**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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With a great deal of prayer, humility, willingness to be changed and transformed interiorly, to be quieted down, etc. etc., and to do all the rest that God asks of you as time goes on, you will doubtless prepare to meet His grace….. In other words, take it easy. Take what God gives and trust Him. He will do the rest.

In the long run, the basic thing is faith and prayer however one may look at it, because without these there is no real love: love does not have deep enough roots without them. If one has a deeper and hidden stability in these things, then the externals can change as much as you like.

by

Thomas Merton

**PEACE SUNDAY**

Today is Peace Sunday. The Holy Father’s 2023 Message for World Peace Day is: “No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace.” Find resources at [www.paxchristi.org.uk](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk).

**Sunday 15th JANUARY 2023**

**2ND Sunday in ORDINARY TIME**

**‘WORLD PEACE DAY’**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 14th *Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday*

 08.30 Confessions/Exposition/

Adoration

09:15 John Brosnan

18:00 Alice Ginty

Sun 15th 09:00 O’Shea family R.I.P.

11:00 Emma Keogh (wellbeing)

Mon 16th 09:15 John Brosnan

Tues 17th *St Anthony, Abbot*

 09:15 Caterina Ganon (wellbeing)

 09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Wed 18th CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Thurs 19th *St. Wulstan, Bishop*

 10.00 *Children of Holy Rood - Mass*

Fri 20th *St Fabian, Pope & Martyr*

 09:15 Wellbeing of all who helped

 with the Senior’s Christmas lunch.

 09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Sat 21st 09:15 Philomena Sheridan R.I.P.

 18:00 Timmy Flynn (Anniv.)

Sun 22nd 09:00 Patricia O’Sullivan (Anniv.)

11:00 Andy R.I.P.

**OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

**18TH – 25TH JANUARY 2023**

For this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we are guided by the churches of Minneapolis as we seek to explore how the work of Christian unity can contribute to the promotion of racial justice across all levels of society. As we join with other Christians around the world for the Week of Prayer we pray that our hearts will be open to see and hear the many ways in which racism continues to destroy lives, and to discern the steps we can take as individuals and communities to heal the hurts and build a better future for everyone.

#### Did you know ..........

#### That Pope Benedict XVI wrote 66 books, three encyclicals, and four apostolic exhortations. He visited 25 countries outside Italy and many places inside Italy. Between becoming Pope in 2005 and his resignation in 2013, he spoke many hundreds of times both live and through the media - to a huge range of gatherings inside and outside the Vatican.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

This takes 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.

**WELCOMING SPACES**

Watford Cycle Hub, Holywell has registered as part of Watford Borough Council Welcoming Spaces: <https://www.watford.gov.uk/welcomingspaces>

It’s where people can join others in a warm space for activities and a free hot drink.  Times are Wednesday 10.30 - 12.30 and Friday 1.30 - 3.30.   All ages are welcome. See poster in hall. People are also welcome to use their cafe area as a warm place to sit, work, relax (Tues to Sat from 9.00am to 5.00pm).

**Caritas Parish Reps**

Would you or someone you know like to volunteer as a Caritas Rep?

Caritas Representatives are our key contacts in parishes to share news of local opportunities for mission and outreach, networking, training and formation in Catholic Social Teaching. They help put up posters, raise awareness in the parish and schools and let us know about local need, Find all the details here: <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/parish-social-action.php>

**Cost of Living Crisis**

The link below contains a PDF where you can see organisations who can help with the cost of living. <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/colc2022.php>,

**Grants to help pay off energy debts**

People who are in debt to their energy supplier might be able to get a grant from a charitable trust to help pay it off. See this link for more details – plus links to several advice providers. <https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>

**Chaplain Vacancy**

A vacancy has arisen at the Sacred Heart High School Hammersmith, London. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this position, please ask them to contact the parish office at: watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk.

**SCHOOL VACANCY (ST MICHAEL’s, GARSTON)**

Admin Assistant Role (start date ASAP)

Contract Term: Permanent Part-Time Post (Term Time+ Two Weeks). Hours: Mon -Thurs 12:30 - 16:30.

**Please see poster displayed, for more details.**

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 8th January 2023**

Planned Giving £143.00 Loose Plate £266.39

Standing Orders for December: 3,439.49.

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.

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***

**CONTACTLESS DONATIONS**

We now accept contactless donations with all major payment cards accepted. Just select your amount,

tap or insert your card to donate (not forgetting to Gift Aid!) It’s a fast and easy way to donate.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

**AMAZING GRACES - The Blessings of Sacramentals**

**By Julie Dortch Cragon**

Scapulars, candles, holy water, rosaries, relics, medals--these sacramentals are a profound grace to many, but still a mystery to some. In this book, the author looks at the most popular sacramentals, explaining what a sacramental is, their history in the Church, the difference between a sacrament and a sacramental, and why sacramentals are still important channels of grace for you today. **Was £9.95, now £4.95.**

<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/amazing-graces>

**Diary Date:**

**Thursday 26th January 2023**, Measure for Measure ([Abbey Theatre](https://www.abbeytheatre.org.uk/), Westminster Lodge, Holywell Hill,

St Albans, AL1 2DL). Written by William Shakespeare, this play tells the story of a corrupt and hypocritical society and the individuals who strive to bring about justice and mercy. Time: **8pm – 10pm**.

<https://www.livingroomherts.org/Event/measure-for-measure>

Thoughts for the week: by Mark Twain

Life is short, break the rules. Forgive quickly, kiss slowly, love truly, laugh uncontrollably and never regret anything that makes you smile.

Humour is the great thing, the saving thing after all. The minute it crops up, all our hardnesses yield, all our irritations and resentments flit away and a sunny spirit takes their place.