



## 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)

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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 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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Sat 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday</b> 09:15 John McGing Anniv. 11:00 Baptism: Cassius Abraham Kolade McGowan-Adigun 18:00 Selina Reekhaye
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</b> 09:00 Tim Hartnett R.I.P. 11:00 Samantha Landy 12:00 Baptism: Cody Pitt
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Saints Laurence, Dunstan and Theodore, Archbishops of Canterbury (Diocesan)</b> <b>The Blessing of St Blaise on throats</b> 09:15 Tim Hartnett R.I.P.
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup>	09:15 Bernadette Imelda Pearce (6 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Church and Office closed</b>
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</b> 10:00 The Whitney Family R.I.P.
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	09:15 Jim & Ann Earley (Anniv.)
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Saint Jerome Emiliani</b> 09:15 Rose Molloy 18:00 Our Parishioners
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> 09:00 Mary O'Connor (Anniv.) R.I.P. 11:00 Mary Grealis R.I.P.

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### HOLY ROOD SCHOOL AT ST HELEN'S CHURCH

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025, pupils from Holy Rood School will be attending St Helen's Church for family Mass, offertory procession, first reading and bidding prayers.

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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 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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### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Baptismal preparation usually takes place on the first 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](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) with your details.

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### ALPHA COURSE – WEDNESDAY’S 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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### ST HELEN’S 50–50 FUND JANUARY 2025 DRAW WINNERS

1st Prize: £40: Joseph McDonald, No. 52

2nd Prize: £30: Amporn Feeney, No. 1

3rd Prize: £20: Rose Walsh, No. 20

**Congratulations to all of our winners!**

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### 50/50 FUND RENEWAL

The current year’s fund will be ending soon and it will be time to renew your membership for the next year. Watch this space!

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### AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN) APPEAL

Next weekend we have an appeal from ACN which supports over 5,000 projects helping the Church’s mission internationally. ACN has stepped up its support for Christians in Lebanon, Syria and Holy Land in response to the deepening crisis offering food, medicine, help with education, pastoral programmes etc. This year, ACN is focusing on the suffering of young Christians in priority countries, many of whom are orphaned and displaced due to targeted attacks against their Christian communities. There will be a retiring collection after all Masses. To get involved with the charity, please contact John Ravi on 07932973650, [John.Ravi@acnuk.org](mailto:John.Ravi@acnuk.org) or [www.acnuk.org](http://www.acnuk.org).

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### SCHOOL GOVERNORS ROLES

The All Saints Catholic Academy Trust (ASCAT) is recruiting School Governors for a number of local school Boards around Watford. Governors ensure high standards of achievement for school children by setting the school’s vision, ethos and strategic direction. If you are interested in supporting our schools and Trust in an exciting role, please contact Christina Reffold, Director of Governance & Compliance at [governance@ascat.co.uk](mailto:governance@ascat.co.uk) or complete the form at <https://forms.gle/9XHc98pgQCjgNfG7A>

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### CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

Course details to follow. Confirmation will take place on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025 with Bishop Paul.

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### OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Planned Giving: £68.50: Loose Plate: £315.86

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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### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME (FHC)

For those enrolled in the FHC programme, session 3 takes place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025 from 10:30 – 11:30 in the Parish Hall.

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### DIARY OF EVENTS

#### THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH: EDITH STEIN, 14 – 16 MARCH 2025

Fr Matthew Blake, OCD will offer a weekend exploring the life and teachings of Edith Stein, or St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, and her indomitable search for truth that led her to the Catholic faith.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-search-for-truth-edith-stein/>

#### ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY, WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL ON SATURDAY 17TH MAY 2025 AT 2:30PM

The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025 their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage. Please give your parish these details: husband and wife’s names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email). Email [watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk) or call 01923 223175.

#### 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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[Thought for the week: \(by Thomas Merton\)](#)

Without hope, our faith gives us only an acquaintance with God. Without love and hope, faith only knows Him as a stranger.

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