**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)

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 – THANK YOU**

This appeal raised £245.74. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this truly worthwhile cause.

**Sunday 5th FEBRUARY 2023**

**5th Sunday in ORDINARY TIME**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 4th ***Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday.***

08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Bridgid Marshall R.I.P.

18:00 Patrick Browne R.I.P.

Sun 5th ***RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY***

09:00 John Ryan R.I.P.

11:00 Lavender Fernandes R.I.P.

Mon 6th ***St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs***

09:15 Mary Brennan R.I.P.

Tues 7th 09:15 Timmy Flynn R.I.P.

09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Wed 8th CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Thurs 9th 10:00 Ava Cutts (Wellbeing)

Fri 10th ***St Scholastica, Virgin:***

09:15 Lathenak Cahill

09:30 Exposition/ Adoration

Sat 11th ***Our Lady of Lourdes***

***World Day of the Sick***

08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Andreas Chungong (Anniv).

11:00 Baptism: McLoughlin

18:00 Mary O’Connor R.I.P.

Sun 12th 09:00 Mary O’Connor R.I.P.

11:00 Helen and Jim O’Shea (Anniv.)

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

The next baptismal preparation session will take place on 18th February 2023 in the Parish Hall at 10.00 with Deacon Liam. If you would like to attend this, or another session, please email the Parish Office [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) with your details.

**NEW BOOK CLUB AT ST HELEN’S CHURCH**

A new Book Club will be starting on Friday 17th February 2023 in the Parish Hall. The club will meet once a month from 7:30pm – to 9:00 ish p.m and will involve ‘Exploring our Faith’. All are welcome and it’s not necessary to pre-book. I hope to see you there. Barbara.

**ST HELEN’S 50/50 FUND**

Thank you to everyone who supported the fund during the past year. It is now time to renew membership for the next year. The relevant form is attached to this Newsletter. Thank you again for your support.

****

**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.

**LEPRA APPEAL – NEXT WEEK**

Today, nearly 600 people will be diagnosed with leprosy; more than 50 of these will be children. Over 7m people are currently affected by leprosy across the world.  Evidence shows over 3m people are living with undiagnosed leprosy and over 4m people are living with a life-changing disability caused by leprosy.

#### Marriage Care: Become a Relationship Counsellor

This is a life-changing opportunity to train and volunteer within a supportive, nurturing and inspiring community and make the world of difference to couples and families. Our Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) will equip you with all the skills, knowledge and practical experience you need.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/training-marriage-care-become-a-relationship-counsellor>

**ST HELEN’S SICK LIST**

If you know of anyone who can be removed from the Sick List, please email[**watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk**](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk)**. Thank you.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – ST HELEN’S**

We would be grateful for more volunteers to clean the church. If you would like to help with this, or any other aspect of volunteering at the church, please email[**watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk**](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk)**. Thank you.**

**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.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 29th January 2023**

Planned Giving £163.00 Loose Plate £237.05

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***

**Diary Date:**

**11th February 2023 -**  Annual Lourdes Mass and Anointing of the Sick (Cathedral).

**13 February, 12.45-2.00pm**: Southern Dioceses Environment Network – Laudato Si’ in 2023. Online meeting. Open to all Catholics and our friends for prayer, sharing & networking on the Care of Creation. <https://westminsterjusticeandpeace.org/southern-dioceses-environment-network/>

**16 February, 7.30pm:** Friends of the Holy Land Concert. Music from the London Welsh Male Voice Choir and supported by Irish trio "The Priests". Westminster Cathedral. Tickets from £20. [www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk/westminster-concert2023](http://www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk/westminster-concert2023).

**17th-20th February 2023.** Living Laudato Si’: Your Parish and Your Planet - Zoom weekend from Boarbank Hall. We are repeating our popular weekend for those who missed it the first time around. To apply: email Sr Margaret Atkins on [margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk](mailto:margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk).

**20 March 2023 at 7:30pm:** New Hope’s ‘Light in the Darkness’ annual celebration. If you would like St Luke’s Church, Watford.

#### Did you know .......... that Pope John Paul II was the first non-Italian pope in over 400 years.

Thoughts for the week: by Mark Twain

With courage, you will dare to take risks, have the strength to be compassionate, and the wisdom to be humble. Courage is the foundation of integrity.

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

Wrinkles should merely indicate where the smiles have been. 😊