**St Helen’s ChuRCH**

Watford WD24 6NJ

01923 223175

watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

**Parish Priest: Father Peter Shekelton**

petershekelton@rcdow.org.uk

**Deacon:** Liam Lynch

[www.rcdow.org.uk/watfordnorth](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/watfordnorth)

[facebook.com/sthelenswatford](http://www.facebook.com/sthelenswatford)

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***Our Purpose***

*To Proclaim the “Good News” of Jesus Christ as Missionary Disciples of a Prophetic and compassionate Parish, nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharist, enlightened by the Gospel Principle of a preferential option for those most in need, as we journey towards the definitive “Kingdom of God.”*

**November Holy Souls’ Prayer List**

November is the month when we remember our deceased loved ones. If you would like someone prayed for, then please take one of the sheets from the Hall Lobby and write their name on. The sheet can be placed in the basket at the front of the Church or posted through the Presbytery letterbox.

**SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS’ APPEAL**

Next weekend is the annual collection for sick and retired priests of the Diocese. Currently, there are more than 80 sick and retired priests who receive support after a lifetime of service to their parishes.

By 2025 this number is set to double. By giving to the Fund, you can ensure our priests are cared for in their time of need. Next weekend, there will be a second collection after all Masses and you will find the special envelopes on the benches. The envelope includes a Gift Aid form. ‘*These priests were there for us, let us now be there for them’.*

**Thank you for your support of this appeal.**

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL “VINNIE PACK APPEAL”**

"The SVP are distributing 11.500 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, thermal hat, two pairs of socks, wet wipes, toothbrush, toothpaste, Pavement magazine, information sheet and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.70 per pack? Donations can be made using the envelopes provided and available from the Hall lobby or you can post direct to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. Thank you so much for your support."

**MASS COUNTS:** Thank you to all those who helped with doing the Mass counts over the last four weeks; your help is greatly appreciated.

**Sunday 31st october 2021**

**FEAST OF ALL SAINTS**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sat 30th** 10.00 Communion Service

18.00 Eddie Sharkey R.I.P

**Sun 31st** 09.00 Mary Mc Donald R.I.P

11.00 M.K. Thresiamma (Mrs) R.I.P

18.00 Peter Hurley R.I.P

Mon 1st \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Tues 2nd 11.30 All Souls’ Day**

Parish Mass and Funeral of Theresa Donnelly

**Wed 3rd** 10.00Communion Service

**Thurs 4th**  10.00 Communion Service

**Fri 5th** 10.00Communion Service

**Sat 6th** 10.00 Communion Service

***\*\*10.00 Mass at North Watford Cemetery and Blessing of graves with Fr Paul from St Michael’s. All invited.***

18.00 Mary Francina Gabriel R.I.P

**Sun 7th** 09.00 Arokiasamy family R.I.P

11.00 Mary Conlon R.I.P

18.00 Brendan Stack R.I.P

**CONFESSIONS AT LOCAL CHURCHES**

St Michael’s Church: Wednesday 19.30 – 20.00

& Saturday from 17.15 – 17.45 (also on request)

Holy Rood Church: Saturday at 11.30 & 17.00

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**SYNOD: ‘Journeying Together’**

We, as St Helen’s, hope to come together as part of the whole Church's synod gathering to share our journey. This will involve an evening meeting in small groups to do this. All are warmly welcomed. The date for this is yet to be decided and will be published when fixed. For more information on the SYNOD, please read the other side of the Newsletter.

**COP26:** There is a march on 06/11/2021 in London for this.  CAFOD will have a group is you wish to join. Check [Global Day of Action for the Climate 2021 | CAFOD](https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/COP26-Day-of-Action-2021)  or contact Jeff 07771346872.

**CHURCH OPEN:** The church will be open for private prayer on Tues, Wed, and Thurs from 09.00 – 15.00.

**SENIOR PARISHIONERS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

11th December from 12.30. If you would like to attend this party then please write your name down on the list which can be found in the Hall Lobby. Please indicate if you require a lift.

**DO NOT PUT SOMEONE ELSE’S NAME DOWN.** This has caused problems in the past. If you can help with lifts on the day or have any queries regarding the party then please contact Judith on

01923 680702 or 07760 378881.

**SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE:** Available in the hall after 09.00 & 11.00 Masses.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 24th October 2021**

Planned Giving £181.70 Loose Plate £281.27

Standing Orders for September £4,253.24

If you would like to set up a monthly

Standing Order, our bank details are:

**HSBC Bank: WRCDT Watford North**

Sort Code: **40-05-20** Account No: **81263439**

anned Giving: £572.88p Loose Plate £303.29p

Standing Orders£1897.33.

**TIONS FOR**

**24th April: £**

***Planned Giving: £ Loose Plate: £***

***Our total income received in March for***

***Standing Orders: p***

***Standing Order figures:***

***April £1,917.33 May £2,022.33***

**TIONS FOR**

**24th April: £**

***Planned Giving: £ Loose Plate: £***

***Our total income received in March for***

***Standing Orders: p***

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**SYNOD: JOURNEYING TOGETHER**

Pope Francis has launched a worldwide ‘synod’ process. Synod simply means ‘journeying together’. The Holy Father is inviting us to listen deeply to one another and to discern what God is saying to the Church about how we ‘journey together’. We will have our own synodal pathway, within parishes and communities in the Diocese of Westminster, united with every diocese across the world. Then, after national and continental gatherings, the Synod of Bishops will gather in Rome in 2023 to reflect on what has been heard.

**PURPOSE OF THE SYNOD**

The purpose of the Synod … is intended to inspire people to dream about the Church we are called to be, to make hopes flourish, to stimulate trust, to bind up wounds, to weave new and deeper relationships, to learn from one another, to build bridges, to enlighten minds, warm hearts and restore strength to our hands for our common mission.’

*Vademecum,Vatican’s Synod Preparation Document 32 2.1*

**RECALL OUR EXPERIENCES**

What experiences of our Church – including reflecting on the time of the pandemic – does this question call to mind?

1. How is our “journeying together” as the Church happening today in our parish of St Helen’s ?
2. What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”?
3. What has the experience of the pandemic taught us about what it means to be Church?
4. “When we say ‘our Church’, who is part of it?” How does our particular Church ensure that everyone is part of the ‘journey’?
5. Who is missing?
6. What would you wish to celebrate about how our parish lives its mission?
7. What areas of mission are we neglecting?
8. Gather the fruits to share: What might the Holy Spirit be saying to us?
9. What steps might the Spirit be inviting us to take in order to make our communities more welcoming, inclusive and missionary?

Pope Francis is inviting us to listen again to each other, hearing experiences of faith with all its joys and disappointments, and to find new ways of strengthening each other. It is an opportunity for us to show our care for the family of the Church. *Cardinal Vincent Nichols Pastoral Letter,*

*3 October 2021*

**Synod Prayer**

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,

as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,

make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go

and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;

do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity

so that we may journey together

to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You,

who are at work in every place and time,

in the communion of the

Father and the Son,

forever and ever. Amen.

