

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.

Mass	Readers	Wel-come	Ministers of the Eucharist	Offertory
Sat 6th 19.00	B. Lincoln J. Harris		<u>L. Webb</u> , M. Gallagher, C. Stamp, A. Casey, W. Casey	Cullen family
Sun 7th 8.00	J. Briginshaw J. Kerin	Team C	<u>N. Dyckhoff</u> , J. Bogie, A. Hinton, R. Nkemdirim, G. Hinton	McGuigan family
09.30	D. St Rose L. Mayuga	M. Griffin	<u>C. Ramsey</u> , N. Wilson-Whitman, D. Jose, R. Zacharia, M. Halpin	Di Maria family
11.00	M. Hitchens A. Johnson	Team C	<u>N. Dyckhoff</u> , N. Ford, <u>R. D'Souza</u> , J. Morgan, <u>J. Ford</u> , D. Murphy, I. Douglas	Dempsey family
18.30	K. Ambrose		<u>G. Lim</u> , N. Garibaldi, A. Hooper, A. Fusi, M. Cooper	Murray family

Cleaning: Team B. 9th December.

Sunday Coffee Sophie & Ruth Next week: *Olivia & Dee*

Saturday Coffee Shop after 11.00 Mass: December 13th. Carmel & Grace



Holy Rood is a Fairtrade parish

Mass Times & Intentions: 8th - 14th December

Monday	08.30	Sheila & Tony Creighton Anniv.
	12.00	Asuncion Ramboanga Pri. Int. Sonny Keenan Int
Tuesday	08.30	Holy Souls / Wilfred Basnayake RIP
	12.00	No Mass
Wednesday	08.30	Maney & Brendan McSkearne Int.
	12.00	No Mass
Thursday	08.30	Patrick Smyth Anniv.
	12.00	Angela Maria Vido Torrano Anniv. John Power RIP
Friday	08.30	Holy Souls / Maureen Sheehan RIP
	12.00	Greta Harris RIP Nicola, Giuseppe & Angela Abarno
Saturday	11.00	Intercession of St Francis Xavier & the Divine Mercy / Michael Fernandez RIP
	19.00	Andrew Daly RIP & Philomena Daly RIP
Advent 3	08.00	Danny Houlihan Anniv.
Is 61:1-2,	09.30	Albert Kemp Anniv. / Con Griffin Anniv.
10-11, Ps	11.00	Hilda Guya Persaud Anniv.
Lk1, Thess	14.15	Martin Brosnan RIP
5:16-24, Jn	18.30	Polish Mass
1:6-8, 19-28		For the parishioners

Confession: Saturday

11.30 - 12.30, 18.15 - 18.40

Baptism by appointment.

Marriage - 6 months notice
Required

**Safeguarding our children
and vulnerable people:**

Westminster Diocese

Co-ordinator: Fr Jeremy Trood

07889 805284/ 07814 879129

Our parish representative:

Mrs Cathy Kleiser 01923 233402.

**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*

Anniversaries: Patrick Bourke, Angela Maria Vido Torrano, Margaret Jones, Dave Murray, Caterina La Porta, Sheila & Tony Creighton, Patrick Smyth

Holy Rood Catholic Church, Watford

Clergy: Canon Paul McAleenan, Fr Ivano Millico and Deacon Neville Dyckhoff

Holy Rood House, Exchange Road, Watford. WD18 0PJ. (01923) 224085

Email: watford@rcdow.org.uk; paulmcaleenan@rcdow.org.uk

webpage: www.holyroodrc.com

Italian Chaplain: Fr Alberto Vico - 0208 207 5713

Sunday 7th December 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

Readings from: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Psalm 84, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

on pages 85 & 86 of the Parish Mass Book

On the second Sunday of Advent we are introduced to John the Baptist, a curiously attractive character who “appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins”. The people flocked to him for confession and baptism. But John carried out his ministry with great humility. He was quick to point out to the crowds that there was someone far “more powerful” to come, someone so important that John himself was “not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals”, someone who would baptise, not with water but “with the Holy Spirit”.

John was truly preparing the way for the Lord in the best way he knew how to. How are we preparing for the celebration of the coming of Christ this Christmas 2014? It is easy to get wrapped up in our own busy-ness, in our own priorities and even, sometimes, in our own selves. Do we, like the people of Judea seek out confession and forgiveness?



Do we, like John the Baptist, recognise the true nature of our relationship with Christ? Are we open to his ongoing gift of the Holy Spirit? Advent offers the opportunity to reflect upon such things.

St Peter reminds us that there is no room for complacency; “the Day of the Lord will come like a thief” in the night and so it is important to do our best to “live lives without spot or stain” for, St Peter explains, that is the way to be “at peace” and this is how the Lord wishes to find us.

The paradox of the Christmas story is that Christ comes to our world not as a powerful king but a gentle shepherd and in the simplicity of a baby. Can we make room in our hearts for him.