

**Please note this year the Christmas Mass of midnight will begin at 11pm. A service of carols begins at 10.30pm.**

**The Peace Hospice**

Invite you to 'Lights of Love', the switching on of their Christmas tree lights on Wednesday 3rd December 7.30pm. Refreshments follow.

Dedication Forms which will be displayed on a wall of remembrance are available from the Parish Office

**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.

**Parish Fete:** Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the Parish Fete by donating goods, baking cakes, buying raffle tickets, helping set up stalls, selling and clearing up on the day.

**We raised £2,024.59.**

**Advent Day of Reflection and Prayer:** On Tuesday, 9th December from 10.30am - 3.00pm at the Niland Conference Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, WD23 4EE. (Coffee on Arrival from 10am) Please bring a packed lunch - Tea/Coffee will be provided. Suggested donation £12.

**Advent Calendars**

Now on sale at the back of church in the repository. Plus many Christmas items.

**Our Parish Penitential Service:** Is on Wednesday 17th December 10.30am Please see notice below re services in other parishes of Watford deanery.

**WATFORD DEANERY PENITENTIAL SERVICES ADVENT 2014**

PARISH	DATE	TIME
Abbots Langley	Friday 19th December	6.00pm
Carpenders Park	Thursday 18th December	7.00pm
Chipperfield	Thursday 18th December	7.00pm
Chorleywood	Wednesday 17th December	7.30pm
Garston	Friday 19th December	7.30pm
Mill End	Thursday 18th December	7.30pm
North Watford	Wednesday 17th December	7.30pm
Rickmansworth	Friday 19th December	7.30pm

**Things to notice about Advent:**

- \* The Advent wreath; the circular evergreen arrangement speaks of God's unending faithfulness, the candles increasing each week of the light entering darkness.
- \* The priest and deacon wear purple, colour of a penitential season, altar servers wear purple cintures (strings around the waist).
- \* The 'Gloria' a hymn of joy, is omitted, it is hoped that it will ring out with deeper meaning when Advent is over, especially the opening words, the message the angels brought to the shepherds '**Glory to God in the Highest and peace to people of good will**'

**Has Holy Rood Got Talent?**

Come and see on Friday 5th December 7.30pm. Parish Centre Share your talent. Card trick, magic sing, dance, juggle, stitch, sew, make a special cake? play solitaire and always get one left in the middle? bring friends and family Free Admission and cake and biscuits bring some drinks to share For further details please phone 01923 230643.

**Advent Concert:** Featuring the London Oratory School Chamber Choir at the Sacred Heart Chapel on Horseferry Road, SW1P 2EF on **Tuesday 9th December at 6.30pm.**

**St Mary's Tuesday lunchtime concerts:** Starts from 1pm-2pm. This is a **free concert.** St Michael's School Musicians will play 2nd December 2014

**Westminster Year Books:** Are on sale at the back of the church. £4.50 each. Please put money in the newspaper box.

**Ascent Group:** Will meet on Tuesday on Tuesday, 2nd December for a Bring and Share Festive Afternoon Tea. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Parish Centre after midday Mass. Please contact Winnie for more details about the menu, or for any other queries. We look forward to seeing you.

**Trip to Winchester Christmas Market - 3rd December:** Leaving Watford approx 9am. Leaving Winchester 5pm. Cost £15. Deposit £10. For More details contact Sharon on 01923 221536.

**Maureen Sheehan RIP.** Will be received into St Helen's Church on Tuesday 2nd December at 6pm and her funeral Mass will take place on Wednesday 3rd December at 10am followed by burial at North Watford Cemetery at 11.30am. All her friends are invited to Holy Rood Social Club, Tolpits Lane afterwards.

**Altar Servers:** Congratulations to Rhodmar Gonzales who last Sunday at the 9.30am Mass received The Guild of St Stephen's Certificate of Merit for 5 years service as an enrolled member.

**First Friday Lunch:** this Friday 5th December after midday Mass. Sandwiches, Cakes, tea/coffee - £2. Raffle. Enjoy afternoon tea whilst watching a movie! Please come and support this SVP event.

**Last Weekend's Collection:**  
**Envelopes: £958.79**  
**Loose: £704.09**  
**Standing Orders: £474.46.**  
 Much appreciated.