



## ST HELEN'S CHURCH

The Harebreaks

Watford WD24 6NJ

01923 223175

watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk

Priest of the Diocese

**Father Voy**

& Deacon Liam 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](https://facebook.com/sthelenswatford)

[instagram.com/sthelenswatford](https://instagram.com/sthelenswatford)

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*What matters is to do what is right whether or not it is satisfying at the moment, and to do this not out of moral obligation only but in a spirit of faith in Christ. This keeps alive in us the conviction that we are children of God for whom He has a deep and constant care, and we live in the belief that He loves us and will let nothing happen to us that is not for our good. As we go on we realise more and more how deeply this care of His for us extends into the minutest details of our lives so that He is in fact always with us and indeed in us, for we could not exist if He were not there. In this way we can develop a simple and wordless way of living in companionship with Him and this will help us to get a better realization of what our faith is all about.*

*by*

*Thomas Merton*

## SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C

#### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor</b>
	08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration
	09:15 Parishioners
	18:00 Mrs Dockery (wellbeing)
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	09:00 Micky O'Connor (8 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)
	11:00 Brendan O'Shea (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv.) and Jim O'Shea
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	09:15 Vera Popperova R.I.P.
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup>	09:15 Eucharistic Service.
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Church and Office closed</b>
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 O'Sullivan Family Deceased
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	09:15 Eucharistic Service
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Saint Peter Canisius, Priest &amp; Doctor</b>
	08:30 Confession/Exposition/Adoration
	09:15 Peter Arokiasamy R.I.P.
	18:00 Sabina Abrachamik (Anniv.)
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	09:00 Roche Family Deceased
	11:00 Parishioners

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#### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES / SERVICES 2024

**Christmas Eve: Children's Mass at 18:30**

<b>Christmas Eve:</b>	<b>Carol Service at 23:30</b>
<b>Christmas Eve:</b>	<b>Midnight Mass at 12:00</b>
<b>Christmas Day:</b>	<b>Mass at 09:00 &amp; 11:00</b>
<b>St Stephen's Day:</b>	<b>Mass at 10:00</b>
<b>Friday 27/12/2024:</b>	<b>Mass at 10:00</b>
<b>Saturday 28/12/2024:</b>	<b>Mass at 10:00 &amp; 18:00</b>
<b>Sunday 29/12/2024:</b>	<b>Mass at 09:00 &amp; 11:00</b>
<b>Monday 30/12/2024:</b>	<b>Mass at 10:00</b>
<b>Tuesday 31/12/2024:</b>	<b>Mass at 10:00 and Thanksgiving Mass 20:00</b>
<b>Wednesday 01/01/2025:</b>	<b>Mass at 10:00</b>

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#### CHRISTMAS POSTERS

Christmas Posters are available at the back of the Church. Please take one to display in a window, and help to spread the true meaning of Christmas.

#### CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

The Offertory collection on Christmas Day is traditional, for the benefit of priests working in parishes. Envelopes for contributions can be found in the church porch. **Thank you for your support.**

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### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

The next session will be on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025, in the parish hall at 10.00 with Deacon Liam. If you would like to attend a session, please email the Parish Office [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) with your details.

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### OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Planned Giving: £70.00 Loose Plate: £345.74  
Standing Orders/contactless/online  
for November: £3,119.00

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.



Contactless Payments - Using any major payment cards, please select your amount and tap or insert your card to donate (not forgetting to Gift Aid!) It's a fast and easy way to donate. 😊

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### VINNIE PACKS FOR THE HOMELESS

The SVP are distributing over 10,000 homeless packs (Vinnie Packs) during extreme cold weather. Each pack contains thermal gloves/thermal hat/socks (2 pairs)/face cloth/toothbrush/toothpaste, information sheets and pen. Please consider sponsoring packs (suggested donation £4.10 pp). Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made payable to: SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. **Thank you so much for your support.**

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### CHURCH CLEANING

We really need people who can help with cleaning the church. If you are happy to join a church cleaning rota, please email: [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) with your contact details or tel. 01923 223175. It's your church; please help to take care of it. Thank you.

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**CURIOUS ABOUT FAITH?** We are running Alpha! Join a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. You'll be hosted in a small group and watch an episode on a different question of faith – you can share your thoughts and hear what others think. You can say anything, or nothing at all. The 12-week course starts on Wednesday 15th January from 7:30pm – 9:00pm, in the hall, with tea/coffee and cake provided. Everyone is welcome, no matter your background or beliefs. It's free and there's no pressure to come back.

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### STATIONS OF THE INFANT JESUS

(by St Alphonsus Liguori)

Doctor of the Church, St Alphonsus Liguori, inspired many with his writings and wisdom. This new edition of his classic Stations of the Infant Jesus will serve as the perfect accompaniment for those looking to draw closer to Jesus this Advent.

<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/stations-of-the-infant-jesus>. Was £3.95. Now £1.95.

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### DISCERNMENT WEEKEND IN ROME

To celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025, the Religious of the Assumption are inviting single women (18-30s) open to discerning a call to consecrated life, to take part in a discernment weekend in Rome, Friday 31st January to Sunday 2nd February 2025. Board and lodging are provided, with participants only paying for their travel. Places are limited, and are open to participants speaking English, Italian, French or Lithuanian. For more information or to register, contact us at [vocations@assumpta-eu.org](mailto:vocations@assumpta-eu.org). Deadline: 20th January 2025.

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### HEALTH & SAFETY OVER CHRISTMAS

At this time of year, please be mindful of your personal safety at all times when using the Church. For example, slippery paths and steps which may have fallen leaves and other debris covering them. In the event of an accident, it must be recorded on an Accident Form. (forms are available in the Sacristy and Hall kitchen). Thank you.

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[Thought for the week: \(by Winston Churchill\)](#)

Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection.

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