**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)

[www.rcdow.org.uk/watfordnorth](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/watfordnorth)

[facebook.com/sthelenswatford](http://www.facebook.com/sthelenswatford)

[instagram.com/sthelenswatford](http://www.instagram.com/sthelenswatford)

 [twitter.com/sthelenswatford](http://www.twitter.com/sthelenswatford)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 7th APRIL 2024**

 *Second Sunday of Easter*

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Day/Date** | **Mass** | **Intention** |
| Sat 6th April | 10:00  | Catherine Sugrue R.I.P (Anniv.) |
|  | 11:00 | Baptism: Willow Fitzgerald |
|  | 18:00 | John Cuthbert R.I.P. |
| Sun 7th April | 09:00 | Margaret Kearns (1st Anniv.) |
|  | 11:00 | Chris & John D’Cruz R.I.P. |
| **Divine Mercy (Sunday 7th April)****2:30pm - Exposition of the Blessed** **Sacrament (in silence)****2:45pm - Blessing of the image of** **Divine Mercy****3:00pm - The Chaplet of Divine** **Mercy. Veneration of the** **Divine Mercy image.** **3:45pm - Holy Mass*****Followed by refreshments in the hall.*** |
| Mon 8th | 09:15 | Richard Konnory Anniv. |
| Tues 9th  | *No Mass* |
| Wed 10th | ***Church and Office closed*** |
| Thurs 11th | ***Saint Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr****No Mass* |
| Fri 12th | *No Mass* |
| Sat 13th | ***Saint Martin, Pope and Martyr*** |
|  | 09:15 | D. Rigg R.I.P. |
|  | 18:00 | Tony Dunne R.I.P. |
| Sun 14th | 09:00 | Margaret & Stephen Minogue |
|  | 11:00 | Thanksgiving Mass |

**FUNERAL OF TONY DUNNE**

There will be a funeral Mass for Tony Dunne at

St Helen’s Church tomorrow, **Monday 8th April 2024 at 6:00pm.** Tony was a well-known and much-loved member of the parish. All are welcome to attend.

**FUNERAL OF JOHN CUTHBERT**

The funeral Mass for John Cuthbert will take place at

St Helen’s Church on **Thursday 18th April 2024 at 11:00am.** John was a well-known and much-loved member of the parish. All are welcome to attend.

Reception of the body will take place at St Helen’s Church on Wednesday 17th April at 5:00pm.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FIGURES**

Figures will be available next week.

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – MAY 2024**

For those joining the Pilgrimage from St Helen’s to Lourdes, please pay your balance to Marian Pilgrimages. The pilgrimage dates are 30th May – 3rd June 2024 (5 nights). You can still book by calling Noeleen on **020 3808 5156.**  Thank you.

**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**

St Helen’s Elvis Night & Disco (with Chris as Elvis) takes place on Saturday 13th April at 7:30pm. Tickets on Sale (in parish hall) after Sunday Mass or you can buy them on the night!

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.

There will be a raffle at half-time. Bring your own drinks and snacks.

The cost is £5.00 per person

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

Phone Louise Shepherd on 07983 380150.

Proceeds will go to the altar servers outing and to an Alzheimer’s charity in memory of John Cuthbert.

**SUMMER FAYRE**

The St Helen’s Summer Fayre will take place on Saturday 29th June from 12:00 – 2:00pm.

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

We haven't managed to reach the magic ‘100’ members yet. The good news is that 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. The first draw for the new 'year' takes place after 9am Mass today. Thank you!!!

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMPANY**

On Sunday 14th April, The Good Shepherd Company from Bethlehem (based in Nottingham), will be visiting St Helen’s to sell beautiful ‘olive wood carvings’ after Masses. Here’s a bit about them. “We help and support Christian families in the Holyland. Working as olive wood carvers is one of their most important sources of income, with 90% of Christians relying on it. By us selling their products, it prevents many of them from leaving the country in search of work opportunities.

Thank you very much for all your help and support.”

**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 at 7PM - CONFIRMATION CEREMONY WITH BISHOP PAUL |

**DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES**

Please see the link for a list of current vacancies.

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

Thought for the week: (by Oscar Wilde)

Ordinary riches can be stolen, real riches cannot. In your soul are infinitely precious things that cannot be taken from you.