**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 5th May 2024**

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sat 4th ***THE ENGLISH MARTYRS***

 08:30Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:15 Leonard Cohen R.I.P.

 18:00 Michael Donnelly (4th Anniv.)

Sun 5th 09:00 Devika (wellbeing)

 11:00 Angela Whelehan (B/Day Anniv.)

Mon 6th 09:15 Francis Murphy (Anniv. 1 month).

Tues 7th 09:15 Tony Dunne R.I.P.

 Followed by Exposition & Adoration

Wed 8th ***Church and Office closed***

Thurs 9th ***THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD***

 10:00 NO MASS

Fri 10th ***Saint John of Avila, Priest and Doctor***

 09:15 Vera Popperova R.I.P.

Sat 11th 08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration

 09:15 Margaret & Stephen Minogue

 18:00 The Sick of the Parish

Sun 12th ***Seventh Sunday of Easter***

 09:00Helen Benita Brown R.I.P.

 11:00 Christiana Malize R.I.P.

**MARY’S MEALS** 

During this weekend’s Masses, Mary’s Meals are making an appeal for foreign currency (*including UK coins/notes which are not legal tender, no matter how old or obscure*). Please use the envelopes provided. Mary’s Meals feeds over 2.4 million children - in over 18 countries daily. This will help them to feed more. ***Thank you for your support.***

**World Communications Day –**

**Sunday 12 May 2024**

The theme for this year, chosen by Pope Francis, is 'Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication'. For full message, prayers, resources and more see: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/world-communications-day>

**THURSDAY 9TH May – ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

The Ascension of Jesus is on Thursday 9th May. There will be a ‘Catholic Communications Network’ second collection next Sunday, 12TH May.

**PLANNED GIVING**

This is the final weekend of the ‘Planned Giving Drive’ which is about renewing our commitment to

St Helen’s Church. ***Thank you for all your support.***

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR**

**Sunday 28th April 2024**

Planned Giving: £72.00 Loose Plate: £302.19

Standing Orders for March: £3,019

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. To book, please email the Parish Office watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk with your details.

**Thank you from CAFOD**

Thank you for giving to CAFOD’s Fast Day Appeal. Your generous donations, given in love, will support families around the world and help them with the resources to feed their families and keep them safe. You raised £418.01 for which they are very grateful. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk. Thank you.

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – MAY 2024**

For those joining the pilgrimage to Lourdes, if you have booked your place and you have not been contacted regarding a lift to Stansted Airport (and you need one), please contact our office on 01923 223175 or email watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you.

**QUINGO**

A big thank you to everyone who supported the

St Helen’s Quingo evening on Friday 26th April. A good time was had by all and the amount raised was £410.00. A donation of £100 was given to the Alzheimer's Society with the remainder going to

St Helen’s Church. A big thank you also to Louise and Eric Shepherd who worked very hard to make this event such a success.

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

**ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY – SATURDAY 25/05/24**

If you are due to attend this event at Westminster Cathedral and you have not received confirmation/ paperwork, please contact the parish office.

Tel. 01923 223175 or watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk.

**Deaf Awareness Week**

The 6th - 12th May 2024 is Deaf Awareness Week.

See <https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/deafservice/>

if you would like to learn more.

**GET OUTSIDE 😊**

May is National Walking Month. It’s a time to benefit from walking for physical health and mental well-being in the fresh outdoors.

**REPOSITORY - First Holy Communion**

First Holy Communion items are for sale after Sunday morning Masses from 09.45 – 10.45. Cards, badges, bracelets, rosaries etc.

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

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. It’s not too late to sign up!

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

**Parish Groups**

# A reminder that Bingo is on Tuesdays from 5.30pm to 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Thursday, the ‘Tea & Coffee’ Club meet in the parish hall after 10:00 Mass.

# There is tea & coffee in the hall on Sundays following 09.00 & 11.00 Masses. Everyone is welcome.

**Saturday 1st June 2024, 11am to 4:30pm**. The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Please call Millie on 07957 594646 for more information.

**Pilgrimage to Walsingham – 1ST JUNE 2024**

The Divine Mercy Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 1st June 2024. For travel information, please see the poster/flyer and contact 020 8998 0925/ info@divinemercy.[org.uk](http://org.uk/) with any questions.

**UPCOMING 2024 PARISH EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date  | Time | Event |
| Saturday 29th June | 12-2pm | Summer fayre |
| Sunday 30th June | 2-4pm | SVP midsummer’s tea party, St Michael’s Hall |
| Saturday 30th November | 12-2pm | Christmas fayre |
| Saturday 14th December | 12:00 onwards | Senior citizens Christmas lunch |

Thought for the week: (by Khalil Gibran)

You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joy and in your days of abundance.