

The Parishes of Northwood and Carpenders Park & South Oxhey

ALL SAINTS

(1st November 2026)



Dear Parishioners

November is a month that invites us to pause, to remember, and to pray. As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, the Church turns our attention to those who have gone before us, reminding us of the love we continue to share with them and the hope we have in Jesus Christ. November is traditionally known as the Month of the Holy Souls, when we pray especially for the faithful departed and commend them to the loving mercy of God. We begin the month with the Solemnity of All Saints on 1 November, celebrating all those who now share in the glory of heaven. On 2 November, All Souls' Day, we remember and pray for all the faithful departed. These two celebrations speak to us of the communion of saints: the bond of love that unites the Church on earth with those being purified on their journey towards heaven and those who already enjoy the fullness of life with God.

For many of us, November brings particular memories of family members and friends who have died. We remember parents and grandparents, husbands and wives, children, relatives and friends whose lives have touched our own. Some of these losses may be recent, and the pain of separation still very raw. Others may have happened many years ago, yet there are moments when we miss our loved ones as keenly as ever. We may find ourselves remembering their voices, their laughter, their kindness, or the simple things we once took for granted.

Our Christian faith does not ask us to forget those we love. Rather, it invites us to remember them with gratitude, to mourn honestly, and to entrust them to God. Jesus himself wept at the tomb of his friend Lazarus. Our tears, therefore, are not a sign of weak faith; they are an expression of love. Yet, as Christians, we grieve with hope, trusting that Christ, who died and rose again, has opened the way to eternal life.

During November, lists of the faithful departed will be placed by the altar in both St Matthew's and St Joseph's churches. I warmly invite you to write down the names of those you would like us to remember in prayer. Whether you are remembering someone who died recently or someone whose death you still carry in your heart many years later, please feel welcome to include their name. Beginning with the Masses on All Souls' Day, all Masses celebrated throughout November will be offered for those whose names appear on these lists. What a beautiful way to remember those we love: to bring them before the Lord at Mass, placing them into the hands of the One whose love is stronger than death. Please do make use of this opportunity and know that your loved ones will be remembered in the prayer of our parish communities.

During November, we will also gather to bless the graves of the faithful departed. The dates and details of these blessings are included elsewhere in this newsletter, and I encourage you to join us if you are able. Visiting a cemetery can be a deeply moving experience. A grave is a place of remembrance, where we may pause, lay flowers, say a prayer and give thanks for a life that has meant so much to us. The blessing of graves is also a reminder that our bodies are precious to God. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and look forward to the day when Christ will raise us to new life. As we stand among the graves, we entrust those who have died to God's mercy and renew our hope in his promises.

November also brings Remembrance Sunday, when we honour those who have died in war and conflict, particularly those who gave their lives in the service of our country. We remember the sacrifices made by members of the armed forces, as well as the civilians whose lives have been lost or changed forever by war. We pray, too, for those who continue to suffer because of conflict today, and for all who work tirelessly to bring peace and reconciliation to our troubled world. Our remembrance must lead us not only to gratitude for the past but also to a renewed commitment to peace, justice and respect for every human life. May the sacrifice of those who died inspire us to work for a world in which future generations can live without the horrors of war.

As we journey through November together, let us make time for prayer, attend Mass for the Holy Souls, visit the graves of those we love, and remember the departed in our daily prayers. Let us support one another, too, especially those for whom bereavement has made this season difficult. Above all, let us hold fast to the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ. Death is not the end, for the Lord has promised us a share in his resurrection. Until the day when we are reunited in his presence, may we continue to remember our departed loved ones with affection, pray for them with faith, and entrust them to the boundless mercy of God.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

With all my prayers and best wishes

Fr Tom

St Matthew's Church
32 Hallowell Road,
Northwood
HA6 1DW
Parish Office Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9.00am - 11.00am

You can make a donation to either parish by using the appropriate QR code.

St Joseph's Church
111 Oxhey Drive,
Watford
WD19 7SW
Parish Office Hours
Temporarily Closed

Parish Offices

Due to Linda's Death, St Joseph's Parish Office will be temporarily closed. For booking Mass intentions, please contact the Office at St Matthew's. Emails St Matthew's Office will only be open from 9am to 11.00am. You can contact the parish office through either of the parish numbers.

