**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

**WHITE FLOWER APPEAL**

Next weekend we have a White Flower Appeal. This is a great cause to protect the unborn children. We will have the second collection going towards this noble cause.

**Sunday 22nd JANUARY 2023**

**3RD Sunday in ORDINARY TIME**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 21st *St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr*

08.30 Confessions/Exposition/

Adoration

09:15 Philomena Sheridan R.I.P.

12:00 Baptism: Sharkey

18:00 Timmy Flynn (Anniv.)

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

11:00 Andy R.I.P.

Mon 23rd 09:15 Josephine Miller R.I.P.

Tues 24th ***St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor:***

09:15 Josephine Miller R.I.P.

09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Wed 25th ***The Conversion of St Paul The Apostle***

CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Thurs 26th ***Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops:***

10:00 Mary Roache

10:00 Children of the Holy Rood (Family Mass)

Fri 27th 09:15 Patrick Brown R.I.P.

09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

12:00 Funeral: Hallahan

Sat 28th ***St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor:***

09:15 Michael O’Sullivan

(Birthday Anniv.)

11:00 Baptism: Lopatka

18:00 Ava Cutts (wellbeing)

Sun 29th 09:00 Lavender Fernandes R.I.P.

11:00 Ava Cutts (wellbeing)

**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 to heal the hurts and build a better future for everyone. See link:

<https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2023/> for more info.

**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](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) with your details.

**Thank you from the SVP**

The SVP would like to say a big thank you to

St Helen’s Church for their very generous donation. This will help them to continue helping those in need on behalf of St Helen’s and St Michael’s SVP group; who continue to work together.

**SVP SENIOR SPRING TEA PARTY – With Bingo and entertainment!**

**(St Helen’s Parish Hall, Harebreaks, Watford, WD24 6NJ)**

The SVP are holding a Senior’s Spring Tea Party on Sunday 5th March 2023 from 2pm to 4pm. If you would like to attend this event, please sign the form (for catering/lift purposes) at the back of the church.

For any queries, or for more information about the SVP: Please see <https://www.svp.org.uk/> or contact Marella on 07803 989512.

**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/>

#### Columban Schools Competition:

#### Building Peaceful Futures

This competition is targeted at students aged between 13-18 years who are invited to demonstrate an awareness of conflict and peacemaking in the world today, through the submission of either a written article or an original image. Students are being asked to do their own research and spotlight people, communities and/or organisations who are trying to make the world a better place for everyone by building peaceful futures. Closing date: 10/02/23.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/columban-schools-competition>

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

#### That the 2021 Census (released in November 2022), showed that for the first time, less than 50% of people in England and Wales identified as Christian. The number of people identifying as having no religion has risen significantly (from the previous Census in 2011). To find out more, please visit [www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps](http://www.ons.gov.uk/census/maps).

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 15th January 2023**

Planned Giving £86.56 Loose Plate £326.17

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.

**Diary Date:**

**Monday 23rd January 2023, 10am-12pm** - Winter Wellness Drop in Session. The Barn, 1 Watford House Lane, Watford, WD17 1BJ All welcome. No booking required.[**www.watford.gov.uk/healthyhub**](http://www.watford.gov.uk/healthyhub)

**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.

It is better to keep your mouth closed and let people think you are a fool than to open it and remove all doubt.

Give every day the chance to become the most beautiful day of your life.