**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 3rd September 2023**

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 2nd ***Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday***

 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:15 Peter Arokiasamy (thanksgiving)

 Joseph Finney R.I.P.

 18:00 Thanksgiving Mass for Alexandra’s first baby

Sun 3rd 09:00 Bill Wright (1st Anniv.)

 11:00 Jessica Macqueen (Anniv. Of her death Oct 18th)

### Mon 4th ***St Cuthbert, Bishop***

###  09:15 Kathleen Curran R.I.P.

Tues 5th 09:15 Tecla Ngu (thanksgiving)

 11:30 Funeral: Jackie Parrott

Wed 6th **CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED**

Thurs 7th 10:00 Joseph Finney R.I.P.

 12:00: Funeral: Joyce Quigley

Fri 8th ***THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED***

 ***VIRGIN MARY***

 09:15 Peter Arokiasamy (thanksgiving)

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 ***23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time***

 09:00 Joyce Quigley R.I.P.

 11:00 Jonathan Wheeler R.I.P.

12:00 Baptism: E Kelly

**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.

**FORTHCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**10TH September, 2pm to 4:30pm - SVP Event -** 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. It’s not too late to sign up.

**QUIZ NIGHT**

Unfortunately, the quiz night previously scheduled for 16th September has had to be postponed. It will be rearranged to take place in October 2023.

Watch this space!

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**27th August 2023**

Planned Giving £117.00 Loose Plate £271.39

 Standing orders for July:  £3,291.

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***

**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.

**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.

**SPONSORED THAMES BRIDGES CHARITY WALK – SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023**

I am taking part in a 25k Thames Bridges walk, to raise much needed money for Playskill; an amazing local charity who support children with developmental delay. If you would like to sponsor me, please go to: [www.justgiving.com/harrysheroesplayskill](http://www.justgiving.com/harrysheroesplayskill)

Thank you in advance for your support. Danuta.

**Appeal for Volunteers**

We need volunteers to clean the church and parish hall and to serve refreshments after 9am Mass on Sundays. Any time you can spare will be hugely appreciated. Please tel. 01923 223175 or email: watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk . Thank you.

**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). F**or 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.

**The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School Open Evenings for Year 7 (First Form pupils)**

For parents and prospective pupils. Includes an address from Mr Stubbings, Headmaster, and a tour of the school. Thurs 14th and Tues 19th September 2023.

<https://www.cvms.co.uk/Admissions/>

#### Diary Dates:

**12th September 2023, 19:00 – 20:00, Webinar - Call of creation: Reading the signs of the times –** A document that encourages us to repair our relationship with God’s creation. It recognises the interconnectedness of the biggest challenges of our times and urges each of us to ask ourselves how we can protect our common home.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/call-of-creation>

**23rd September 2023, Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** Coach leaving from Our Lady and St Michael's church, Garston. If you wish to go, please see: [https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/garston/events/walsingham-pilgrimage /](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/garston/events/walsingham-pilgrimage%20/) to book. Places are limited.

**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.

All welcome.

**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/>

**19th to 27th November 2023. Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**. Led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. It will include visits to Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Flights from Heathrow Airport. Costs are £2265 per person sharing, See: [www.tangey-tours.com/WHL](http://www.tangey-tours.com/WHL).

Thoughts for the week: (Native Americans proverb)

* Sharing and giving are the ways of God.
* If we wonder often, the gift of knowledge will come.
* We will be known forever by the tracks we leave.
* Before you think, find calmness; stay silent when you get angry.