASS **MUST REGISTER THEIR NAME**—go to our website and then click on EVENTS at the top left hand corner of the page to find the days and times of Masses.

ALL WEEKDAY MASSES DURING THE OCTAVE OF EASTER WILL BE AT 10AM

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT—on: Tuesday: 9am—11:45am.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION—After Mass on Tuesday and Thursday 10am –12noon *Or you can contact Fr Gerard or Fr Joseph to arrange for your confessions to be heard at other times.*

Bench Cleaning/Covid-19—Can we please ask you to bring some antibacterial/disinfectant wipes with you when attending church & wipe the area you have used before leaving the church. Thank You.

FLOWERS FOR EASTER—To decorate the sanctuary; we won't need as many this year. If you want to make an offering please use the yellow bucket at the church or post envelope through the presbytery door.

BAPTISMS—Please contact Rev Deacon Neville via email nevillechkhoff@rcdow.org.uk who will guide you through the procedure. The next preparation course, for parents who have not completed the course in the last two years, is on Sunday 6th June from 2 to 4pm. Booking is essential. In the meantime, please continue preparing with daily family prayer.

SPECIAL NEEDS CATECHESIS—If there are any parishioners with special needs who have not yet received First Holy Communion or Sacrament of Confirmation please contact Fr Gerard.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION—There is no in-house office support at this time. Can all requests for Masses, certificates, school forms, repository etc. be made via email. Telephone requests are best on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays. If you have complete details of requests written down these may be handed to priests after Mass or posted through front door and will be actioned asap. Many thanks.

DO YOU USE THE WEEKLY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES? If so, please collect your new box of envelopes from the sacristy or arrange for a suitable time to do so, as we can't leave them at the back of the Church because of GDPR.

ASCENT GROUP—Join the Ascent Group for an online Stations of The Cross on Tuesday, 30th March at 2pm - signing on details are available from Winnie Brady at 01923 334998 or winniebrady@ntlworld.com

BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE—Join Mauro Iannicelli for an online study of the Old and New Testaments. There is no charge for this course. An 8-session course on Wednesdays, starting on Wed 7th April, 2021 at 7pm UK time. For more information and registration please go to: www.comeandsee.org

YOUNG CARITAS—'LET US DREAM' LENTEN RETREAT This retreat is for young people aged 18-35. Sessions will be held via Zoom between 18.30 and 19.45, fortnightly throughout Lent. Please go to <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/young-caritas-let-us-dream-lenten-retreat-tickets-138923194013> to register for this retreat.

ENTERPRISING CATHOLICS—Enterprising Catholics is an organisation offering start-up advice and mentoring for Catholics considering setting up new enterprises (be they businesses, professional, social enterprises, or charities). It connects Catholics with other Catholics getting started ('mentees') or who have already founded such enterprises and want to share their experiences ('mentors'). If you are interested in volunteering as a mentor or mentee, please email: volunteer@enterprisingcatholics.org or visit: www.enterprisingcatholics.org

FOODBANK—444.24KG worth of food donated to the Watford Foodbank so far this year. Thank you .

ALTERNATIVES BABY BOXES are short of toiletries (talc, soap, cream/Vaseline, cotton wool, bath wash). If you can help, there is a box at the back of the church for donations. Thank you.

SVP – SUDAN—The SVP are looking for a volunteer to correspond with one of our overseas conferences in Sudan that we regularly support. All this will require is the occasional email about life at Holy Rood and about what it is like to live in Watford/England. Suitable for a young person with parental supervision. For more details please contact Paul Montgomery / 07887 726061.

PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH—*Dear St Joseph accept the offering I make to you. Be my father, protector and guide in the way of salvation. Obtain for me purity of heart and a love for the spiritual life and let all my actions be directed to the greater glory of God. Amen*
St Joseph ... pray for us.

Catechism Corner

What happened at the Last Supper? Jesus washed the feet of his Apostles on the evening before his death. He instituted the Holy Eucharist and founded the priesthood of the New Covenant. Jesus showed his perfect and complete love in three ways. He washed his disciples feet and showed us that he is among us as one who serves. He symbolically anticipated his redeeming Passion by speaking these words over the gifts of bread and wine. "This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in Remembrance of me." And likewise, the chalice after supper, saying, "This chalice which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my Blood." In this way he instituted the Holy Eucharist. When Jesus commanded the Apostles, do this in remembrance of me, he made them priest of the New Covenant.

Thank you for all your contributions and donations to the parish—they provide for the church in these times of need.
Offertory collection from Jan. 30, up to Feb 27, 2021—£1,266.38
STANDING ORDER
Feb. 2021—£7,591.00

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
is sponsored this week for
Avrille Bailey's Intention

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Noel Hollywood, George Prim,
Jerome Dunleavy, Pantaleon Blanco,

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED

Raj Lincoln,
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord