

Mass	Readers	Wel-come	Ministers of the Eucharist	Offertory
<b>Sat 2nd 20:00</b>	B. Lincoln J. Harris		<u>N. Dyckhoff</u> , A. Russell, C. Allard, B. Thomas. L. Webb	Cullen family
<b>Sun 3rd 8.00</b>	B. McGovern P. Vidler	D	<u>D. Cooper</u> , M. Joseph, J. Morse	Hinton family
<b>09.30</b>	D. Onwardine R. Mariconda	J. O'Beirne	N. Dyckhoff, J. Jais, J. Dempsey	O'Beirne family
<b>11.00</b>	First Communion families	D	<u>J. Douglas</u> , N. Ford, <u>C. Williams</u> , <u>E. Madrazo</u> , J. Morgan, J. Ford, M. Ellwood	First Communion families
<b>18.30</b>	A. Fusi A. Fusi		<u>N. Dyckhoff</u> , M. Cooper, G. Lim, A. Hooper, N. Garibaldi	Garibaldi family

**Cleaning:** Team A. 16th May  
**Sunday Coffee** Alice & Co. Next week: *Sophie & Ruth*  
**Saturday Coffee Shop** after 11.00 Mass: May 9th: Carmel & Grace



Holy Rood is a Fairtrade parish

### Mass Times & Intentions: 4th - 10th May

Monday	12.00	Basilio Danao Junior RIP
Tuesday	08.30	Frances Bartlett RIP
	12.00	Ralph Kent RIP / Winnie Brady Int.
Wednesday	08.30	Domingos Fernandes RIP
	12.00	Eustine Fernando RIP/ Sophie Dieobi family Int.
Thursday	08.30	Bartolome Andan RIP
	12.00	John Power Anniv. Margaret Sullivan Anniv.
Friday	08.30	Sue and John Blues Int. Raymond Lawson RIP
	12.00	John Gough RIP Katherine McNamara RIP
Saturday	11.00	Jean Onwybuya Int.
	19.00	Sheila Cain & Margaret Worrow RIP Michael Kelly RIP
<b>Easter 6</b> Acts 10:25-48, Ps 97, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17	08.00	For the Parishioners
	09.30	Charles Parslow Anniv.
	11.00	Sylvester Downing Anniv.
	14.15	<i>Polish Mass</i>
	18.30	Charles Rice RIP/ Diane Thomas RIP

**Anniversaries:** Margaret Sullivan, John Power, Nora O'Conner, Giovanna Benvenga

**Confession:** Saturday 11.30 - 12.30, 18.15 - 18.40  
**Baptism** by appointment.  
**Marriage** - 6 months notice Required  
**Safeguarding: Protecting Children and the Vulnerable**  
 Your parish safeguarding representative is Cathy Kleiser 01923 233402.  
**For advice and concerns please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team:** Fr Jeremy Trood - Episcopal Vicar for Safeguarding  
 Eve Edohen - Diocese Safeguarding Co-ordinator 0207 798 9356  
[safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk)  
 If you believe that a child or vulnerable adult is at immediate risk of harm please contact the police on 999.

**In case you are admitted to hospital:** In the light of data protection please indicate, on entering hospital, that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain. Also state that you would like the RC chaplain to visit you.  
**West Herts Hospitals contact: Colette Lennon 01923 217994.**  
**Mass:** Thursday 1.15 pm in the chapel (Watford General level 3) for patients & staff.  
**Mount Vernon Hospital contact Lynn Bassett 07803 986716**

# Welcome to Holy Rood

You are very welcome to our church and parish community. If you are new to Holy Rood, please introduce yourself to one of the clergy or welcomers.

## Holy Rood Catholic Church, Watford

Clergy: Canon Paul McAleenan, Fr Ivano Millico and Deacon Neville Dyckhoff  
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 webpage: [www.holyroodrc.com](http://www.holyroodrc.com)  
 Italian Chaplain: Fr Alberto Vico - 0208 207 5713

## Sunday 3rd May 2015

### Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Readings:** Acts 9:26-31, Psalm 21:26-28, 30-32, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8  
 on pages 264 - 266 of the Parish Mass Book



Jesus uses metaphors to help us come to know him better. Last week we heard him describe himself as the 'good shepherd', today he explains himself as "the true vine". Where Jesus is the vine, we are encouraged to be the branches. A branch cannot live by itself; it must remain closely connected to the main stem of the vine to benefit from the moisture and nourishment which is drawn up through the roots. So it is with us and Christ; we need to remain closely connected.

Jesus gives us a picture of his Father as the "vinedresser". It is the Father who tends to the vine, a metaphor perhaps for the Church. It is the Father who prunes, cutting away that which is not fruitful. Any gardener knows that it is skilful pruning that helps a plant to flourish and bear bigger and better fruit.

The idea of being pruned can seem painful, yet if we cannot accept that the unproductive parts of our lives need to be cut away and discarded, there will never be space for the healthy growth of our better qualities.

St John reminds us of how we must exercise and demonstrate our most important quality of all: our love. Love is not "to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active". This verse from the second reading might provide a meditation for the week. How can we make our love "real and active"? What might we need to prune away first?

