

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR THE CHURCH,
THE WORLD, THE PARISH & ONE ANOTHER

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUN 7 JANUARY	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	6.00pm Vigil	Pedro Malig RIP
		8.00am	Monica Ling RIP
		9.30am	Pro Populo (For the People)
		11.00am	Stephen & Marie Hill Wedding
			Thanksgiving
		2.15pm	Polish Mass
		5.00pm	Margaret McGarrell RIP
MON 8 JAN	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	8.30am	Margaret & Stephen Maule - Intention
		12 noon	A Family's Private Intention
TUES 9 JAN	feria	8.30am	In remembrance of Rory U
		10.00am	Funeral: Raffaele Gagliardi, RIP
		12 noon	Jonathan James Aquino Anniv
WED 10 JAN	feria	8.30am	Tessa Alverado - Intention
		12 noon	The Foley Family RIP
THUR 11 JAN	feria	8.30am	Roldan's wellbeing
		10.00am	Funeral: Mary Riley RIP
		12 noon	Zacharia Joseph - Anniv
FRI 12 JAN	feria	8.30am	Private Intention
		12 noon	Ann & Lucas Sousapillai Anniv, Philomena & Mahadevan Anniv, and Yogathas RIP
SAT 13 JAN	BVM	11.00am	Jim Lankester 2nd Anniv
		6.00pm Vigil	Ann Marie Moloney Anniv

CONFESSIONS: Saturday's from 11:30am & 5.15pm - 5:35pm

EUCARISTIC ADORATION: Saturday 5.15pm - 5.40pm

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia. That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom

TEXT GIVING THROUGH YOUR MOBILE PHONE: Easy, safe, convenient, do it anytime.

Text: "Parish HROOD" to 70800 to donate £5 to Holy Rood Parish. Thank you.

MAKING CONTACT AT HOLY ROOD

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Richards shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 3)
 Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Okoro josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 4)
 Deacon: Rev. Neville Dyckhoff nevilledyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 5)
 Parish Secretary: Deirdre Edwards watford@rcdow.org.uk (☎ Opt 2)

Hall Bookings: via the office or watford@rcdow.org.uk (**Office Hours Mon-Fri, 10am to 1pm**)

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

website: www.holyroodrc.com.  Facebook.com/HolyRoodWatford Charity No: 233699

Other Parish Contacts: Safeguarding Representative: Siobhan Garibaldi 07929 490090

Hospital Chaplain: Colette Lennon 01923 217994

Sunday 7th January 2018

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Readings for today are on page 118 of the Parish Mass Book

Sunday cycle
Readings Year B
Weekday readings
Year 2
Psalms week 1



TODAY'S MASS

"God is revealed to all peoples"
Wise men from the east guided by a star came to worship Christ. In them we see the homage of all the nations to Christ who is for ever the light of the world. We too can become an epiphany - a revealing - of God if we lead full Christian lives.

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Returning from exile the deported Jews have set out on a journey to Jerusalem, a city lit up by the multiple candles of the rebuilt temple. The prophet sees far beyond this: to a city not of this earth, lit by the glory of the Lord, to which all nations will come.

Second Reading: Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

There is no longer any privileged place or holy city necessary for our journey to the Lord. His revelation is the work of the spirit in the hearts of believers, through the preaching of all the gospel. All peoples are now called to show together the unity of the body of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

At the heart of this gospel account is the quotation from the prophet Micah. Those who knew the text so well did not hasten to Bethlehem. But the 'foreigners' putting their learning beside that of the scribes without any trace of pride, knew where to find the Messiah. Through them it is we ourselves and many others through the ages who bring our offerings to the feet of the King of the Universe.

Holy Rood
Catholic Church, Watford



PARISH CENTRE DIARY FOR THE WEEK

- Sun 7** First Holy Communion class 9.30am
Tea and coffee after 11.00am Mass
- Mon 8** Cocaine Anonymous 7.00pm
- Tues 9** Parent & Toddlers 9.30am
CWL 7.30pm
- Wed 10** RCIA 8.00pm
- Thur 11** Confirmation: Decision Point 6.45pm
- Fri 12** Alcoholics Anonymous 8.00pm
- Sun 14** First Holy Communion class 9.30am
Tea and coffee after 11.00am Mass

AN EPIPHANY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, may your light shine our way, as once it guided the steps of the Magi: that we too may be led into your presence and worship you, the Child of Mary, the Word of the Father, the King of nations, the Saviour of mankind; to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

CONGRATULATIONS to our children who start this weekend to prepare for their First Holy Communion. Children please remember to bring your Mass card to church each week in order to learn the responses. Parents, do please help your children with this important undertaking.

