

# 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:** Wednesday & Thursday only this week  
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](mailto:nevilledyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk) (☎Opt 2)

**Parish Administrator:** Annette Rahilly

**Parish Bookkeeper:** Jacqueline Faria

**Safeguarding Representatives:** TBC  
[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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**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

31 March 2024

## HE IS RISEN ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

The Resurrection has power to transform our lives. The more we accept its truth, its reality, the greater will be the change in our attitudes towards God and in our view of the world in which we live. Sin and death did not triumph over Jesus Christ; indeed they could not, for the man, Jesus Christ, was also God. When one day we shall see God as He truly is, we shall understand the richness and fulness of life itself with all its wonder and all its beauty. We shall realise too that the perfection and the origin of all love is in Him. These things lie beyond us now; they are beyond our understanding. But we can see enough to know that life and love in Jesus Christ could not possibly be extinguished, could not be defeated.

The celebration of the great mysteries of our faith, the passion, death and Resurrection of Our Lord, these are not external truths to be celebrated once a year. They are truths which have to affect lives here and now. They have to work their power upon us so that we may be better fitted to be witnesses of Christ today. *The world is badly in need of direction and of ultimate vision.* It is important for ourselves and our society that we retain and develop a sane and wholesome faith, a sense of the eternal and the spiritual, a set of values and attitudes that will respect human dignity and shape a more human society. We need to be armed with faith and vision. We need the courage to withstand all onslaughts. We draw strength not from

ourselves and our own resources but from faith and union with Jesus Christ. In our name and for our sake he won a final victory over darkness and death. His Resurrection from the dead is the foundation of our Christian faith. It is God's assurance to us that we will never die and never be ultimately defeated.  
*Cardinal George Basil Hume OSB*

**A very blessed Easter Season** to you. Our celebrations continue beyond Easter Sunday. What we have received through the Resurrection is life giving and long lasting, not temporal like the things the world offers. A huge thank you to you all for making this church a life-giving parish, supporting the spread of the Gospel. And a special thank you to all who work quietly in the background. Your ministry doesn't go unnoticed.

**Easter Water.** Plain water is made holy when it is blessed by a priest or deacon. At last night's Easter Vigil, water was blessed. The holy water reminds us of our baptism and our union with Christ. The imagery of "washing" helps us to remember that we need to be cleansed and forgiven for our sins. The Easter water will remain in the font in the Baptistry. Please bring a bottle and take some to bless you families, homes and cars for protection from all harm.

**A new Head of Safeguarding** is being recruited (see notice Board for details) and your prayers are needed in order to appoint the right person for this crucial post.

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

### Sunday 31 March

#### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

8am People of the Parish  
9.30am Joseph Hardwidge & George Howe RIP  
11am Charlotte Lenas RIP anniv  
12.30pm Christopher Paul Croker RIP recently deceased.

### Monday 1 April

#### Monday within the Octave of Easter

*No 8.30am Mass*  
12noon Maria Jose & Domenico Santarsiero RIP

### Tuesday 2 April

#### Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

*No 8.30am Mass*  
12noon Don Otu Int.

### Wednesday 3 April

#### Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

12noon Emily O'Reilly RIP

### Thursday 4 April

#### Thursday within the Octave of Easter

*No Mass - Church open 10am – 3pm.*

### Friday 5 April

#### Friday within the Octave of Easter

12noon George & Regina Mordi RIP

### Saturday 6 April

#### Saturday within the Octave of Easter

11:00am Agnes Nolan RIP  
6:00pm Ninetta D'Urso RIP

### Sunday 7 April

#### Second Sunday of Easter

8am Pauline Walsh RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniv.  
9.30am People of the Parish  
11am Daisy Birikorang RIP  
12.30pm Johnny Aranda Int.

#### BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

*Maria Jose & Domenico Santarsiero RIP*

#### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION

*Not this week.*

#### SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Saturday 11.30am-12noon & 5pm-5.30pm

#### SACRAMENT OF THE SICK by request

#### BAPTISMS

Contact Rev. Deacon Neville - 01923 224085 (Opt 2)

ALL BOOKINGS VIA PARISH OFFICE

**Please note Mass times this week Easter Monday, Easter Tuesday, Easter Wednesday and Easter Friday, 12 noon Mass only. Easter Thursday – church open 10am-3pm. No Mass.**

**Charter Primary School, Watford** Last week, Year 3 visited for a tour of our church and to learn a little about the Catholic Faith. Very few were Christian and many had never been into a church. They listened well, were attentive, respectful and asked many sensible questions. The covered statues through them a little, so I unveiled some. On leaving, one young girl who had never been in a church, wanted to show me what she had written. It simply read, 'Jesus died on the Cross to save us.' How tuned in are children?. Let us teach our children well about the faith and from an early age. We owe it to them and they deserve it. Let us simply ponder on these words over Easter – '*Jesus died on the Cross to save us.*' Fr Gerard.

**Caritas Supermarket Vouchers** available for those in need. Please contact, in confidence, the parish office.

**SVP Coffee Morning** This Sunday after 9.30 and 11am Masses. Please call in. All welcome.

**Safeguarding Committee** The Diocese of Westminster Trust Board wish to appoint 4 lay members to the Trustee's Safeguarding Committee. The role is to assist in the mission of ensuring the maintenance and further development of the Diocesan culture and practice of safeguarding. See Notice board for full details.

#### From The Finance Committee

**Easter Offering** If you are going to be away over Easter, please consider making your offering before you go, via the blue envelopes or the contactless device. The offerings at Christmas and Easter make up Fr Tim's & Fr Gerard's annual stipend of £10,900 each. It is not, as well as. The diocese does not allow the Easter Sunday standing orders to go to the priests. If you wish to make a personal gift, in an envelope or card, this goes direct to the priests, and is not taxed or assessed by central services at Westminster. The priests are extremely grateful for your support and generosity.

**The Financial Reports** for 2022 and 2023 have been prepared and will be available after Easter, along with an update for the recent Planned Giving Drive.

*This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.*