**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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It seems to me that we create obstacles for ourselves by setting up arbitrary division, ‘intellectual life’ and ‘life of prayer’. Each of us has to find the unity in which everything fits and takes its right place. For some, a certain amount of intellectual life is necessary for the life of prayer. Each must work out just what the right measure may be. And it varies, at different times of our life. The best thing is to acquire that discretion by which we can tell when to do what needs to be done, even though it does not seemingly fit in to some ideal plan…… There are moments when all plans are useless. So while we cannot rely on them, we learn to rely more directly on God Himself, Who cannot fail us.

by

Thomas Merton

**Sunday 10th September 2023**

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 9th ***St Peter Claver***

 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:15 Peter Feeney R.I.P.

 11:00 Baptism: G. Bleakley

 18:00 Elzbieta Guzik R.I.P.

Sun 10th ***Education Sunday***

 09:00 Joyce Quigley R.I.P.

 11:00 Jonathan Wheeler R.I.P.

12:00 Baptism: E Kelly

### Mon 11th 09:15 No Mass

Tues 12th ***The Most Holy Name of Mary***

 09:15 Communion Service

Wed 13th **CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED**

Thurs 14th ***The Exaltation of The Holy Cross***

 10:00 Communion Service

Fri 15th ***Our Lady of Sorrows***

 09:15 No Mass

Sat 16th ***St Cornelious, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop***

 09:15 communion Service

 18:00 Dumitru Albert R.I.P.

Sun 17th ***24th Sunday in Ordinary Time***

 ***(Evangelli Gaudium Day)***

 09:00 Bernadette Roache (Anniv.)

 11:00 Daniel Cremins (Anniv.)

**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). If you are interested, please put your name on the list at the back of the church. Thank you.

**FORTHCOMING PARISH EVENTS – For your diary**

Saturday 21st October 2023 is the new date for the

St Helen’s Quiz Night. More details to follow.

The Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 18th November.

The Senior citizens Christmas lunch will take place on Saturday 9th December.

Education Sunday - 10 September 2023

The theme for Education Sunday this year is "Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them." Taken from Matthew 18:20.

**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 a session, please email watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk with your details.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**3rd September 2023**

Planned Giving £130.26 Loose Plate £305.62

 Standing orders for July:  £3,291.00

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***

**ARE YOU SOMEONE, OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO** 1) Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? 2) Was baptised Catholic, but not celebrated Confirmation and Eucharist? 3) Was baptised in a different Christian denomination? Sessions start in mid-September and focus on the teachings and experience of the Catholic Church, preparing individuals to celebrate Sacraments during Easter 2024. Please contact Fr Voy on 07947 903801 or email watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk if interested.

**St Michael’s Catholic High School**

Open Evening – Wednesday 20th September 2023 from 6pm to 9pm and Open Morning - Friday 22nd September 2023 from 09:30 to 11:00. To book:

admissions@stmichaelscatholichighschool.co.uk.

Queries to: Angela Peachey, Admissions Officer.

Tel: 01923 673760 Extn: 1318 or email:

peachey.a@stmichaelscatholichighschool.co.uk

**ST JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC SCHOOL** – Open Evening on Thursday 5th October (5pm until 8pm) and Open Morning on Friday 6th October (9.00am until 11.30am). For prospective students and parents who are looking for Year 7 places in September 2024. See [www.joa.herts.sch.uk](http://www.joa.herts.sch.uk) for details.

#### Diary Dates:

**18th September, 2023, 2pm to 5pm,** Watford Palace Theatre - Join us to celebrate the launch of our Herts Haven Cafés. A haven of support for children and young people in the county aged 10 to 18, offering free-of-charge, emotional wellbeing support without the requirement of a referral. The service can support children and young people, and families in Hertfordshire.  If you think that you may drop-in, please RSVP to cyp@hertfordshiremind.org to help us plan refreshments.

The campaign "[Sleeptember 2023](https://www.communities1st.org.uk/civicrm/mailing/url?u=40792&qid=2461347)" looks at how you can achieve better sleep and what benefits a good night’s sleep can bring. See: <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/get-involved/awareness-events>

**23rd September 2023, Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** Coach leaving from Our Lady and St Michael's church, Garston. see: [https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/garston/events/walsingham-pilgrimage /](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/garston/events/walsingham-pilgrimage%20/) to book. Join the Youth Ministry on their journey to the Shrine for £35 (pilgrim levy included). The coach leaves at 7am from Westminster Cathedral, and should return around 8pm.

<https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/pilgrimage-to-walsingham/>

**Saturday, 7th October 2023 Rosary Feast and Vestment Exhibition -** The Dominican community at the Rosary Shrine, Haverstock Hill, London. 800th anniversary. Solemn Mass at 10am, followed by a reception in the Priory, and a special exhibition.

**Saturday, 7th October at 2.30pm**. Annual Altar Servers’ Masses - All altar servers are invited to attend and to vest in the Cathedral Hall in order to be ready to process by 2pm. All are welcome to attend.

**Sunday 8th October 2023 - Run the Royal Parks Half Marathon in aid of The Passage (homelessness charity based in Westminster) - For** experienced and first-time half marathon runners. Registration fee: £20. Fundraising goal: £300 Sign up here: <https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/royal-parks-half-marathon/>

September 2023: Four of Europe's most distinguished and talented organists will give recitals at Westminster Cathedral as part of the Grand Organ festival:

6th - Simon Johnson, 13th - Peter Stevens, 20th - Martin Schmeding and 27th - Johann Vexo. The recitals begin at 7.30pm. Each performance lasts 75 minutes without an interval.

<https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/music/grand-organ-festival/>

Struggling to keep cool at night?

* Try filling a hot water bottle with ice cold water and have it in bed with you.
* Chill a pillowcase in the fridge or try a cooling pillow.
* Try a pet cooling mat under your sheet.

Thoughts for the week: (Native Americans proverb)

* We will be known forever by the tracks we leave.
* When you arise in the morning, give thanks for the morning light, for your life and strength. Give thanks for your food and the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies in yourself.”