



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: Shirlye Halladey

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

Fri (10am – 4pm)

www.rcdow.org.uk/watfordnorth

facebook.com/sthelenswatford

instagram.com/sthelenswatford

twitter.com/sthelenswatford

SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat 8 th	Saint Jerome Emiliani 09:15 Rose Molloy 18:00 Our Parishioners
Sun 9 th	SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 09:00 Mary O'Connor (Anniv.) R.I.P. 11:00 Mary Grealis R.I.P.
Mon 10 th	Saint Scholastica, Virgin 09:15 Elsie Conlon R.I.P.
Tues 11 th	Our Lady of Lourdes World Day of the Sick 09:15 Andreas Chungong R.I.P. Coleen Vieyra R.I.P.
Wed 12 th	Church and Office closed
Thurs 13 th	10:00 Kevin Walsh (Anniv.)
Fri 14 th	SAINTS CYRIL< MONK, AND METHODIUS, Bishop, Patrons of Europe 09:15 Honoria McKeown R.I.P.
Sat 15 th	Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday 09:15 Rodney Marron 18:00 Anton Fernando Pius Lopez
Sun 16 th	SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 09:00 Helen O'Shea (Anniv.) 11:00 Mathai Punnamkuzhy (Anniv.)

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN) APPEAL

This weekend we have an appeal from ACN which supports over 5,000 projects helping the Church's mission internationally. 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 or www.acnuk.org.
Thank you for your support.

MARRIAGE WEEK

7 February - 14 February 2025

As we mark National Marriage Week 2025 we think about the huge importance of marriage in our lives and society. In a world that can be confusing and divided, hope shines brightly especially in this Jubilee Year. And the hope of marriage is that it becomes a source of stability and happiness, showing us the endless love that God has for all of us.

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 with your details.

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

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

Sunday 2nd February 2025

Planned Giving: £75.60: Loose Plate: £298.34

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.

50/50 FUND RENEWAL

The current year's fund will be ending soon. More information will be in next week's newsletter.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY – 16TH FEBRUARY 2025

It will be the thirtieth anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday. The theme this year: *"Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice"*. Reflections on racial justice from different contributors, prayers, resources (including resources for primary and secondary schools) can be found here:

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

ABORTION AND EUTHANASIA

On Monday 10th February, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Pray especially that Assisted Suicide won't be introduced. For more information, call 'The Good Counsel Network' on 020 7723 1740. Please invite others to join on 10.02.25 via Facebook,

<https://www.facebook.com/events/618329970650531/>



ST PATRICK'S NIGHT EVENT

22ND MARCH 2025

Our St Patrick's Night event will take place on Saturday 22nd March this year. Please make a note in your diary to join us in the parish hall!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME (FHC)

For those enrolled in the FHC programme, session 4 takes place on Saturday 1st March 2025 from 10:30 – 11:30 in the Parish Hall.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME UPDATE

Programme details to follow. Confirmation will take place on Friday 20th June 2025 with Bishop Paul.

DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

Please see the link for a list of current vacancies.

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

SCHOOL GOVERNORS ROLES

The All Saints Catholic Academy Trust (ASCAT) is recruiting School Governors for a number of local school Boards around Watford. Interested? Please contact Christina Reffold, Director of Governance & Compliance at governance@ascat.co.uk or complete the form at <https://forms.gle/9XHc98pgQCjgNfG7A>

Searching for? If anyone knows either Paul Dempsey or Sandra Stone – both associated with St Helen's Church; please do ask them to contact me. Thank you. Shirlye watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk or tel. 01923 223175.

DIARY OF EVENTS

A DAY WITH MARY

A Day With Mary is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 01.03.25 (9.45am to 5.00pm).

<https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/> or call 020 86416418.

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+ wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage. Please give your parish: husband & wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email). Email watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk or call 01923 223175.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA - 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. www.adaywithmary.org or call 020 86416418.

Thought for the week: (by Thomas Merton)

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following Your Will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please You does in fact please You. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.