**St Helen’s ChuRCH**

The Harebreaks

Watford WD24 6NJ

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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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The Christian life, Christian worship, Christian community, the Eucharist, all these have been obscured by a limited ritualistic piety that insists on treating the Risen Lord as if he were a dead body, a holy object, not Spirit and Life, and Son of the Living God.

Today, let us come with faith to the banquet of the Lamb, the Risen Savior, to the Bread of Life that is not the food of the dead but the true and Risen Body of Christ. He who encounters the Risen Christ in the banquet of his Body and Blood will live forever! Come, People of God, Christ our Passover is sacrificed, and in sharing his banquet we pass with him from death to life! He has risen… he is going before us into his Kingdom!

Alleluia!

 by

Thomas Merton

**Sunday 21st APRIL 2024**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

*Sat 20*th 08:30Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:15Joe Heraty R.I.P. (6th Anniv.)

 18:00 Maria Ines Reis de Lacerda R.I.P.

*Sun 21*st  ***Fourth Sunday of Easter***

 09:00Piotr (Peter) Haracz R.I.P.

 11:00 John [Coiffirs](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=09f835dba5d1f300JmltdHM9MTcxMjYyMDgwMCZpZ3VpZD0yNjZlZDQxMC1jZjUwLTY5NjEtMjY3ZC1jNjc2Y2VlYjY4YzgmaW5zaWQ9NTE3NQ&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=3&fclid=266ed410-cf50-6961-267d-c676ceeb68c8&u=a1L3ZpZGVvcy9zZWFyY2g_cT1qb2huK0NvaWZmaXJzJnFwdnQ9am9obitDb2lmZmlycyZGT1JNPVZEUkU&ntb=1) R.I.P.

Mon 22nd 09:15 Monsignor George Hay R.I.P.

Tues 23rd ***Saint George, Martyr, Patron of England***

 09:15 Helen Benita Brown (Anniv.)

 Followed by Exposition & Adoration

Wed 24th ***Church and Office closed***

Thurs 25th ***Saint Mark, Evangelist***

10:00John Cuthbert R.I.P.

Fri 26th 09:15 Mark Johnson R.I.P.

Sat 27th 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:00 Fr John Michael Warnaby

 18:00 Barney Power, 3rd Anniv (R.I.P.) Sun 28th ***Fifth Sunday of Easter***

 09:00 Peter & Gladys Niciecki

 11:00 Danielle & Philippe NG SEE Cheong Anniv. (R.I.P.)

**PRIESTS TRAINING FUND**

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday (which marks the 61st Anniversary of World Day of Prayer for Vocations) **and there is a retiring collection in support of the Priests’ Training Fund**. The Fund pays for the formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. Please use the basket or priest training fund envelopes available. To read more about it, see: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/archbishop-the-world-is-very-noisy-but-we-must-listen-for-gods-call/>



What is it? **QUINGO -** A quiz with bingo at the end!

When is it? **Friday 26th April at 7pm**

**in the Parish Hall.**

Bring a team or just yourself.

 Raffle at half-time. Bring your own drinks/snacks. Cost: £5.00 per person

To book, or to ask any questions, email louisemshep@gmail.com or

Phone Louise Shepherd on 07983 380150.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**

Baptismal preparation takes place on the third Saturday of the month, in the Parish Hall at 10.00 with Deacon Liam. To book, please email the Parish Office watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk with your details.

**ELVIS NIGHT**

A big thank you to everyone who supported the

St Helen’s Elvis Night & Disco on Saturday 13th April. A good time was had by all and the amount raised was **£474.00.** A big thank you also to the St Helen’s Social Committee who worked very hard to make this event a success.

***Thank you for your continued support. Fr Voy.***

**UPCOMING 2024 PARISH EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date  | Time | Event |
| Friday 26th April | 7pm | Quingo |
| Saturday 29th June | 12-2pm | Summer fayre |
| Sunday 30th June | 2-4pm | SVP midsummer’s tea party, St Michael’s Hall |

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – MAY 2024**

For those joining the Pilgrimage from St Helen’s to Lourdes - 30th May – 3rd June 2024 (5 nights), please pay your balance to Marian Pilgrimages. For your info: Luggage allowance is **10kg** for the hold bag, and a small rucksack/hand bag on board. For bookings, call Noeleen on **020 3808 5156.**  Thank you.

**St Helen's 50/50 Fund**

**You can still sign up. The 50/50 Fund is a great way to support charities whilst giving you the chance to win a monthly prize.** Membership (for over 18’s) costs £26 for the year. Find application forms at the back of the church or in the hall lobby.

***Thank you for your continued support.***

**MARY’S MEALS** 

Do you have any foreign currency (including UK coins/notes not legal tender)? No matter how old or obscure. Envelopes will soon be provided for you to drop it into please. Mary’s Meals feeds over 2.4 million children - in over 18 countries daily. This will help us to feed more.

**Thank you**

Rana from the ‘Good Shepherd’ company said ‘*Thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to visit your Parish, to sell the olive wood carvings and for the lovely hospitality. We managed to raise around £800. An amazing response from parishioners who supported us so well.’ Please Keep us in your prayers’.*

**Parish Groups**

# We have Bingo on Tuesdays from 5.30pm to 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Thursday, the ‘Tea & Coffee’ Club meet in the hall after 10:00 Mass. Tea & coffee follows Sunday Masses at 09.00 & 11.00. It would be good to see some new faces! Everyone is welcome.

**REPOSITORY - First Holy Communion**

First Holy Communion items (cards, badges, bracelets, rosaries etc), are available after Sunday morning Masses from 09.45 – 10.45.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 14th April 2024**

Planned Giving: £102.30 Loose Plate: £231.27

Standing Orders for February: £3,144

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 PROGRAMME 2024**

*A reminder that enrolment has closed and no further forms will be accepted. Session dates are 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 |

**Marriage Care Trustee Role**

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation providing marriage preparation and relationship counselling services across England, Wales and Gibraltar.

We are looking for Trustees to strengthen our board and to help us continue to provide vital relationship support services to the Catholic community and beyond. For more information please visit: [**www.marriagecare.org.uk**](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email: **volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk**

Thought for the week: (by Khalil Gibran)

In the school of the Spirit man learns wisdom through humility, knowledge by silence, how to live by dying.