



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

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SUNDAY 9TH MARCH 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR C

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat 8 th	Saint John of God 09:15 Kath Cuthbert (wellbeing) 18:00 Our parishioners
Sun 9 th	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 09:00 John Cuthbert (1 st Anniv.) 11:00 Bill Cummins (2 nd Anniv.)
Mon 10 th	09:15 Mary Holt R.I.P.
Tues 11 th	09:15 Tony Dunne (1 st Anniv.)
Wed 12 th	Church and Office closed
Thurs 13 th	10:00 Kevin Walsh (R.I.P. Anniv.)
Fri 14 th	Lent Fast Day 09:15 Joseph Silva (9 years Anniv.)
Sat 15 th	09:15 Patricia O'Sullivan (B/Day Anniv.) 18:00 Our parishioners
Sun 16 th	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 09:00 John Cuthbert (1 st Anniv.) 11:00 Bill Cummins (2 nd Anniv.)

NEW PARISH MASS BOOK APPEAL – WK 3

We will be purchasing copies of the revised edition of the Parish Mass Book, which has been completely updated/re-set according to the new Lectionary. We will purchase the books as they become available; running our Appeal in phases. We are currently in phase 1 for 6 weeks. We aim to raise £3,000 in total. **Thank you in advance for your support.**

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT EVENT

22ND MARCH 2025 (7PM TO 11PM)



Tickets available now! A night of fun, music, dancing. There will be a raffle and Irish coffee. A light meal is included; please bring your own drinks. Tickets are on sale after Sunday Masses (£10 Adult, £5 child), contact Jackie via email: jackie@2020site.co.uk or pop into the church office.

VISIT BY BISHOP PAUL

We will be pleased to welcome Bishop Paul as he celebrates all 3 weekend Masses next weekend (15th & 16th March 2025) at St Helen's Church.

BRING & SHARE

We will have a **Bring & Share** next Sunday 16th March in the parish hall – after 11:00 Mass. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you in advance for your support.

But the language of Christianity has been so used and so misused that sometimes you distrust it: you do not know whether or not behind the word 'Cross' there stands the experience of mercy and salvation, or only the threat of punishment. If my word means anything to you, I can say to you that I have experienced the Cross to mean mercy and not cruelty, truth and not deception: that the news of the truth and love of Jesus is indeed the true good news, but in our time it speaks out in strange places.

by

Thomas Merton

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

The next baptismal preparation session will take place on Saturday 3rd May 2025, in the Parish Hall at 10.00 with Deacon Liam. To book, please email the Parish Office: watfordnorth@rcdow.org.uk with your details.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

Sunday 2nd March 2025

Planned Giving: £100.30 Loose Plate: £351.96

Standing Orders/contactless/online
for January: £3,271.00

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 - MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's now time to enrol for the new fund. Application Forms are available from the back of the church or Parish Hall Lobby. Completed forms can be put through the Presbytery letterbox or posted (*no cash by post please.*)

Thank you for your continued support.

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2025

This Holy Year invites us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We invite you to consider supporting work being done in the Diocese of Westminster to bring hope to many lives. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, is very grateful for your contributions which will help fund vital projects across our Diocese. Donation envelopes are available in the church or please donate online.

[Thank you for your kindness and support.](#)

COME AND SEE WEEKENDS

With the Cistercian Nuns, Holy Cross Abbey

In this Jubilee Year 2025, we will be hosting two Come and See Weekends, to continue this 'Pilgrims of Hope':

1) Friday 30th May to Monday 2nd June

2) Friday 8th August to Monday 11th August

For enquiries and registration, please email us at

comeandsee@rcdow.org.uk

Please see poster in church for more details.

ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL

Open Morning Friday 21st March 9.30-11.30

King Harry Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 4AW. An opportunity to observe lessons, meet our dedicated team, and experience the special atmosphere and distinctive quality of our Columban community. See <https://stcolumbascollege.org/> to register.

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap on Catholic families in England and Wales. Please share your experience by completing the survey (by 25.03.25) - csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey,

LAY MISSION INSTITUTE - UK Pilot Programme

Learn about your faith. Know yourself. Grow in Discipleship. Comprises: 1-hour weekly online study. Small fellowship group. Two annual events. See poster for more details. The information session is on Sunday 16th March at 1:15pm in Blackfriars Hall at St Dominic's Priory, London NW5 4LB. Lunch provided - £5 donation. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/UKLMS>. If you cannot make the Info. Session but you are interested in joining the pilot group, please email: lay.mission@english.op.org

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED APPEAL

A heartfelt thank you from John Ravi and Aid to the Church in Need. At the recent Appeal at St Helen's Church, the sum of £804.04 was raised. The charity is delighted and thanks you for your generosity.

GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT

The All Saints Catholic Academy Trust (ASCAT) is recruiting Governors for local schools Governing Boards. If you are interested, please contact Christina Reffold: governance@ascat.co.uk

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME (FHC)

Session 5 takes place on Saturday 15th March 2025 from 10:30 – 11:30 in the Parish Hall. Sorry, last week's notification was in error.

DIARY OF EVENTS

HEALING MASS

FRIDAY 28TH March at 7pm. Holy Rood Church, Market Street, Watford. All welcome.

A DAY WITH MARY

A Day With Mary is taking place at 'Our Lady & St Michael, Crown Rise, Garston, Watford, on **Saturday 12th April 2025**. All welcome.

Thought for the week: (by Thomas Merton)

In a world of noise, confusion and conflict it is necessary that there be places of silence, inner discipline and peace. In such places love can blossom.