**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)

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

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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 30th July 2023**

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 29th ***St Martha***

 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

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

14:00 Wedding: J Molloy & S Shippey

18:00 Kevin Fanning R.I.P.

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

 09:00 John Cuthbert (wellbeing)

 11:00 The Cutts family (wellbeing)

Mon 31st 09:15 Peter O’Neil (wellbeing)

Tue 1st ***St Alphonsus Mary de' Liguori***

 09:15 Chris’s intention

Wed 2nd **CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED**

Thurs 3rd 10:00 Nancy Curley (wellbeing)

Fri 4th ***St John Vianney, Priest***

 09:15 Annie Malloy (wellbeing)

Sat 5th ***The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary***

 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:15 Tomasz Piesiur Family Int.

 13:00 Baptism: J Kerins

### Sun 6th ***The Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast)***

 09:00 Tecla Chaungong (Anniversary)

 11:00 Parishioners

**AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED APPEAL**

Thank you very much for your generous donations to the Church in Need, following John Ravi’s Appeal. £639.16 was the total amount raised by parishioners of St Helen’s Church.

**Sea sunday (Stella Maris).**

Last weekend, we collected for Sea Sunday and raised £113.36 from direct collections.

 Thank you for your support as always.

**ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO…**

* Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
* Was baptised Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?
* Was baptised in a different Christian denomination?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions which start in mid-September will focus on the teachings and experience of the Catholic Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season 2024. For more information, please contact Fr Voy on 01923 223175 or email: watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

**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.

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – MAY 2024**

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.

**CELEBRATE SUMMER family activity pack**

Download the brand new CELEBRATE online family activity pack for summer! Packed full of activities to do, pray, read and watch, this online resource will give you ideas on how to connect with God. <https://www.celebratetrust.org/onlinefamilyactivitypacks> and <https://www.celebratetrust.org/>

Follow us: Instagram: @celebratetrust
Facebook: @Celebratetrust.org

**Altar Cloths – Volunteer needed**

Can you spare some time (a fortnightly commitment or less if more people volunteer!) We really need someone to assist our lovely Betty with washing the altar cloths.  If you want to help, please contact Betty on 07908 528145. 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 is organising a Quiz Night on Saturday 16th September. Details to follow.

**Job Opportunities**

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

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

There will be no newsletter during August. A list of Masses will still be publicised.

Enjoy your Summer break!

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**23rd July 2023**

Planned Giving £63.40 Loose Plate £162.48

 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***

#### Diary Dates:

**World Youth Day (WYD) - 1 - 6 August 2023, Lisbon, Portugal.** The gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. It is also a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelisation for the youth world. Although its Catholic identity is clearly evident, WYD opens its doors to everyone.

[World Youth Day - Catholic Bishops' Conference (cbcew.org.uk)](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/world-youth-day-2023/)

**Saturday, 5th August 2023,** Pilgrimage of Reparation

and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham, led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. It will take as its theme ‘Accepting the Gift’. See poster for details of coaches leaving from various places.

**Saturday 2nd September 2023 - World Youth Day Summer Picnic:** Join Westminster Youth Ministry for a taste of Lisbon at their Summer Picnic. This event is aimed at any young person (12-35) in the Diocese who could not make it to World Youth Day. Includes Mass with Bishop Paul McAleenan. Sign up at <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/world-youth-day-summer-picnic/>. 12-16 year olds must be accompanied by an adult.

**Thursday 5th October 2023 (5pm until 8pm) Open Evening and Open Morning on Friday 6th October (9.00am until 11.30am). St Joan of Arc Catholic School. T**his is for prospective students and parents who are looking for Year 7 places in September 2024. Details of the Open Events, together with the Admission Policy and Supplementary Form (SIF) can also be found on the school website: [www.joa.herts.sch.uk](http://www.joa.herts.sch.uk)

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

Polish midwife Stanisława Leszczyńska, imprisoned at Auschwitz, risked her own life and delivered nearly 3000 babies. She is now an official candidate for sainthood by the Catholic Church.

Thought for the week: (Oscar Wilde)

Yes: I am a dreamer. For a dreamer is one who can only find his way by moonlight, and his punishment is that he sees the dawn before the rest of the world.