**St Helen’s ChuRCH**

The Harebreaks

Watford WD24 6NJ

01923 223175

watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

Priest of the Diocese

**Father Voy**

& DeaconLiam Lynch

**Secretary**: Shirlie Halladey

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

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Your nature is getting a bit rocked, and there is not much you can do about it. Do not attach too much importance to any individual happening or reaction, and do not look for very special significances: all is part of a purification process, with which you must be patient. You have an ego which you obviously cannot get rid of by ego-willing, and the more you try the more you will be in a bind. You cannot scheme, you cannot figure, you cannot worm your way out of it. Only God can unlock the whole business from the inside, and when He does, then everything will be simple and plain.

by

Thomas Merton

**Sunday 25th FEBRUARY 2024**

*Second Sunday Of Lent*

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 24th 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Ferdinand Dike (Anniversary)

13:00 Baptism: Edward Machicado

18:00 Mr & Mrs Gabriel Moral (20th wedding Anniv.)

Sun 25th ***Second Sunday of Lent***

09:00 Mass for the living, continuous good health & safety – Edward Drutte Haynes and all the family

11:00 Myra Haynes & Joshua Dowell

Mon 26th 09:15 John Ginty (1st Anniv.)

Tues 27th ***Saint***[***Gregory of Narek***](https://gcatholic.org/saints/data/saints-GL.htm#67016)***, abbot and doctor***

09:15 Richard Couch R.I.P.

Followed by Exposition & Adoration

Wed 28th ***CHURCH AND OFFICE CLOSED***

Thur 29th 10:00 Frank Noughton R.I.P.

Fri 1st ***St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales – National Mass of the Feast***

09:15 Wedding Anniv.

Stations of the cross follows Mass

Sat 2nd 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Charlie Shields R.I.P.

11:00 Baptism: Stanton

13:00 Baptism: Brody Lynam

18:00 Dumitru Albert R.I.P.

Sun 3rd ***Third Sunday of Lent***

09:00 Mass for the dead, continuous light – Edward G Haynes and all the family.

11:00 William & Christine Cullen - 40th Wedding Anniv. + William’s b/day.

**IMPORTANT: PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

If you would like to attend the pilgrimage to Lourdes, there is still time. Please complete a form (on table, back of church), as soon as you can and return **to the parish office or post directly to ‘Marian Pilgrimages, 38 Pearse St, Dublin, D02 DD83 before the end of February.**’ Please include your £200 cheque/card deposit. Thank you.

**Cardinal's Lenten Alms Appeal**

Please show your support by taking a donation envelope from the back of the church. You can also use the QR code to donate online. Cardinal Nichols is truly grateful for your support. ***Thank you.***

**DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES**

Please see the link for a list of current vacancies.

<https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 18th February 2024**

Planned Giving: £79.14 Loose Plate: £305.27

Standing Orders for January: £3,407

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***

**CONFIRMATION 2024**

Applications are invited from young people in school Year 9 and above, to apply. Enrolment forms are available in the Church, Hall Lobby or can be downloaded from our web site. Closing date for applications is 01/04/2024. Please see timings below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Session | Date | Time |  |
| 1 | 01/05/24 | 7-8pm |  |
| 2 | 08/05/24 | 7-8pm |  |
| 3 | 15/05/24 | 7-8pm |  |
| 4 | 22/05/24 | 7-8pm |  |
|  | 29/05/24 HALF-TERM | | |
| 5 | 05/06/24 | 7-8pm | |
| 6 | 12/06/24 | 7-8PM |  |
| 19/06/24, 7-8PM - REHEARSAL (parents and sponsors to attend). | | | |
| 21/06/24, 7-8PM - CONFIRMATION CEREMONY WITH BISHOP PAUL | | | |

**ST HELEN’S 50–50 FUND JANUARY 2024**

**DRAW WINNERS**

1st Prize: £50: Lisa Ryan, No. 74

2nd Prize: £35: Jonathan Wood, No. 6

3rd Prize: £20: David Hentschel, No. 30

**Congratulations to all of our winners!**

**50/50 FUND - MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/FINAL DRAW**

**You can enrol now for April.** Application Forms with envelopes are available from the Hall Lobby. Completed forms can be returned by post or put through the Presbytery letterbox. The current year concludes on 24/03/2024 with the final draw. Thank you.

**UPCOMING 2024 PARISH EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Time | Event |
| Sunday 17th March  (St Patrick’s Day) | 12:00 | Bring & Share after 11:00 Mass |
| Saturday 13th April |  | Elvis night & dancing |
| Saturday 29th June | 12-2pm | Summer fayre |
| Saturday 30th November | 12-2pm | Christmas fayre |
| Saturday 14th December | 12:00 onwards | Senior citizens Christmas lunch |

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

Baptismal preparation takes place on the third Saturday of the month, in the Parish Hall at 10.00 with Deacon Liam. If you would like to attend on 16th March, or any following session, please email the Parish Office [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) with your details.

**GIFT AID**

The current tax year will be ending soon. We are obliged to ensure that all the details we hold on record for our gift aiders is up to date. If your circumstances have changed e.g. you no longer pay tax — please let us know by the 31st March.

Thank you. [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk)

**Annual Mass FOR Matrimony –**

**SaTURDAY 25/05/24 at 2:30pm**

The annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony will be celebrated in Westminster Cathedral. The Cardinal is inviting all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. Please email the following details (husband and wife’s names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number) to [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) **by 8th April please.**

**Appeal for Volunteers**

We need more volunteers to assist with a variety of roles in the parish. If you can help, please email [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) or tel. 01923 223175. Any time you can spare to help your church, will be hugely appreciated. Thank you.

**DIARY OF EVENTS**

**Friday 1st March at 2pm** – Join us on the World Day of Prayer at The Scroll Church, on the corner of the Harebreaks and St Albans Road. Prayers will be followed by refreshments.

**Saturday 2nd March, 10am – 5:30pm** – A Day with Mary, Our Lady & St Michael, Crown Rise, Garston, Watford.

Thought for the week: (by Oscar Wilde)

[True contentment is not having everything, but in being satisfied with everything you have.](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1369599)