



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: Edla Sa Cordeiro

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

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SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2026

First Sunday of Lent

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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- Sat 21st **Saint Peter Damian**
8.30 Confession/Benediction/Adoration
09.15 Malgorzata Marta Petrylak R.I.P
18:00 Mr & Mrs Gabriel Moral Thanksgiving
- Sun 22nd **First Sunday of Lent**
09:00 Evelyn Kellinghan R.I.P
11:00 Mathew Punnamkuzhy anniversary
- Mon 23rd **Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr**
09:15 John Roche Anniversary
- Tues 24th 09:15 Daisy Lowositzova R.I.P
Followed by Benediction + Adoration
- Wed 25th *Church and Office Closed.*
- Thurs 26th 10:00 John Ginty R.I.P anniversary
Followed by Tea and coffee in the Church hall
- Fri 27th **Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor of the Church**
9.15 Our Parishioners
Followed by Stations of the Cross
11:00 Funeral service for Michael Martin Flaherty
- Sat 28th 8.30 Confession/Benediction/Adoration
09.15 Charles Brown R.I.P
12:00 Baptism : Cillian Bourke
18:00 Our Parishioners
- Sun 29th **Second Sunday of Lent**
09:00 Our Parishioners
11:00 Kath Cuthbert R.I.P

LENTEN REFLECTIONS – TALKS BY SR.

DOMINICA

From Ashes to Fire

A series of Lenten Scripture reflections 2026

Thurs 26 Feb

"Sin entered the world through one man" (Rom 5:12)

Thurs 5 Mar

"Tormented by thirst" (Exod 17:3)

Thurs 12 Mar

"The Lord looks at the heart" (1 Sam 16:7)

Thurs 19 Mar

"I am now going to open your graves" (Ezek 37:12)

St Helens Parish Hall • 7–8pm

All are welcome

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent we will observe the stations of the cross every Friday after the 9.15 mass.

God seeks Himself in us, and the aridity and sorrow of our heart is the sorrow of God who is not known in us, who cannot find Himself in us because we do not dare to believe or trust the incredible truth that He could live in us, and live there out of choice, out of preference. But indeed, we exist solely for this, to be the place He has chosen for His presence, His manifestation in the world, His epiphany.

- Thomas Merton

UPCOMING FUNERALS AT ST. HELEN'S CHURCH

The funeral for **Michael Martin Flaherty** will take place on **Friday 27th February 2026 at 11am**. Followed by a committal at North Watford Cemetery at 12.30am.

The funeral for **Joan Vincent** will be held on the **2nd March 2026 at 11am**.

CARDINALS LENTEN APPEAL 2026

The Cardinals Lenten appeal supports four key areas:

Youth and Evangelisation – helping young people to grow, find their faith and engage actively in parish life.

Social Action – making sure that no one must face life's hardest moments alone, and that support is available in times of crisis.

Education – supporting our schools as they bring the Gospel to life, shaping future generations and developing academic potential; rooted in strong values.

Marriage & Family Life – strengthening relationships and helping the family be a place where faith is nurtured and grows.

Collections towards this cause will be taken on 1st and 8th March

ST HELENS CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2026.

Confirmation will take place on Friday 26th June 2026 with Bishop Paul. Forms are available at the back of the church. Please complete and return by the 8th March 26. Course details to follow.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR

Sunday 15th February 2026 Planned Giving:

£61.60 Loose Plate: £367.92

Standing Orders/contactless/online
for January: £3,446.00


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.

ST HELEN'S CHURCH- Join Our Church Choir (Ages 16+)

 We're inviting young people aged 16 and over to join our church choir. We are a friendly group all in all, offering light and relaxed singing training.

We sing for the Lord, with faith and love, and would be happy to welcome anyone who would like to be part of our choir. Please contact the church office to register your interest 

HOLY ROOD SCHOOL AT ST HELEN'S CHURCH

On Thursday 29th January 2026, pupils from Holy Rood School will be attending for family Mass, offertory procession, first reading and bidding prayers.

CAFOD LENT APPEAL.

This Lent CAFOD is appealing for food help particularly in Sudan which is one of the worse food crises in recent times. As well as the Friday Fast Day there is a CAFOD online Lent Appeal site that you donate to. <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis-appeal>

DIARY OF EVENTS

QUIZ NIGHT

St. Helens Church Quiz Night, **February 28th at 7 pm**. £5 per person. Individuals, pairs, or teams of up to 8. Bring your own food and drink, Raffle (Please donate one prize per table). Tickets available after 9am Mass in hall or to book please contact Louise Shepherd on 07983 380150 or louisemshep@gmail.com

ST. HELEN'S BRING & SHARE

Sunday, **8th March 2026**, after the 11am mass in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

Thought for the week: Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better. - *Maya Angelou*

Insanity in Individuals is something rare – but in groups, parties, nations and epochs, it is the rule – *Friedrich Nietzsche*

The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are so certain of themselves, but the wise so full of doubts – *Bertrand Russell*

The desire to possess is the curse of human life – *DT Suzuki*