**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

**Bring & Share**

The next Bring & Share will take place on Sunday 17th March 2024 (St Patrick’s Day) – after 11:00 Mass.

***Thank you in advance for your support.***

**Sunday 3rd MarcH 2024**

*Third Sunday Of Lent*

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 2nd 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Charlie Shields R.I.P.

11:00 Baptism: Ethan Stanton

13:00 Baptism: Brody Lynam

18:00 Dumitru Albert R.I.P.

Sun 3rd 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.

Mon 4th ***Saint Casimir***

09:15 Annie Malloy Int.

Tues 5th 09:15 Charlie Shields R.I.P.

Followed by Exposition & Adoration

11:30 Funeral Service (No Mass) Jacqueline Leone, Juliett Fearne

Wed 6th ***CHURCH AND OFFICE CLOSED***

Thur 7th ***Saints Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs***

10:00 The Whittney family

Grace Chungong Int.

Fri 8th ***Saint John of God***

09:15 Annie & Susan Int.

Stations of the cross follows Mass

Sat 9th ***Saint Frances of Rome***

08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

09:15 Patrick Green R.I.P.

18:00 Margaret & Stephen Minogue (wellbeing)

Sun 10th ***4th Sunday of Lent***

09:00 Dave Pearce R.I.P.

11:00 Paul Miles R.I.P.

**PLEASE NOTE: PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

There are still places remaining on our pilgrimage. If you wish to go, please call **Marian Pilgrimages, London office on 020 3808 5156** to book. Thank you.

**PARISH SYNOD MEETING - THURSDAY 7TH MARCH**

You are invited to a **community meeting in the parish hall at 7.00pm for 7.15pm (finish 8.30pm).** We will form groups to listen to each other reflect on the following questions: How do we witness as a Parish and proclaim our faith to:

1. Those who have never heard of Christ.

      Those who have ceased walking with Christ

         Those with whom we worship Christ in our church.

1. How do we do this?

**RCIA**

Today, Ryan and Mingming who are preparing for their baptism, confirmation and also First Holy Communion at Easter Vigil, will celebrate their First Scrutiny. This is the ancient rite for catechumens to help them to strengthen their intention to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. ***We wish them well.***

**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.***

**Day of prayer**

The Cardinal has called for us all to make Friday 8th March a Day of Prayer for an end to the war.

**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 | TBA | 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 |

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 25th February 2024**

Planned Giving: £141.70 Loose Plate: £319.20

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***

**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.

**DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES**

Please see the link for a list of current vacancies.

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

**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 (with parents & sponsors. | | | |
| 21/06/24, 7-8PM - CONFIRMATION CEREMONY WITH BISHOP PAUL | | | |

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

**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.

**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 and couples in the Diocese, celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024, are invited. Please email 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.**

**DIARY OF EVENTS**

**Mondays 4th, 11th & 18th March from 7pm-8:30pm in the Church Hall, Our Lady & St Michael’s, Crown Rise, Garston, WD25 0NE.** Lenten Retreat. All welcome. Please bring your Bible, notebook and a pen.

**Thursday 14th March 2024 at 7.30pm at Westminster Cathedral.** Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's retelling of St John Passion, first performed in 1724. Buy tickets here: [https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/ 1F00602BD7A81B4F?did=sjp30](https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/%201F00602BD7A81B4F?did=sjp30) Please add the password (SJP30) to get the 30% discounted rate.

Thought for the week: (by Oscar Wilde)

To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance.