



# 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: Fr. Paul McAleenan, Fr. John Elliott, Deacon Rev. Neville Dyckhoff  
Student for the priesthood: Stuart Seaton  
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Italian Chaplain: Fr. Alberto Vico - 0208 207 5713

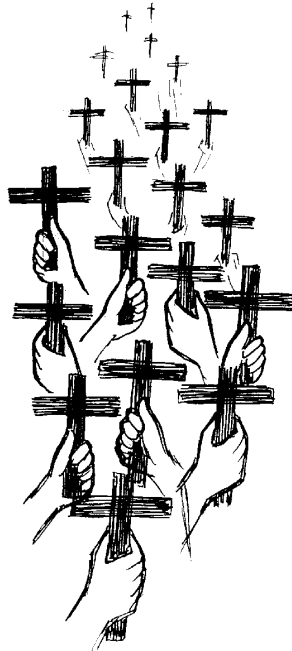
Sunday 13th September 2009  
Twenty-fourth Sunday of the Year

Readings: Isaiah 50:5-9. Psalm 114.  
James 2:14-18. Mark 8:27-35.  
on pages 71 - 73 of the Parish Mass Book.

It is typical of the unpredictability of Jesus that, as soon as the disciples, or Peter in particular, recognise him as "the Christ", he begins to talk to them about his cross and death.

Peter, still amazed at the insight of his own profession, must have found the prediction particularly hard to bear. We hear that he "started to remonstrate" with the Lord. But Jesus was single minded; beyond temptation, and he put Peter, and the possibility of not having to suffer, firmly behind him.

It is central to the mystery of our faith that to be a follower requires us to take up our own cross, to lose our life for his sake, in order to find it. (And, on the contrary, if we cling too tenaciously to the self-importance of our own lives we surely have much to lose.)



The theme is echoed in the prophecy of Isaiah. With the Lord as our help "who dare condemn" us?

With the Lord at our side, even pain and insults can be borne.

St James reminds us that we need to occupy that same place, as the Lord does, alongside our neighbour. Faith is hollow, "quite dead", unless it is demonstrated by good deeds. In fact, a track record of good deeds provides proof of faith.

Peter proved his faith, not only by those famous word of profession but by the way he lived the remainder of his life.

It is a chance to reflect on how our own faith is lived out in both word and deed.

## MASS TIMES

Sunday Sat. 7.00 p.m. (1st Mass of Sunday)  
8.00 am; 9.30 am (Sung); 11.00 am (Family); 2.15 pm (Polish); 6.30 p.m.  
Holydays 8.00 am, 12.00 noon and 7.30 p.m.  
Weekdays 8.30 am & 12.00 noon Saturday 11.00 am  
Watford General Hospital - No Mass until further notice  
CONFESSIONS Saturday 11.30 am - 12.30 p.m.; 6.15 - 6.40 p.m.  
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION Saturday 6.15 - 6.40 pm  
BAPTISMS by appointment. WEDDINGS - 6 months notice required

HOSPITAL In the light of the Data Protection Act 1998 please indicate on entering hospital that your details may be passed to the R.C. Chaplain. *If you or a relative is admitted to hospital, contact the Chaplaincy team on 01727 897 254.*



Most High, glorious God,  
enlighten the darkness of my heart;  
Give me right faith, sure hope, and  
perfect charity.  
Fill me with understanding and  
knowledge,  
that I may fulfill your command.

*Prayer of St Francis before a Cross*

12th & 13th September 2009			
Mass	Readers	Ministers of the Eucharist	Offertory
Sat 7.00pm	E. Akubue	C. Stamp	L. Joyce
8.00 am	J. Kerin J. Briginshaw	U. Lankester	McGovern family
9.30 am	T. Jordan R. Mariconda	A. Mulligan	O'Beirne family
11.00 am	P. Ellwood M. Jordan	K. Aldous, D. Murphy, J. Smith	Antonietta & Marion
6.30 pm	C. Johnson	I. Barrett	Garibaldi family
<b>Cleaning Team:</b> Team C. Italian, 15th September			
<b>Sunday Coffee:</b> Catherine Next week: Francis			
Next week we celebrate the Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year			