

Ash Wednesday

The passage from the prophet Joel, insists on inner conversion: "Return to me with all your heart" (2:12). To return to the Lord "with all [one's] heart," means taking the path of a conversion that is neither superficial nor transient, but is a spiritual journey that reaches the deepest place of our self. The heart, in fact, is the seat of our sentiments, the center in which our decisions and our attitudes mature.

In the passage from Matthew, Jesus rereads the three works of mercy prescribed by the Mosaic law: almsgiving, prayer and fasting. Over time, these prescriptions had been scored by the rust of external formalism, or even mutated into a sign of social superiority. Jesus highlights a common temptation in these three works, which can be described summarily as hypocrisy (He names it as such three times).

(http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2015/02/18/pope_francis_ash_wednesday_homily/1124218)

Mass Times & Intentions: 8th – 14th Feb

Monday	08.30	Andrew Neil O'Sullivan & family INT
	12.00	Jim Lankester Funeral
Tuesday	08.30	Paul Hawkins RIP
	12.00	NO MASS
Wednesday	08.00	Maria Esquerre INT
	12.00	M Abraham INT / Eileen Murphy INT
	19:30	Pierce Cody RIP
Thursday	08.30	Nicholas & Ade Oladimeji INT
	12.00	John Heath INT
Friday	08.30	Charles Rice Anniv
	12.00	Terry Ojuederi Funeral
Saturday	11.00	Ronald Ryder Anniv
	19.00	For the parishioners
1st Sunday of Lent	08.00	Mary Baker Anniv
	09.30	Nancy Keating RIP / Carmel Reilly RIP
Deut 26:4-10, Ps 90:1-2, 10-15, Rom 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13	11.00	Giovanni Bifulco Anniv / Annunciata Caroleo RIP / Michele & Vito Torranco Anniv
	14.15	<i>Polish Mass</i>
	18.30	Peggy Ledwith RIP

Anniversaries: Gil Almond, Nick Abarno, Mary Baker, Charles Rice, Ronald Ryder.

Recently Deceased: Jim Lankester, Terry Ojuederi and Hilda Taylor



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In case you are admitted to hospital, please tell the staff to register you as Roman Catholic on your patient records and you would like the Roman Catholic Chaplain to visit you. Alternatively you can contact the West Herts Hospital RC Chaplain whose details are on the front page.

On every Thursday at 1.15pm, there is a Mass in the Watford General Hospital chapel (3rd floor). Everyone is welcome to join us, to pray for the sick and the staff who care for them.

Confession: Saturday
11.30 - 12.30, 18.15 - 18.40

Holy Rood Catholic Church, Watford

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.

Parish Priest: Fr Shaun Richards shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk
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Diocese Safeguarding Co-ordinator: Eve Edohen 0207 798 9356
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West Herts Hospitals RC Chaplain: Colette Lennon 01923 217994

Sunday 7th Feb 2016

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 137:1-5, 7-8, I Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11 on pages 136 - 138 of the Parish Mass Book

In this Sunday's gospel we hear Luke's version of the calling of the disciples. Jesus was preaching to the crowd by the lake while some fishermen were washing their nets nearby. Were the fishermen also listening to the word of God, or perhaps were they moaning about failing to catch anything all night?



and felt unworthy to be with the Lord. But Jesus invited him further, saying, "from now on it is men you will catch".

After Jesus finished preaching, he told Simon, one of the fishermen, to take their boat into deep water and to cast their net. Simon did not see the point, but anyway he did as he was told. And the catch was enormous. Simon Peter was overwhelmed,

The disciples' immediate response to this calling was out of the norm. They did not ask for more fishing miracles, which would have been fantastic for their fishing trade. Instead they left everything, their boats and their nets full of fish, and followed Jesus.