THE NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE for the parents of infants is on Sunday 4th February at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre. Please register with Deacon Neville. Tel: 01923 224085 (Option 5) or email nevilledyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk You may also attend prior to the birth of you baby, if this is more convenient.

ROTAS Copies of the Small Linen, Alb Washing and Church Cleaning rotas are available from the noticeboard in the sacristy corridor.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED

Mary Riley, Raffaele Gagliardi, Carmelina Petagine, Philip McGovern
ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED
 Rudolpho Ledesma, Ned Ryall, Jonathan James Aquino, Zacharia Joseph, Ann Marie Moloney, Ann & Lucas Sousapillai, Philomena and Mahadevan, Jim Lankester
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord



THE PARISH CLERGY: Fr Shaun, Fr Joseph and Deacon Neville thank you for your Christmas cards and gifts received over Christmas. Your kindness is much appreciated.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) will be meeting in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9th January. All are most welcome to join us as we plan our activities for the coming year.

ANNUAL MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES will be held on 10th February at Westminster Cathedral at 2.00pm. The Sacrament of Anointing will be administered during Mass.

IT'S A KINDNESS when Mass has ended to ensure the area where you have been sitting is left clean and tidy, ready for the next Mass. Please return books, and pencils, if you have children who have used them. Thank you.

THE NEXT MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE is on Saturday 17th March at Holy Rood for those intending to marry in 2018. Space is limited so please reserve a place with the Parish Office if you wish to attend. Please note that for marriage in any Catholic Church, six months notice is required for paperwork and pastoral preparation. It's also important to remember when marrying abroad that many countries require Catholics to have received all their Initiation Sacraments, including Confirmation before marriage in Church.

SPEC are looking for young people enthusiastic about their faith and willing to share it with others, to spend a year living in community with other people their age; in return they receive formation in the faith, training in youth work, experience living in community. For information, email spec@rcdow.org.uk or call 0203 757 2503.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP is sponsored this week for Olivia's Intentions

FOR CLARIFICATION: CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES AT HOLY ROOD The Catholic Church has a wonderful liturgy dating back 2000 years. Within the tradition, sacred music and hymns capture the Gospel message of hope for the faithful. Occasionally clergy are asked if secular songs may be used. Whilst these may be meaningful to our loved ones who have died and to their families, they are not appropriate for a Catholic funeral, particularly a funeral (requiem) Mass which takes place in the sacred space of the church, in front of the Blessed Sacrament and where our primary concern as Catholics is to pray for the soul of our loved one. Everything else is secondary. Secular songs and music are better placed after the liturgy at a gathering in a secular setting, for example at the wake or reception after the funeral.

RETRouvaille: is a lifeline for troubled marriages. A residential weekend on 16th - 18th March is planned in Welwyn Garden City. For bookings and further information please visit: <http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk/>

HELP US to reclaim the peace in this holy place. Speak to God before Mass, to friends after Mass and be respectful of those around you who may be praying. Thank you.

VINNIE PACKS The SVP are distributing 12,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, two pairs of socks, gloves, toothbrush, toothpaste, information card

SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE AND SWITCH ON YOUR HEART AND MIND TO THE LORD

E	D	E	E	G	A	M	O	H	T
C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E
H	T	I	I	N	I	H	A	A	G
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T	A	R	G	F	C	L	O	R	A
A	F	R	O	I	E	H	A	A	M
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E	I	M	D	R	S	E	R	R	H
S	K	E	T	A	D	B	D	Y	I
A	R	B	E	T	L	E	M	E	M

and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.50 per pack. Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP. Thank you so much for your support

NEXT WEEKEND there will be a retiring collection for the White Flower Appeal. The society for the protection of unborn children work to protect and seek justice for the most vulnerable: unborn children. Please support their work next week.

CONGRATULATIONS to Anuhas Hetti Archchige and Alexia Zapala who were baptised in December. Deo Gratias

ST ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY is consulting on the proposed Reception Admissions Policy for 2019-20. The documentation and explanatory letter is available on the school website: <http://www.stanthonysherts.sch.uk>

MILLION MINUTES, a Catholic charity that gives young people a voice, is looking to expand its Board of Trustees. The charity is inviting applications from individuals. Successful applicants would be individuals committed to the charity and can use their sphere of influence to advance its vision. Interested individuals should send a CV along with a one page covering letter outlining why they would like to join the board of Million Minutes to: info@millionminutes.org

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Envelopes £842.43 Loose £897.20
 Thank you to all who have contributed to the daily running costs and the mission of your church

BETHLEHEM
 EAST
 INFANT
 KING
 STAR
 HOMAGE
 LEADER
 DATE
 CHILD
 DELIGHT
 GOLD
 MYRRH

