

**Christmas Mass of Midnight This Year Begins  
At 11pm  
Carols at 10.30pm**

**Christmas Offering:** The offerings at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses are your personal gift to your priests. The Christmas and Easter offerings together with Mass stipends and stole fees form the personal income paid by the parish to Fr Paul and Fr Ivano as a monthly salary or stipend. There are loose *Christmas Offering* envelopes available at the back of the church.

**Crib Appeal:** Hear the call from Pope Francis and respond to the Cry of the Poor. Please donate all you can at the Crib or visit [www.cathchild.org.uk](http://www.cathchild.org.uk) or text CCSW12 (plus the amount) £2, £5, £10 to 70070. Thank You.

**Watford Food Bank**

Holy Rood Parish is supporting this venture. You can bring provisions to help those who are in need. Our SVP group will then transport them to the main warehouse who will see that they are taken to one of the distribution centres in the town. **Please only supply goods that are listed on the FOODBANK notice board in the baptistry. (Percy Road Entrance)**

**Irish & Holy Rood Support** group raised £1,880.85 at their annual dance in November for the Peace

**The Feast of The Holy Family:** is kept on the Sunday after Christmas Day. To mark the Day we are having a Service of Thanksgiving at 4pm on that day 28th December **for all the infants baptised in Holy Rood in 2014.** Refreshments after the service.

**Five Way Friends Christmas Clubs**

*Will you be lonely this Christmas? Are you 55 or over or a Carer? Would you like a day out with friendly people?*

We would like to welcome you to one of our Five Ways Friends clubs over the festive period. We are running two clubs:

**Monday 29th December:** at Christ Church, St Albans Road

**Tuesday 30th December:** at Mill End Community Centre Rickmansworth.

The clubs run from 11am to 3pm and each club will include a hot meal, singing and entertainment and a chance to socialise.

COST: £4.50 for the day, plus transport costs where used of £5.50

*Participants Must be:*

- \* Living in Watford Borough or Three Rivers District.
- \* 55 years or above
- \* Or a Carer

If you have mobility problems, we can offer transport to and from the club. Tel: 01923 216950 by 23rd December.

**St Michael's Catholic High School:**

Cleaner required. The position is term time plus one week with the possibility of additional hours for holiday cleaning and covering absences. The hours are 2 hours per day from Monday to Friday between 3.45pm and 5.45pm. Also Cleaning Supervisor needed 17.5 hours per week. For an application pack please contact Mrs Emma Gritten, on 01923 673760 or email: [gritten.e@stmichaelscatholichighschool.co.uk](mailto:gritten.e@stmichaelscatholichighschool.co.uk)

**'Take Heart':** New Year Retreat for young people 29th December 2014 - 1st January. If you're **16-35** & would like a fun and meaningful way to start 2015, then TAKE HEART is for you. This event is at Maria Fidelis Lower School, North Gower St NW1 2HR. For more info contact the National Office on 0207 221 2124.

**Help Needed:** Do you have an interest in Arts and Crafts? Could you lead a group or help run a craft session? We are looking for people to help develop our 'Get Crafty' sessions. We need people with a range of interests from painting/drawing to knitting to help create an interesting and fun crafting experience. Materials can be provided. People also needed to help with simple gardening tasks. You don't need to be green fingered to take part, just a willingness to help out. Tel: 01923 216950 Five Ways Friends Club

**Holy Rood Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2015:** Departing Monday 25th May returning Saturday 30th May travelling by coach with overnight stops. Cost per person sharing a twin room £399.

**Growing in Faith - Message from Cardinal Vincent Nichols:**

*"After three years' effort across the parishes of the diocese, our **Growing in Faith** campaign is coming to a close. I want very much indeed to express my thanks to you for the attention and support you have given to its three key themes; strengthening parish life; supporting priests, in formation and old age; and Caritas, our work with the poor. I thank you for your prayers, the work done by the volunteers and I thank all who made financial contributions. In total, with gifts and pledges, a sum of £37 million has been given. This great achievement will do so much to enable us to meet our needs and look forward confidently. This is a marvellous measure of your great generosity and love for the Lord and His Church. Thank you so much."*

**The SVP:** are distributing 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. They would be very grateful if you could sponsor packs at a suggested donation of £3 per pack. Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made payable to SVP or go to [virginmoneygiving.com](http://virginmoneygiving.com) and type "Vinnie Packs".

**Funerals:**

The funeral of Ann Roberts will be at West Herts Crematorium on **Monday 22nd December at 1.40pm** All welcome.

**Last Weekend's Collection: Envelopes: £1,148.29:  
Loose: £675.05, Standing Orders: £474.46.** Much appreciated.