**St Helen’s ChuRCH**

Watford WD24 6NJ

01923 223175

watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

Priest of the Diocese

**Father Voy**

& DeaconLiam Lynch

**Secretary**: Shirlie Halladey

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

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I wish you all a good summer, peace, contentment, and the joy you seek; or at least the courage and light to live free from care amid unavoidable trouble! The greatness of man, Camus wrote, consists in his ability to find something bigger than himself – and he added that if we cannot expect perfect happiness in this life, we can measure up to this kind of greatness. Don’t let the system grind you down! Joy to you in the Lord Jesus, who is our peace and our hope.

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 23rd July 2023**

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 22nd ***St Mary Magdalene***

 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Josy’s Intention

11:00 Baptism: G Kane

12:30 E Flannery

18:00 Arthur (wellbeing)

Sun 23rd ***17th Sunday in Ordinary Time***

09:00 Giuseppe Giardina (90th b/day)

11:00 William Furlong (wellbeing)

Mon 24th 09:15 John Ngwa-ndifor (Dr John)

Tue 25th ***St James, Apostle***

 09:15 In Honour of St Padre Pio (thanksgiving)

Wed 26th **CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED**

Thurs 27th 10:00 Michael ReId R.I.P.

Fri 28th 09:15 Halladey Family Intention

Sat 29th ***Ss Martha, Mary and Lazzarus***

 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:15 May Alice Brown R.I.P.

 14:00 Wedding: J Molloy & S Shippey

 18:00 Parishioners

Sun 30th ***17th Sunday in ordinary time***

 09:00 John Cuthbert (wellbeing)

 11:00 The Cutts family

**Sea sunday (Stella Maris). WAS 9th July 2023**

Today, we will pray for seafarers and fishers, and thank them for the vital role they play in all of our lives, both in the UK and around the world. Your financial contributions will support the work of Stella Maris, the official maritime charity of the Catholic Church. Please give whatever you can.

 Thank you for your support.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham – 23/09/23**

Veronika (St Michael’s) has kindly organised a coach to go from Our Lady and St Michael's church, Garston, to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on

23 September 2023.  If you wish to go, please click here: [https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/garston/events/walsingham-pilgrimage /](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/garston/events/walsingham-pilgrimage%20/) to book. Places are limited.

**YOUR SIGNATURE IS NEEDED please**

At the back of the church is a CAFOD petition to our MP to address the world food crisis. It focuses on the need to ensure that farmers are able to manage their own crops. Please support this by adding your signature**. Thank you for your support.**

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

We are planning a Pilgrimage to Lourdes from St Helen’s - 26th to 31st May 2024 (5 nights), at a cost of £695 per person sharing (there is also a single supplement). We want to gauge initial interest, so if this trip appeals to you, please put your name on the list (when it appears at the back of the church) or email watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk (tel. 01923 223175). Thank you.

**FORTHCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**10th September from 2pm until 4:30pm** **-** The St Helen’s/St Michael’s branch of the St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP) **is** organising a Senior’s Tea Party at

St Helen’s Church. Further details will follow shortly.

The St Helen’s Social Committee will be organising a Quiz Night on Saturday 16th September.

More details to follow.

**Macmillan Mighty Hike - Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone in the parish who has supported me with my Mighty Hike. I completed the 26 miles in just under 8 hours and I've raised over £1,500 so far for Macmillan Cancer Support. There is still time to donate if you'd like to, using [http://www.justgiving.com/David-Wright178](http://www.justgiving.com/David-Wright178%C2%A0%C2%A0)

Thanks again for your generosity.

David Wright

**Appeal for Volunteers**

We really need more volunteers to do a variety of roles.If you can help, please contact watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk or tel. 01923 223175. Any time you can spare to help your church, will be hugely appreciated. Thank you.

**Catholic Listeners Telephone Helpline Service**

‘Catholic Listeners’ is a confidential telephone helpline service; run by the Diocese of Westminster, for those returning to the faith. The helpline is all about listening to others, especially the isolated. Although not a counselling service, the helpline is staffed by a professional team of volunteers who will signpost callers to other services and agencies. The service aims to help those in need of a safe space to talk. Operating from 4pm to 7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Tel. 0800 448 0704. For more information, email: Catholiclisteners@gmail.com.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**16th July 2023**

Planned Giving £113.00 Loose Plate £251.90

 Standing orders for June:  £3,327.

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***

**Job Opportunities**

A list of current job vacancies at the Diocese can be found at: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>.

**HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME**

If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home (or you know someone who would) then please let us know. You can call office phone or pop an email to watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

#### World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - 23 July 2023

Today is ‘World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly’. Pope Francis has given it the theme "His mercy is from age to age" (Luke 1:50)

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/world-day-grandparents-elderly/>

#### Diary Dates:

**PILGRIMAGE - Sat 29th July,** the 13th Annual

GK Chesterton Pilgrimage. Bishop David Oakley of Northampton will preach at the Mass at 2.30pm at The Bridgettine Convent, Fulmer Common Road, Iver, SL0 0NR. Please send any prayer requests to; CatholicGKCSociety@yahoo.co.uk or text them to 07795205114. For details, plus printable GKC prayer cards: [www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk](http://www.catholicgkchestertonsociety.co.uk/)”

**Pilgrimage of Reparation - Sat, 5th AuguST**

There will be a Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham, led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. The theme is ‘Accepting the Gift’. The poster has some details of coaches leaving from various points in the diocese which may be of interest.

Thought for the week: (Oscar Wilde)

Life is too important to be taken seriously.