**St Helen’s ChuRCH**

Watford WD24 6NJ

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Priest of the Diocese

**Father Voy**

& DeaconLiam Lynch

**Secretary**: Shirlie Halladey

(office hours: Tues & Thur (10am-3pm), Fri (10am – 4pm)

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

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We too easily tend to focus our eyes on our sinfulness and nothingness and then we forget that we have risen with Christ, that we have a wonderful new life to live in

 His Holy Spirit, that we have been overwhelmed with His gifts. It is true that we do not appreciate them enough: but the best way to appreciate them more is to look at them, and look at God’s love, instead of constantly looking at our own failures. If we wish to please God truly by our religious life, we must see that it is really a life and not just a living death……

by

Thomas Merton

**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.

**Sunday 21st MAY 2023**

7th Sunday of Easter

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 20th  ***St Bernadine of Siena, Priest***

08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Helen Benita Brown R.I.P.

15:00 First Holy Communion Mass

18:00 Tinca Albert R.I.P.

Sun 21st **7th *Sunday of Easter***

***Anniversary of the Installation of Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Eleventh Archbishop of Westminster (2009)***

09:00 Helen Benita Brown R.I.P.

11:00 Sister Margaret Jones (Headmistress, 60th Anniversary).

12:00: Baptism: (x3) Witter family

15:00 First Holy Communion Mass

Mon 22nd ***St Rita of Cascia***

 09:15 Communion Service

Tues 23rd 09:15 Helen Benita Brown R.I.P.

Wed 24th **CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED**

Thurs 25th ***St Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor*** 10:00 Evelyn McVay R.I.P.

Fri 26th ***St Philip Neri, Priest***

 09:15 Pearl Fitzgerald R.I.P.

Sat 27th  ***St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop***

 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 In thanksgiving to St Padre Pio

11:00 Baptism: A. Herriott

18:00 Siobhan Bucke R.I.P.

Sun 28th ***Pentecost Sunday***

***Mass & Office of the Solemnity***

 09:00 Martin Dalton R.I.P.

11:00 Margaret Kearns R.I.P.

**Catholic Communications Network**

There is a collection today, in support of the Catholic Communications Network, as the Church marks the **56th World Communications Day.** The theme, chosen by Pope Francis is 'Speaking with the Heart'. You can also contribute online from Monday 23rd May until Friday 3rd June.

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/catholic-communications-network> ).

**Thank you for your support.**

**PARISH GROUPS - ST HELEN’S**

Our bingo club meets every Tuesday from 5pm to 7pm in the parish hall. Everyone welcome.

The St Helen’s tea and coffee club takes place every Thursday (in the parish hall), following 10:00 Mass.

Everyone welcome.

**REPOSITORY - First Holy Communion**

First Holy Communion items are available after Sunday morning Masses from 09.45 – 10.45. Cards, badges, bracelets, rosaries etc, are all available.

**NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The parish needs more Eucharistic Ministers for all Sunday masses (Saturday Vigil, Sunday 9am and 11am). If you would like to find out more, please speak to one of those already in the role, or contact Kurvilla Punnamkuzhy by email: kpunnamkuzhy@hotmail.com.

We would also welcome new Readers at 9am and 11am Masses on Sundays. If you are interested in this role, please speak to Sadie Vile at 9am mass or send an email with your name and a phone number to sadievile@yahoo.co.uk.

**VOLUNTEERING IN WATFORD**

Watford Refugee Partnership are looking for volunteers to help befriend refugees and asylum seekers. For more details – please contact: **Jeff Pratley on 07771 346872.**

**JOB SEEKERS – CURRENT VACANCIES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Job Title | Dept name |
| **Parish Administrator** | Highbury |
| **DBS Administrator** | Safeguarding |
| **Parish Administrator** | Mill Hill |
| **Parish Support Partner** | Parish Support Team |
| **Catechetical Coordinator/ Pastoral Assistant** | Ruislip |

See more at: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

**Funeral of Helen Benita Brown**

The funeral of Helen Benita Brown will take place at

St Helen’s Church on Friday 2nd June 2023 at 12:00. Helen was a well-known and much-loved member of the parish. All are welcome.

**ST HELEN’S CHURCH - FLOWERS**

Any donations to help towards the cost of church flowers will be very gratefully received. Please use the receptacle provided at the back of the church.

**Thank you for your support.**

Did you know.......

The shortest reign of a pope was for Urban VII, who lived only 13 days after his election in 1590. His thirteen-day papacy was the shortest in history (during which a smoking ban encompassing churches across the world was implemented).

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**7th May 2023**

Planned Giving £125.75 Loose Plate £218.75

**14th May 2023**

Planned Giving £86.50 Loose Plate £265.93

Standing Orders for April: £3,147.49

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 Dates:

**6th May to 30th July 2023 -** St Francis of Assisi.

The National Gallery is holding an exhibition exploring the life and legacy of St Francis of Assisi. Admission to the exhibition is free. For info see: [https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/exhibitions/saint- francis-of-assis](https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/exhibitions/saint-%20francis-of-assis)

**30 May & 6 June, 7.30—9.00pm:** Laudato Si’ Sessions, St John Vianney Parish Live Simply Group – ‘The world is listening to Pope Francis: What is he saying to us?’ St John Vianney’s Hall, West Green Road, N15 and online. <https://stjohnvianneywestgreen.co.uk/live-simply-group/>

**31st May from 7.30pm to 9pm,** Farm St Church, Mayfair. Eucharistic Adoration event for young people from the diocese. Bishop Nicholas Hudson (assisted by our World Youth Day Pilgrims) and Westminster Youth Ministry are hosting. Includes a talk by Antonia Salzano, the mother of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

**Friday 2 June, Holy Rood Catholic Church,**

‘Night of Light’ led by Confirmation candidates and visit from Bishop Nicholas Hudson.

**Sunday 11 June -** Corpus Christi Procession,

after 12:30pm Mass followed by parish party

**Saturday 8 July -** Day Pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory, by coach.

**Saturday 10th June, 10.30-1pm,** Lambeth North SE1 **-** You are invited to CAFOD, for ‘Exploring our faith, why we Campaign & how you can help.’ Contact is tonysheen@cafod.org.uk or <https://cafod.org.uk/news/events>

Thought for the week: by The Dalai Lama

#### Life's purpose of happiness can be gained only if people cultivate the basic human values of compassion, caring and forgiveness.