Poppy Appeal 2026

The Royal British Legion has launched this year's Poppy Appeal. Friday. You can buy your poppy in both our churches. All money raised from them will go to the work of the RBL. At any given time, the Royal British Legion is supporting nearly 8,000 members of the Armed Forces community through expert advice and practical assistance. Their range of services, scale, and partner network means they can support those facing multiple and complex challenges, whatever the need, whenever it's needed. From short-term relief to lifelong support, your donation enables us to help in ways tailored to people's unique needs and circumstances.

Lost Property at St Matthew's

There seems to be a growing pile of lost property items in the parish office at St Matthew's. If you think you have lost something, please contact the office. The deadline to reclaim any items will be Friday 27th November. Anything left will be disposed of after that date,

Month of the Holy Souls

Forms and envelopes are now available for parishioners to give names of those you wish to be remembered at the altar during November.

November Blessing of Graves

The annual blessing of graves will take place at the following times

Sunday 8th November
1.30pm Carpenders Park Lawn Cemetery

Saturday 14th November
2.00pm Northwood Cemetery

Sunday 15th November
2.00pm Woodcock Hill Cemetery

Saturday 28th November
2.00pm Pinner New Cemetery. Please note the change of date

Magnifica Humanitas

The Friends of Westminster Cathedral are inviting everyone on Wednesday 4 November at 6.30pm to Westminster Cathedral Hall, for a talk by Fr Hugh MacKenzie on Magnifica Humanitas. The talk will explore Pope Leo's reflections on the distinction between human and artificial intelligence, and what the rapid development of AI means for our understanding of humanity, morality and faith. As AI increasingly shapes our studies, working lives and relationships, this promises to be a fascinating and timely discussion. Drawing on Pope Leo's teaching, Fr Hugh will consider what makes human intelligence unique, why our God-given dignity cannot be reduced to data and algorithms, and the dangers of allowing technology to take the place of human judgement, authentic relationships or spiritual fulfilment. Tickets are £10 each and include refreshments afterwards. Visit **https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/news-event/talk-magnifica-humanitas/#tribe-tickets__tickets-form**

Catholic Women's League

We are a small, happy group of friendly ladies, who meet at St Joseph's Church, on the second Monday of the month at 2pm. We are part of the Westminster branch of the CWL. We have tea, biscuits, a raffle and chat about events we are organising and participate in initiatives organised by the main CWL body. We would welcome any new members to our group ,especially those from St Matthew's Church. The next meeting is on **Monday 9th November**. (Entrance is using the side door of the church). For more details contact any of the following: Ann Farrell 07922 836030, Breda Griffin 07738 363932, Pauline James 07511 668812.

Good Books

We revert to our winter timetable next month, meeting in the Fr Bebb Room at St Matthew's at **2 pm** on **Wednesday 11 November** to talk about the current bestseller **The Correspondent** by **Virginia Evans**. All are most welcome.

Quarant'ore (40 hours devotions)

The Forty Hours' Devotion is a solemn period of continuous prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for approximately forty consecutive hours. (Although for practical reasons we are not going through the night so we are going over three days) It is one of the most profound expressions of Eucharistic worship in the Catholic tradition, designed to honour the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and to offer reparation for sins. This will take place at St Matthew's from Friday 20th November beginning in the morning and ending with Benediction after the 6.00pm Mass on Sunday 22nd November. Mark the dates in your diary

Lamp Prayer Intentions

(St Matthew's)
Blessed Sacrament
For the future of our parishes
Our Lady
Amy De Souza



(St Joseph's)
Blessed Sacrament
Maurice & Florence Rodrigo & John Crowle RIP
Our Lady
Anne Birch (Intentions)

Safeguarding News

The CSSA (Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency) is currently inspecting safeguarding in The Diocese of Westminster

To do this as effectively as they can, they welcome information from anybody who feels they have something to tell them about safeguarding in Westminster Diocese. The opportunity is open until Friday 6 November 2026 (5pm).

The CSSA are here to independently judge safeguarding in Catholic church bodies across England and Wales, and to publicly share the results. They want their inspection process to be transparent, and to help drive up safeguarding standards.

You can email them, and they can call you back if they need to understand better the information you provide. Wherever possible, they need evidence or specific details which can help them build an accurate picture.

Any information you offer will be treated confidentially with one of their expert and experienced team members. They will not share your confidential information with anyone at the Diocese of Westminster unless you explicitly ask them to. But they will take the information into account when they assess our safeguarding. If they feel that there are people at risk now, they may intervene or report to statutory agencies any unreported crime. Details of how to contact them can be found at **https://rcdow.org.uk/news/share-safeguarding-information-about-the-diocese-of-westminster/**

Caritas Westminster

Caritas are organising an online event called **Beyond the Surface: Understanding Trauma** on **Wednesday 18th November** from **7.00–9.30pm** This is an accessible and practical session (led by Nikki Dhillon Keane, Head of Caritas Hope and BACP-accredited therapist) exploring how trauma can affect people's experiences and behaviour, and how we can respond in ways that promote safety, dignity and trust. Particularly useful for those volunteering in foodbanks, homelessness projects and other community settings, **this session is open to all**. To register, sign up here **https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/beyond-the-surface-understanding-trauma/**

Volunteering Opportunity for Young Catholics (18–34)

Caritas Westminster, in partnership with the Irish Chaplaincy and Anna Chaplaincy, is offering free training in prayerful accompaniment, listening, and pastoral and spiritual care. The programme includes four sessions (two online and two in person), preparing volunteers to visit older people in care homes, offering companionship and support. No previous experience or Irish background is required. A wonderful opportunity to put your faith into action and make a difference!

Please register your interest by **Friday 6th November**. The programme is planned to begin later in November, and those who register will be contacted directly with further details, including training dates. To register your interest online visit **forms.cloud.microsoft/e/mpyr8gYhSr For more information, please email cianofarrell@rcdow.org.uk**

Remembrance Sunday

Next Sunday our nation remembers the those who have died in the service of their country, remembering the sacrifice of our armed forces and prays for peace. Next Sunday the 9.00am Mass will be offered as a Requiem Mass for those who have died in conflict. Fr Tom will be preaching at the Remembrance Sunday act of worship at the Northwood War Memorial.

Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Saturday 28th November 2026

12:30 pm-5.00 pm

St Joseph's Hall

The Catholic Women's League is organising the annual Christmas Party for senior citizens of our parishes.

If you would like to come or know of a senior citizen who would like to come, please take a form from the back of church and complete the 'cut off reply slip (one slip per person please) and return it to the Church no later than Sunday 22nd November.

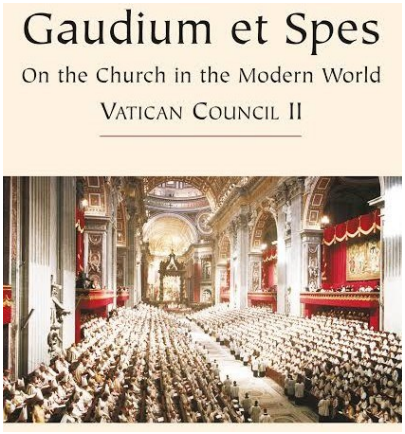
Don't forget that this has always been a very popular event and places are limited to 60, so remember to return your slip by Sunday 22nd November to St. Joseph's Church

For further information please contact Pauline James on 07511 668 812 or Ann Farrell on 01923 242 314

Due to rising costs regrettably t
here will be a £5 charge



Pope Leo XIV



We continue Pope Leo's catechesis series on the Second Vatican Council and its documents at his weekly Wednesday General Audience. He began exploring the document Gaudiem et Spes in September (These is his talk from Wednesday 28th October)

Catechesis. The Documents of Vatican Council II.

IV. Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et spes (GS, 53-62)

7. The relationship between faith and culture

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

The Second Vatican Council could not fail to address the subject of culture and its relationship with the Christian faith. It does so in the second chapter of the second part of the Constitution Gaudium et Spes (GS).

The Catholic Church has always been concerned with accompanying the preaching of the Gospel with the establishment of schools of every kind, aimed at advancing the human, cultural and spiritual formation of men and women across the five continents. Medieval universities, as we know, were born from the heart of the Church, making a decisive contribution to the development of Western civilization. At the same time, the progress of culture and knowledge raises ever new and deeper questions, prompting believers to give an account of their faith (cf. 1 Pet 3:15–17). Finally, as expressions of the spiritual dimension of the human being, the various manifestations of culture contribute to opening minds to the perennial questions on the meaning of the world and of human existence, thus preparing people to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The relationship between faith and culture finds its primary foundation in the Incarnation: if the divine Word became flesh and came to dwell among us (cf. Jn 1:14), then faith too is an incarnate reality, interwoven with the culture in which it is immersed. It is also required to become culture, that is, to reach the person in their living environment, made up of human words, traditions, religious meaning, art and poetry, thought and science. As Saint John Paul II loved to repeat, "a faith that does not become culture is a faith not fully accepted, not entirely thought out, not faithfully lived".

