**St Helen’s ChuRCH**

Watford WD24 6NJ

01923 223175

watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

Priest of the Diocese

**Father Voy**

& DeaconLiam Lynch

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

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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

**TO PARENTS OF WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (FHC) GROUPS ONLY**

There will be a meeting for all FHC parents on **Wednesday 7th December from 7:30pm – 8:30pm** in the Church Hall. Will you please attend this meeting as a matter of priority. Thank you.

**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.

**Sunday 4th DECEMBER 2022**

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 3rd 08.30 Mass

09:15 The Hogan Family

18:00 Libera and Onofrio Martuccio (Anniversary)

Sun 11th 09:00 Mary Dillon R.I.P.

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

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Mon 5th 09.15 Eileen Taylor R.I.P.

Tues 6th *St Nicholas, Bishop: Mass & Office of the Memorial*

09:15 Mr Vito & Caterina Priolo (Anniversary)

 09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Wed 7th CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Thurs 8th *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Diocese.*

10.00 Arokiasamy Family

Fri 9th 09:15 John and Rita McGing

 09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Sat 10th 08:30 Confessions / Exposition/

Adoration

 09:15 Alan Jones

 18:00 Michael Keating R.I.P.

 **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

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

**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.**

**SENIOR PARISHIONERS’** 

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Our Senior Parishioners’ Christmas Party will take place 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 indicate if you require a lift. Please do not put anyone else’s name down. If you can help with lifts on the day or have any queries regarding the party, please contact Judith on 01923 680702 or 07760 378881.

**Our delightful Alter Servers will be serving your Christmas lunch!**

 **MESSAGE FOR OUR ALTER SERVERS**

It will be lovely to have you serving lunch during our Senior Parishioners’ Christmas Party on Saturday

17th December. Further details to follow.

Thank you very much 😊

**Christmas Posters**

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

**Christmas Offerings**

The Offertory collection on Christmas Day is by tradition, for the benefit of those priests working in parishes. Envelopes for your contributions can be found in the church porch. Thank you.

**FR DENIS MCBRIDE’S ADVENT RETREAT**

Fr Denis McBride’s Advent Retreat is a FREE resource, you can follow each week of Advent via online videos (<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/advent-retreat>.) Father Denis McBride leads a FREE online retreat, based on his book Stations of the Infancy. Fr Denis will read twelve of the fourteen episodes chosen from the Infancy Narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

**Volunteer for the chaplaincy team at**

**Watford General hospital**

The Chaplaincy Team at Watford General are looking for people who would like to give back to the community by volunteering to have general chats with patients on wards. They are recruiting 70+’s who can spare 2 to 3 hours per week. Training and supervision will be provided. A DBS will be done for free. If you’re interested, please contact Temi Adebayo, the Pastoral Volunteer coordinator, at temitayo.adebayo2@nhs.net.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 27th November 2022**

Planned Giving £128.00 Loose Plate £197.70

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**

**10th December, 11am: CAFOD’s Nativity Fun Run!** You are invited to Clapham Common to run, walk, roll or stroll 5k. Entry is £10 for adults, £5 for children, and £20 for a family. Register:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Sponsored-challenge-events/Run-for-CAFOD/Nativity-Fun-Run>.

**12th December at 6pm: St. Michael's Catholic High School Advent Service – Crown Rise, Garston, WD25 0NE.** You are warmly invited to attend our Advent Service. It will include a selection of short readings and a mixture of traditional and modern carols. Refreshments will follow in the parish hall. If you would like to attend, please confirm your attendance to: baker.v@stmichaelscatholichighschool.co.uk.

Thought for the week: 

Help me always to speak the truth quietly,

to listen with an open mind when others speak,

and to remember the peace that may be found in silence.