

Holy Rood Catholic Church

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

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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: TBC
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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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PENTECOST SUNDAY

19 May 2024

Zero to Fifty!

The word Pentecost means 50th and for us, it marks the Descent of the Holy Spirit and the Birthday of the Church.

The Holy Spirit, as you will recall overshadowed Mary at the Annunciation and God became Incarnate and was born in our world; today, that same Spirit, descended upon the Apostles and Mary and the Church was born.

However, the descent of the Holy Spirit still happens today, at every Mass, the Priest calls down the Holy Spirit to sanctify and consecrate the Bread and Wine, transforming it substantially into the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ. This is known as the *epiclesis* and without it, there would be no Eucharist. Indeed, the Mass, has always been Trinitarian. The Priest offers to the Father the Sacrifice of the Son through the power of the Holy Spirit.

As St Peter Damian once taught: *"He [The Holy Spirit] pours light into our minds, arouses our desire and gives us strength... As the soul is the life of the body, so the Holy Spirit is the life of our souls."*

The gift of the Holy Spirit, then, is a reminder to us that God is with us, as Jesus promised He would be through the sending of the Paraclete, literally meaning, *the one who is closest to one*. We have not been abandoned by our God, rather, He dwells in and among us through the Eucharist primarily but in all of the Sacraments. Jesus assures us *"Know that I am with you always, yes, until the end of the world."*

On this auspicious day let our prayer be: *Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your Faithful and enkindle in them, the fire of*

Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.

BIBLE

<i>Quick Reference Guide</i>	<i>Emergency Numbers</i>
Upset	John 14
Weak	Psalms 18:1-29
Lonely	Psalms 23
Sinned	Psalms 51
Worried	Matthew 8:19-31
Anxious	Philippians 4:4-9
Unhappy	Colossians 3:12-17
In Danger	Psalms 91
Depressed	Psalms 27
Lack of Faith	Exodus 14
Need courage	Joshua 1
Need Direction	Psalms 73:21-26
Seeking Peace	Matthew 11:25-30
Leaving on a trip	Psalms 121
Struggling with loss	Luke 15
Struggling financially	Psalms 37
Discourage with work	Psalms 126

Available 24/7

Direct Petitions Heavenward

Phone Service Not Required

Cost of Living Crisis- Supporting our Brothers & Sisters The SVP have a number of initiatives to provide support to families and individuals effected. If you need confidential help, please speak to the priests.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sunday 19 May

PENTECOST SUNDAY

8am People of the Parish
9.30am Deceased Baggayan families
11am Jai Guya-Persaud RIP anniv.
12.30pm Nora Ó'Connor RIP

Monday 20 May

Mary, Mother of the Church

No 8.30am Mass

12noon Otu, Leanlage & Pearson families Int.

Tuesday 21 May

Feria

No 8.30am Mass

12noon Denyse St. Rose Thanksgiving

Wednesday 22 May

Feria

12noon Kevin Ambrose Int.

Thursday 23 May

Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest

12noon V S Eappen RIP

Friday 24 May

Feria

6pm Ellen (Nell) Hurley

Saturday 25 May

Saint Bede the Venerable

11:00am Seline Scaria RIP
6:00pm Tim Hurley RIP

Sunday 26 May

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

8am People of the Parish
9.30am James Coffey RIP
11am Arnold Persaud RIP
12.30pm Frances Glackin RIP

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

Celia Polidario Int.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION

Friday 6.30pm-7.15pm

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

Catechism Corner Yoga imported from India is inextricably linked to the religious beliefs of Hinduism. The key beliefs of Hinduism clash head on with the beliefs of Christians. Yoga encourages the practice of '*Altering one's state of consciousness*', and is highly dangerous as it can easily open up the mind to demonic influences and may result in occult powers, a number of which are specifically condemned in the bible. As a rule of thumb, never clear your mind of everything, for fear of what might enter. At stressful times it is important to calm the mind and park the worries, but as Christians, there is never a time to clear our minds of Christ, who should always be the centre of our lives, hearts, minds, bodies and souls. *To be cont...*

Car Park New Barrier as soon as we receive information when it is to be fitted we will inform parishioners.

Pilgrimage to Fatima 8 September 2024 see noticeboard. Contact parish office asap limited spaces available.

Holy Rood SVP Welcome Space Every Monday 11.30am-2pm for tea, coffee, homemade soup, sandwiches, cake and company. Everyone welcome.

Sponsoring the Blessed Sacrament Lamp If you would like to sponsor the lamp for a particular intention, please contact the parish office.

Requests for Newsletter Please email these to the parish office and we will try our best to include items. Space is limited.

St Joseph's Carpenters Park Fr Gerard is supporting this parish following the recent death of Fr John. This will affect the running of Holy Rood. Please limit emails and telephone calls where possible. Please make sure all emails are polite and do not expect instant responses. All requests are prioritised and will be responded to asap.

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.