**St Helen’s ChuRCH**

Watford WD24 6NJ

01923 223175

watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

Priest of the Diocese

**Father Voy**

& DeaconLiam Lynch

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If our Christianity is merely a set of

exterior practices camouflaging a life of compromise with the weakness and hypocrisy of the world, we fail in our mission to manifest the hidden Nature of God to men in our own lives. We fail to let people know, by the spirituality and purity and strength of our own lives, that God is love, and that he loves them all as he loves his own son, and that he wants them all to recover their true identity as his sons and daughters.

by

Thomas Merton

**Christmas Posters**

Posters are now available at the back of the Church. Please take one to display in a window, and help to spread the true meaning of Christmas.

**Alter Servers Christmas Outing**

The Alter Servers Christmas outing will take place on **Saturday 3 December at ‘Rock Up’ in the Atria Centre, Watford at 09:15 for 09:30**. This event is to thank our Alter Servers who have done a brilliant job for St Helen’s this year.

**Sunday 27th NOVEMBER 2022**

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT –

 ***Lectionary for Sundays: Year A***

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 26th 08.30 Confessions / Exposition/

Adoration

09:15 November Dead List

13:00 Baptism: Felix

18:00 Caterina + Vito Pirolo (anniv)

Sun 27th 09:00 Marion Mackay (anniversary)

11:00 Michael Whitney

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Mon 28th 09.15 November Dead List

Tues 29th 09:15 Nick Corcoran R.I.P.

 11:00 Funeral Mass: Kerfoot

Wed 30th CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Thurs 1st 10.00 John O’Connor R.I.P.

Fri 2nd 09.15 Les Smith R.I.P.

 11:00 Funeral Mass: Fox

 09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Sat 3rd 08.30 Mass – The Hogan Family

18:00 Libera & Onofrio Martuccio (anniv)

Sun 4th 09:00 Mary Dillon R.I.P.

11:00 Mary Anne McCarthy R.I.P.

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 **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

Our Christmas Fayre is on **Saturday 10th December 2022 from 12:00 – 14:00.** We will be grateful to receive bottles of drink and any unwanted gifts in the 2 boxes at the back of the church. Home-made cakes will be very welcome. **Thank you for your support.**

**SENIOR PARISHIONERS’ **

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

It’s on **Saturday** **17th December 2022, at 12:00 for 12:30.** If you would like to attend, please put your name on the list in the Hall Lobby and whether you require a lift. If you can help with lifts on the day or have any queries, please contact Judith on 01923 680702 or 07760 378881.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE/SALE**

Raffle - Top prizes are Christmas Hampers (1 food, 1 drink) along with various other prizes! Tickets cost £1 per strip of 5 and will be on sale after Masses. Every Sunday you can purchase Christmas cards, candles and decorations etc, after Mass (from 09:30 to 11:00). **Thank you for your support.**

**Weekly Advent Reflections on Zoom**

Each Sunday evening in advent you are invited to join us for 30min of reflection on the weekly themes of Advent. For more information, please email Deacon Anthony – revdeacon@mail.com

**Thank you from CAFOD**

Your support over this past year has been life-changing and very much appreciated. Thank you for praying, campaigning, donating or volunteering to support people and communities in their struggles against poverty. With all good wishes for Advent and Christmas.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

This will take place on the second Saturday of every month, in the Parish Hall at 10.00 with Deacon Liam. If you would like to attend one of these sessions, please email the Parish Office watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk with your details.

**Caritas Westminster - 10th Anniversary**

A film has been produced to show supporters the impact of Caritas’ social justice work across the Diocese. You can view the film here: <https://youtu.be/Vgxvakd-8Ug.> It lasts less than 25 minutes, and shows the difference made in our parishes and schools respectively.

Caritas are running three Zoom focus groups on 1st, 6th, 7th December from 6.30-7.45pm. Your opinion would be very helpful. If you would like to take part, please email: juliechristiewebb@rcdow.org.uk Caritas Fundraising Manager.

**Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral**

The Friends of Westminster Cathedral are raising funds towards the cost of replacing the old sanctuary floodlighting in the Cathedral. If you wish to help, ‘The Big Give’ matches online donations (between 12:00 noon, 29/11/ 2022 and 12:00 noon (6/12 2022). Please use the link below to give online. <https://tinyurl.com/FriendsBG22>

**World Youth Day** brings together millions of young Catholics from all over the world with the Holy Father, to be inspired in their faith. Westminster Youth Ministry is taking a group of young people from our diocese. The two-week pilgrimage will include "days in the diocese" in Porto before travelling to Fatima and Lisbon.  Please see the poster in church for more information. There are only 50 spaces on offer so early sign up is encouraged.

The closing date is 16 December 2022.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 20th November 2022**

Planned Giving £121.50. Loose Plate £347.45

Standing Orders for October: £3,655.49

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**

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

**DIARY OF EVENTS**

**Monday 12 December 2022 at 6pm**

**St. Michael's Catholic High School Advent Service -**

The service will include a selection of short readings and both traditional and modern carols. It will be followed by refreshments in the parish hall. If you would like to attend, please email Veronika: baker.v@stmichaelscatholichighschool.co.uk.

Our Lady and St. Michael’s Parish, Crown Rise, Garston, WD25 0NE.

#### AUTUMN PLENARY MEETING 2022

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales gathered for their autumn plenary meeting, in Leeds, from 14-17 November 2022. You can read resolutions/use the player to listen to audio from the press conference. Matters raised included Safeguarding, environmental issues, buffer zones, the synodal journey and more. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/autumn-plenary-2022>.

Prayer for the week:

May the Warm Winds of Heaven blow softly upon your house.

May the Great Spirit Bless all who enter there.

May your Mocassins make happy tracks in many snows,

And may the Rainbow always touch your shoulder.