



## 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:** Shirлие Halladey

(office hours: Tues & Thurs (10am-3pm),

Fri (10am – 4pm)

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

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*If our Christianity is merely a set  
of exterior practices camouflaging  
a life of compromise with the  
weakness and hypocrisy of the  
world, we fail in our mission to  
manifest the hidden Nature of  
God to men in our own lives. We  
fail to let people know, by the  
spirituality and purity and  
strength of our own lives, that  
God is love, and that he loves  
them all as he loves his own son,  
and that he wants them all to  
recover their true identity as his  
sons and daughters.*

by

*Thomas Merton*

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## SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY 2025

YEAR C

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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Sat 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday</b> 09:15 Pat Breen R.I.P. 18:00 Repose of the Souls of Nicola & Pina Critelli
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> 09:00 Patricia O'Sullivan (Anniv.) 11:00 Sean Stynes (15 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Saint Fabian, Pope &amp; Martyr</b> 09:15 Eucharistic Service
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr</b> 09:15 Eucharistic Service
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Church and Office closed</b>
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 Eucharistic Service
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop</b> 09:15 Eucharistic Service
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE</b> 09:15 Zara Reekhaye & family 18:00 Our Parishioners
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (OF THE WORD OF GOD)</b> 09:00 Anne McGuire (Private Int.) 11:00 Alice Ginty (9 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)

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### PEACE SUNDAY

Today is Peace Sunday. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year is 'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace'. Pax Christi have produced a series of resources to mark the day.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/peace-sunday>

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### MASS FOR THE SICK

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 there will be a **Mass for the Sick at the Cathedral at 2pm**, celebrated by the H.E. Cardinal Vincent Nichols, during which Anointing of the Sick will be offered. If you would like any tickets, please email the parish secretary: [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) or tel 01923 223175, stating which tickets you require i.e:

1. Wheelchair user who requires anointing.
2. Walking sick who requires anointing.
3. Assisting the sick (do not require anointing).

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### ALPHA COURSE – WEDNESDAY at 7:30pm

A reminder that the Alpha course is taking place on Wednesdays. At each session, you'll be hosted in a small group and watch an episode on a different question of faith – then you have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think. Join us in the parish hall for a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone welcome.

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### MARRIAGE CARE

Willing to help couples forge a lifelong loving relationship? Marriage Care is a charity that runs marriage preparation courses for couples marrying in a Catholic church, and is looking for new course facilitators. Training is provided, and volunteers will join the local Centre. For more information, please call Karen on 0800 389 3801 (09:00–17:00, Mon – Thurs) or visit our website at:

<https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/mpcf/> .

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### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Baptismal preparation usually takes place on the first Saturday of the month, 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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### Westminster Hall Debate on the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme - Wed 22/01/25 at 9.30am

There will be a debate on the future of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme in Westminster Hall and a Minister from DCMS will respond. **Please write to your MP, asking them to attend the debate.** Over 2000 emails have been sent to MPs – we need to get as many of them as possible to the debate. Please send in another email (if you've sent one already). Loss of the LPWGS would be disastrous. The link to the e-campaign can be found here:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/listed-places-of-worship-grant-scheme>

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'Churches Together In Watford' have arranged the following services for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity to which you are warmly invited:

**Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 12.45p.m. Holy Rood Catholic Church, Market Street, Watford** (please bring your own packed lunch).

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 12.00 noon. The Scroll Church, The Harebreaks, Watford.** Hot soup & bread roll will be provided.

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### OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Planned Giving: £80.00: Loose Plate: £294.09

Standing Orders/contactless/online  
for December: £3,554.00

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.**

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### HEALTH & SAFETY DURING WINTER

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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### PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

This trip takes place from 11th to 18th June 2025. 7 days Full Board. Daily Mass and Rosary, spiritual talks, tour of Fatima Shrine and lots more. Cost is £895.00 pp, twin room. £995.00 single room. £300 deposit to be sent with application. Balance to be paid by 9th April 2025. BA flight from London Heathrow. Booking form available from [www adaywithmary.org](http://www adaywithmary.org) or call 020 86416418.

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**A Year of Hope: Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday,** An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.

Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting. With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse.

Online. Register here for free: [cafod.org.uk/jubilee](http://cafod.org.uk/jubilee)

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**Retreat - Friday 7th March to Sunday 9th March 2025.** Fr Marinko Šakota OFM, the former parish priest of St James, Medjugorje, will lead the Medjugorje Apostolate Annual Retreat at the Kairos Centre, Roehampton, London. Please see poster for details.

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### Thought for the week: (by Thomas Merton)

By reading the scriptures I am so renewed that all nature seems renewed around me and with me. The sky seems to be a pure, a cooler blue, the trees a deeper green. The whole world is charged with the glory of God and I feel fire and music under my feet.

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