

# Holy Rood Catholic Church

Holy Rood Rectory, Exchange Road, Watford,  
Hertfordshire. WD18 0PJ

**Tel:** 01923 224 085

**Parish Email:** [watford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watford@rcdow.org.uk)

**Office Hours:** Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
9:30am-1pm & 1:30-3:30pm.

**Office Location:** Percy Road, WD18 0QA

**Parish Priest:** Fr Gerard O'Brien

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Tim Mangatal

**Deacon:** Rev Neville Dyckhoff  
[nevilledyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:nevilledyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk) (☎Opt 2)

**Parish Administrator:** Annette Rahilly

**Safeguarding Representatives:** Aitana Mateo  
[watfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Emma Daniels [watfordsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Watford Hospital Chaplaincy:** 01923 244366

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/HolyRoodWatford](http://www.facebook.com/HolyRoodWatford)

**Web & Streaming:** [parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford)

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**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

12 November 2023

**Remembrance Sunday** This Month of the Holy Souls is a particular time where we recall with an act of memory those who have gone before us from this life and have left their mark, directly or indirectly. It is good that we should have a season of the year for remembrance a time when we feel that that veil between time and eternity is thin.

The greatest and only offering, to redeem both living and dead, has already been made by Christ's death and resurrection.

Today we 'remember' especially those who have given their lives through war in service of our country. They left home and family often to foreign lands in the search of justice, freedom and peace; the effects of which we feel in our society today. The world could have been a very different place for us without their sacrifice, which cannot and should not be forgotten.

The memories we recall this Remembrance Sunday should spur us forward in the search for true harmony and peace throughout the world. As the Lord commanded the apostles to "Do this in memory of me" we gather this day praying for the graces of the great sacrifice of Calvary to engulf the whole world that we may live in the harmony for which Christ prayed; and to our fallen we say "We will remember them".

**Housekeeping Matters** With my Administrative hat on. Please make all non-urgent telephone calls during

office hours only. We may get calls early and late in the day and at week-ends for general admin. issues. Out of hours office calls are reserved for the hospital, care homes and other urgent pastoral issues. Conversations on Sunday morning after Mass should be social or pastoral. Again, all admin. issues should be directed to the Parish Office. This will ensure a more healthy and efficient work/life/pastoral balance. Please do not put feet on the relatively new kneelers. The cost of repair is very high. Chewing gum is making its way into church. No eating or drinking in church (only water if necessary). As winter approaches, please keep the inner doors to Market Street, Percy Road and the door to the garden closed to conserve heating. The heating timer is being moved to assist with temperature control. Sadly, the mission of the Church and local parishes is being swamped by governance, admin. health and safety, DBS delays, policies and procedures. Together let us pray for our true mission to spread the gospel, save souls and get to heaven and for priests, that they can wear their pastoral hat more often than their managers' hat. God bless. Fr Gerard.

**Prayer for Priestly Vocations** O God, hear our prayer and let us cry come unto You. Bless our Church with many vocations to the priesthood. Give the men You call, the light to understand Your gift and the love to follow always in the footsteps of Your priestly Son.  
Amen.

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

### Sunday 12 November

#### 32<sup>nd</sup> Week of Ordinary Time

8am Peter Kelly RIP anniv.  
9.30am People of the Parish  
11am Jim Dowdall RIP anniv.  
12.30pm Holy Souls

### Monday 13 November

#### Feria

#### No 8.30am Mass

12noon Trombetta Giovanni anniv.  
Baccino Secondia & Giovanni RIP

### Tuesday 14 November

#### Feria

8.30am V.V. Joseph RIP anniv.  
12noon Deceased priests of out deanery.

### Wednesday 15 November

#### Feria

12noon Holy Souls

### Thursday 16 November

#### St Edmund of Abingdon

12noon Holy Souls

### Friday 17 November

#### Feria

6pm Departed Souls

### Saturday 18 November

#### Feria

11am Holy Souls  
6pm Donato Martino RIP anniv.

### Sunday 19 November

#### 33<sup>rd</sup> Week of Ordinary Time

8am Holy Souls  
9.30am People of the Parish  
11am Julia & Bernard Bristol RIP  
(wedding anniv.)  
12.30pm Holy Souls

**BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP**  
In Memory of Constance Noel

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
& BENEDICTION**

Please note change this week: Friday 6.30pm-7.15pm

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
Friday 6.30pm-7pm  
Saturday 11.30am-12noon & 5pm-5.30pm

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK** by request

**BAPTISMS**  
Rev. Deacon Neville - 01923 224085 (Opt 2)  
**ALL BOOKINGS VIA PARISH OFFICE**

**Catechism Corner** *If you don't go to mass, why would you want to go to heaven?*

**Planned Giving Drive** begins this week-end and continues over the next two. Please pray for this important initiative.

**The Santa Marta Group** established in 2014 by Pope Francis to combat human trafficking and slavery. An 'Awareness and Guidance for Communities.' meeting will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> November, parish hall of Our Lady Immaculate & St Andrew Catholic Church, 16, Nightingale Road, Hitchin SG5 1QS, 7pm- 9pm. Kevin Hyland, the UK's first Independent anti-slavery Commissioner and currently chief advisor to the Santa Marta Group will lead the meeting. All welcome to learn more about human trafficking and modern slavery.

**SVP Young Adults' Retreat Weekend & Holy Island Appeal for Volunteers to Help with the Youth Camps** The SVP are sponsoring a retreat for young adults between 18-33 on 24 -26 November 2023. Come and join other young Catholics on a weekend of volunteering and action, prayer and refectio. SVP Holy Rood will cover cost for individuals. Also, the SVP are looking for volunteers to help with their Youth Camp on Holy Island in North East England during the months of April to July & September to November 2024. Further details on notice board at the back of church and/or contact Paul Montgomery on [paul.montgomery@ntlworld.com](mailto:paul.montgomery@ntlworld.com) / 07887 726061.

**Ascent/Life Ascending Group.** Craft Afternoon Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 12.30pm in the Parish Centre. Visit to Poplars Nurseries for Shopping and Lunch on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December. Places are limited. Finally, a Festive Lunch, the Moon Under Water, Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, after 12 noon Mass. Names & deposit. again, contact Winnie Brady 01923 334998.

**Pilgrimage to Fatima** 8 September 2024 for 7 days details to follow. Approximate cost £850. Contact parish office.

**Repository** Christmas cards available to send to help evangelise the true meaning of Christmas. Also, please ask for **Religious Christmas stamps** currently available at post offices. Help spread the true message. Cribs & candles also for sale. Get Christ into Christmas.