



ST HELEN'S CHURCH

The Harebreaks
Watford WD24 6NJ
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Priest of the Diocese

Father Voy

& Deacon Liam Lynch

Secretary: Edla Sa Cordeiro

(office hours: Tues & Fri (10am-3pm),
Thurs (9am – 3pm))

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SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2025

Third Sunday of Advent MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat 13th	Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
09:15	Chrise Gulesphie R.I.P
18:00	Our Parishioners
Sun 14th	Third Sunday of Advent, Year A
09:00	Mrs Luisa Morutzi R.I.P
11:00	Jim O'Shea R.I.P
12:00	Baptism : Alessio Geremia
Mon 15th	09:15 Lynsey De Paul R.I.P
Tues 16th	09:15 Eucharistic service
Wed 17th	Church closed
Thurs 18 th	10:00 Our Parishioners
	19:30 Penitential Service
Fri 19 th	09:15 Bob Kunick anniversary
Sat 20 th	09:15 Our Parishioners
	11:00 Baptism: Aiden Taka
	18:00 Our Parishioners
Sun 21st	Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A
09:00	Michael, Julia and James O'Sullivan R.I.P
11:00	Our Parishioners

ADVENT WREATH

The circular shape of the wreath represents the eternal nature of God – the circle of the wreath which has no beginning or end symbolises the eternity of God, his never-ending love. Evergreen branches represent the eternal life we find in Christ. Individual evergreen that makeup the wreath have their own meaning. Holly, pine signify immortality. Laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering. Cedar signifies strength and healing. Pinecones signify life and resurrection.

Within the Advent wreath are four candles that generally represent the four weeks of the Advent season as well as "the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus Christ".

Three candles are purple – represent time of prayer, penance and spiritual reflection. The pink candle represents joy, joyful anticipation.

3rd – Shepherd's Candle – represents joy felt at the birth of Jesus.

4th Angel's Candle – symbolises love and the message of God's love.

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.**

The mystery of Christmas therefore lays upon us all, a debt and an obligation to the rest of the human race and to the whole created universe. We who have seen the light of Christ are obligated by the greatness of the grace that has been given to us to make known the presence of the Saviour to the ends of the earth. This we will do not only by preaching the glad tidings of his coming, but above all by revealing him in our lives. Christ is born to us in order that he may appear to the whole world through us.

Christmas is given to us to make us love the kind of humility that is love and embraces contradictions and difficulties and all the rest with joy.

by

Thomas Merton

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

Sunday 7th November 2025

Planned Giving: £80.85 Loose Plate: £365.06

Standing Orders/contactless/online
for November: £3,192.00

If you would like to set up a monthly
Standing Order, our bank details are:

HSBC Bank: WRC DT Watford North

Sort Code: **40-05-20** Account No: **81263439**

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	SERVICE	MASS TIMINGS
Thurs 18th	Penitential Service	7.30 pm
Wed 24th	Children's Christmas Mass	6.30 pm
	Christmas Carol Service	11.30 pm
	The Nativity of the Lord, Midnight Service	12 am
Thurs 25th	The Nativity of the Lord, Christmas Day service	9 am, 11 am
Fri 26th	Saint Stephen, The First Martyr	10 am
Sat 27th	Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist	10 am, 6 pm
Sun 28th	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	9 am, 11 am
Mon 29th	Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr	10 am
Tues 30th	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord	10 am
Wed 31 st Dec	Saint Sylvester I, Pope	10 am
	Thanksgiving mass for 2025	8 pm
Thurs 1 st Jan	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God	10 am
Fri 2nd	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	9.15 am
Sat 3rd	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	9.15 am, 6 pm
Sun 4th	Second Sunday after the Nativity	9 am, 11 am

ALTAR SERVER'S ICE SKATING EVENT

The Ice-skating event was an enjoyable afternoon.

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 CARDS, CANDLES FOR SALE

As we prepare for the joyous season of Christmas, our **Parish Repository** is stocked with a lovely selection of Christmas cards, candles, and other devotional items. These make wonderful gifts and help support our parish community. We invite you to stop by after Mass and browse the beautiful items available.

THANK YOU



My gratitude to all who organised our **Christmas Bring and Share**. A special thank you to St. Helen's community for your participation with the food, drinks, music and games and for joining in our Christmas celebration.



Thank you for organising and participating in our Annual Christmas dinner.



A special thank you to the very few people who turned up to help in the Church cleaning to get it ready in time for Christmas.

Thank you for your efforts. Fr Voy

Thought for the week: *Be Kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle.*

I cannot teach anybody anything, I can only make them think.

Sometimes you put walls up not to keep out, but to see who cares enough to break them down.

Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.

- Socrates (C.470BC)