**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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You are right in feeling a little fear at the greatness of the task, and the possible difficulties. You will certainly meet great difficulties, and heartbreaking opposition and disappointment in many ways. You may in fact even be deprived of tasting the full fruit of success. But if you simply forget about the results and do the work with all your heart because it is pleasing to God and for the benefit of your brothers, and if you take that as reward enough in this life, you will achieve far more than you could ever hope……

by

Thomas Merton

**Cardinal's Lenten Alms Appeal**

This Appeal is taking place during Lent and envelopes can be found at the back of the church. Whatever you can afford will be gratefully received. Thank you for your continued support.

**Happy Mother’s Day**

Dear Mother’s, may you all walk in peace, joy and health.

Blessings, Fr Voy.

**Sunday 19th MARCH 2023**

**4TH SUNdAY OF LENt**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 18th ***St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor***

08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Eamon O’Brien R.I.P.

13:00 Baptism: Rauta

18:00 Ava Cutts (wellbeing)

Sun 19th ***4th Sunday of Lent***

09:00 Bernardo & Frida Da Silva

Richard Kennedy & Peg Keane (Anniversaries)

11:00 Elizabeth and Frank Guzik

Mon 20th ***St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Diocese.***

 09:15 - Joan Vincent

Tues 21st 09:15 – Mr C Y Varghese Panicker R.I.P.

Followed by Exposititon & Adoration

Wed 22nd CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Thurs 23rd ***St Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop***

 10:00 – For the soul of Franciszek Guzik

Fri 24th 09:15 - Ava Cutts (wellbeing)

 ***Stations of the Cross follows Mass***

Sat 25th **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Arokiasamy (Thanksgiving)

11:00 Baptisms: Hannon, Gaughan & Rhind-Tutt

18:00 Ava Cutts (wellbeing)

Sun 26th 5***th Sunday of Lent***

 09:00 For the Soul of Justina Soames

 11:00 Ava Cutts (wellbeing)

**BISHOPS VISITATION**

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make The Right Rev Paul McAleenan, our Bishop - feel so very welcome in our church last week. The Bishop enjoyed great food, and meeting so many parishioners.

Thank you again for your support. Father Voy.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

The next preparation session will take place in the Parish Hall on 15th April at 10:00 with Deacon Liam. To book, please email the Parish Office watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk with your details.

**CYCLE OF PRAYER**

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: Candidates for the Sacraments: Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

**Digital copy of *Love the Stranger – A Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees.*** This publication has been endorsed by Father Fabio Baggio, Undersecretary of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development & Father Manuel Barrios Prieto, the Secretary General of the Commission of Catholic Episcopal Conferences of the European Union (COMECE). It is receiving widespread coverage including on Vatican News. Please see link below.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2023-03/bishops-england-and-wales-call-for-safe-access-of-migrants-to-uk.html>

**Funeral of William Cummings**

William Cummings, a much loved parishioner of

St Helen’s Church for many years, has sadly passed away. William will be received into St Helen’s Church on Thursday 30th March 2023 at 6pm and his funeral Mass will take place on Friday 31st March 2023 at 11:00. Fr Ben will lead the service. All welcome.

**CONFIRMATION 2023 (with Deacon Liam)**

Applications are invited from young people in school Year 9 and above to apply for this year’s programme.  Forms are available from the Hall Lobby or downloadable from our web site. Closing date for applications is 31/03/2023. Programme below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Session | Date | Time |  |
| 1 | 03/05/23 | 7-8pm |  |
| 2 | 10/05/23 | 7-8pm |  |
| 3 | 17/05/23 | 7-8pm |  |
| 4 | 24/05/23 | 7-8pm |  |
|  | 31/05/23 | HALF-TERM |
|  | 07/06/23 | NO SESSION |
| 5 | 14/06/23 | 7-8PM |  |
|  | 21/06/23 | 7-8PM | REHEARSAL |
|  | 23/06/23 | 7-8PM | CONFIRMATION CEREMONY |

**St Helen's 50/50 Fund - Deadline**

Please pick up a form from the back of the church or hall lobby, and return it to the office (today is the deadline for anyone wishing to be included in next week's first draw of 2023/24! - in the hallafter 9am Mass Sunday 26th March. Thank you for your support for both the parish and our local charities!

**POTENTIAL TRIP TO LOURDES**

Unfortunately, we will not be proceeding with a trip to Lourdes this summer as there is not enough interest to make the trip viable. Apologies to those who were keen to go. We hope to arrange a trip in the future.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 12th March 2023**

Planned Giving £149.15 Loose Plate £284.97

Standing Orders for February: £3,334.00

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***

**Have you signed a Gift Aid form?**

If yes, and you have stopped paying tax, please contact Richard McPhillips on 01923 893776 or email watfordnorthgac@rcdow.org.uk so that we don’t claim the tax if you haven’t paid it.

**The Universe Catholic Weekly Online Newspaper**

Order your Digital 2 weeks FREE intro offer: Call Michelle 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk.

<https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/universe-weekly-newsletters/march-2023/UNIVERSE-10-MARCH.pdf>

**Diary Dates:**

**Sat, 1 Apr, 12:00–15:00** - Leavesden Hospital History Association - a guided walk through Leavesden Country Park and its fascinating history. [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/leavesden-country-park-history-walks-2023-tickets-574702730337](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/leavesden-country-park-history-walks-2023-tickets-574702730337) £6.50.

**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY - WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL, SATURDAY 13TH MAY 2023 AT 2:30PM.**

The Cardinal is inviting all couples in the Diocese, celebrating special wedding anniversaries of Catholic marriage, to a Mass. **Please send details to:** watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) **by end of March.**

Did you know.......

The Sedlec Ossuary (“Church of Bones”) is a small Roman Catholic Chapel in the Czech Republic. It uses 40,000–70,000 human skeletons as decorations.

Thought for the week: (by Albert Einstein)

The value of a man should be seen in what he gives and not in what he is able to receive.