

Holy Rood Catholic Church

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

Tel: 01923 224 085

Parish Email: watford@rcdow.org.uk

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
10am-1pm & 1.30pm-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 (☎Opt 2)

Parish Administrator: Annette Rahilly

Parish Bookkeeper: Jacqueline Faria

Safeguarding Representatives: Aitana Mateo
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Watford Hospital Chaplaincy: 01923 244366

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HolyRoodWatford

Web & Streaming: parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

14 January 2024

A blessed New year to all We had the most wonderful and joyful Christmas and New Year's Day Masses this year. It was great to see so many and family visitors too. The music ministry was a joy. Thank you to all who worked so hard behind the scenes to get the church ready. In a sadly very dark world, Holy Rood Church and Parish, was a true Light of Christ in the centre of Watford. We celebrated the true meaning of Christmas with Holy Mass of course at the heart and time with family and friends. We remembered and prayed for all those who struggle with various crosses to carry. The Incarnation of God gives us real and lasting hope and a promise of a perfect and eternal reward one day. But we have to work for this and we have to work at keeping our church open and our parish alive. I believe we can do this as a parish that has the Holy Mass, the Eucharist and the Sacraments at its very centre. Thank you, one and all.

Planned Giving Drive This was a great success I am told, so thank you for your kindness and commitment. At this time of year, our bookkeeper is preparing the end of year accounts. We will then be able to provide a report of the PGD and accounts for the last 2 years.

Housekeeping. New year, fresh start

Litter Please take all tissues, water bottles, and litter home. There is a bin outside the church. Please do not leave for someone else to clear up. No food or drink in church please. Water okay if medically needed.

Mass / Hymn Books If you use these, please return to the proper book stands. Otherwise someone else has to.

Receiving Holy Communion. If receiving in the hand, please do not take the host with your fingers. This is not correct and there is a greater risk of dropping the sacred host. If holding children, wearing gloves or hands not in a fit state, please receive on the tongue.

Hats Must not to be worn by men or boys in church unless there is a medical reason.

Kneelers Please ensure they are folded back after every use. Please do not walk on them. They need to last for many more years.

Mobile Telephones Please put on silent and never answer a call in church.

Collectors for all Masses Parishioners have asked for the collection plate to return and the Finance Committee supports this. For this to happen, though we need at least 3 collectors per Mass. Please contact parish office.

Holy Land Collection Cardinal Vincent has asked us to have a collection to support the Holy Land during this terrible time of war. This will take place this weekend. Please use the contactless device or the envelopes provided. And above all, *pray* for those affected.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sunday 14 January

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Rodolfo Ledesma
9.30am Michael Karl-Joseph Lissek RIP
11am Sonia Faria RIP
12.30pm Emanuele Civiello 1st Anniv.

Monday 15 January

Feria

8:30am Tony Wycek RIP
12noon Julia Samakomva RIP

Tuesday 16 January

Feria

8.30am Duce family
12noon Past, present and future generations of
Otu and Leanage families

Wednesday 17 January

Feria

12noon Peter Arokiasamy RIP

Thursday 18 January

Feria

12noon Past, present and future generations of
Otu and Leanage families

Friday 19 January

Feria

6pm In Thanksgiving

Saturday 20 January

Feria

11:00am Amedeo Fiore RIP
6:00pm Sir Jude Onuoha Ezenwa RIP

Sunday 21 January

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Raymund Gornall RIP anniv.
9.30am Elsa Hoyte RIP
11am Ninetta D'urso RIP
12.30pm People of the Parish

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

Ken and Jean Mahon Int.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION

Tuesday 9am-11.30am; 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 Have you ever wondered why so much care is taken cleansing the chalice and ciborium? This process is called purifying and is carried out by the priest or deacon. Water is poured over the fingers into the sacred vessels to cleanse them of loose particles of the Body of Christ and remove any remaining Precious Blood. After the water is consumed, a purificator (white cloth) is used to dry the sacred vessels. The purificator is not used to cleanse the vessels of the sacred species in case fragments are misplaced. Whenever a fragment of the host adheres to the priest's fingers, he should wipe his fingers over the paten or, if necessary, wash them, ensuring any fragments that may have fallen outside the paten are gathered and consumed. The process is carried out gently and reverently. Any water in the finger bowl is poured into the sacrarium, a special sink that drains into the ground so the natural elements are returned to the earth in a more dignified manner than into the sewerage system. The small altar linens are soaked in water before being washed. The water is then poured into the earth rather than down a domestic sink. And we do all this because we are protecting and respecting the actual Body & Blood of Jesus Christ. Our sacrarium is at the rear of the sanctuary on the right-hand side. Take a look if you have never noticed it before.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Wednesday 17 January 7pm, Holy Rood Church. Wednesday 24 January 12.30pm, St Mary's Parish Church, Watford Town Centre. Please bring your own lunch

St Joseph's Parent Support Group for all parents of children of any age with special needs Friday 19 January 11am in Parish Centre.

Life Ascending Group next meet on Tuesday, 16th January, after midday Mass for a meal at Cafe Bianco

Nursery School Applications signing on Saturday 10th February for Nursery only, 9am. Parish Centre.

Right To Life UK has launched a tool on its website that makes it easy to email your MP to ask them to oppose the two extreme abortion, up to birth, amendments, and sign Early Day Motion 131 to stop abortion pills being sent out without an in-person medical appointment. Please contact your MP now. It only takes a minute.

<https://righttolife.org.uk/abortionamendments>