Faith can be embodied in all cultures, because it does not identify itself with any of them in a specific one. It dwells within them, shaping them from within according to the "form" of Jesus Christ; that is, through charity, service and the filial recognition of God's fatherhood. In this way, the Church draws from the various cultures all that is good, beautiful and true, in order to embody and transmit the message of the Gospel. At the same time, "the Church, sent to all peoples of every time and place, is not bound exclusively and indissolubly to any race or nation, any particular way of life or any customary way of life recent or ancient. Faithful to her own tradition and at the same time conscious of her universal mission, she can enter into communion with the various civilizations, to their enrichment and the enrichment of the Church herself" (GS, 58).

The Church promotes culture because it is a good in itself, a service to the human being and to the fulfilment of her vocation on earth. For this reason, Gaudium et Spes exhorts the international community to ensure that everyone has access to fundamental cultural goods, by overcoming illiteracy and the lack of education. All those who are capable of accessing higher education – the Council boldly states – must be placed in a position to do so in practice. Furthermore, "it will belong to all to acknowledge and favour the proper and necessary participation of women in the cultural life" (GS, 60).

In addition, Gaudium et Spes upholds the need to direct teaching towards a certain unity of knowledge, even though changing living conditions may make this more difficult (cf. GS, 61). Christians are the first who must strive to bring about this unity of wisdom, first and foremost within themselves. Although they have received from Revelation the answers to the great questions of existence, they are not thereby exempt from patient intellectual and cultural formation; on the contrary, their human and scientific knowledge must go hand in hand with the substance of their faith, which must be continually deepened with age and in accordance with their level of study. The Council addresses a particular appeal to theologians: "Let those who teach theology … strive to collaborate with men versed in the other sciences through a sharing of their resources and points of view. Theological inquiry should pursue a profound understanding of revealed truth; at the same time it should not neglect close contact with its own time that it may be able to help these men skilled in various disciplines to attain to a better understanding of the faith" (GS, 62).

Brothers and sisters, the Constitution Gaudium et Spes reminds us not to live the faith in a spirit of opposition or hostility towards the world, culture and its human expressions, but rather exhorts us as follows: "May the faithful, therefore, live in very close union with the other men of their time and may they strive to understand perfectly their way of thinking and judging, as expressed in their culture" (GS, 62). Achieving a mature and responsible synthesis between faith and culture is, in fact, a necessary condition for persevering in the Christian vocation, as well as an essential requirement for bearing witness to the faith before the world and communicating it to others in a credible manner.

Global report warns that violence and extremism are fuelling a Christian exodus

MILLIONS of Christians have been forced from their homes by conflict, extremism and religiously motivated violence, according to a major new report which warns that some of Christianity's oldest communities face an increasingly uncertain future. Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) launched Persecuted and Forgotten? A Report on Christians oppressed for their Faith, on Tuesday, 27 October, which concluded that Christian persecution has significantly worsened in more than half of the countries surveyed within the last two years.

Persecuted and Forgotten? provides global and regional analysis of 18 countries of key concern, from Nicaragua in Latin America to Burma (Myanmar) in South-East Asia.

The Persecuted and Forgotten 2024-2026

The report found that the situation for Christians failed to improve in any country assessed, while conditions deteriorated in 10, including China, Nigeria and Pakistan. Sub-Saharan Africa emerged as one of the most dangerous regions in the world to be a Christian. Six of the 10 highest-ranked countries in the 2026 Global Terrorism Index are in Africa, while terrorist groups in northern Nigeria, the central Sahel and Mozambique have targeted churches, clergy and Christian villages.

Extremist violence is forcing communities from their homes in countries including Burkina Faso, Nigeria and Sudan.

At least 1 million Christians have been forced from their homes in Nigeria alone. And in Burkina Faso, Persecuted and Forgotten? states that at least 40 percent of the landmass has been seized by militant Islamist groups, sparking a mass migration of Christians, amid reports that in one diocese alone 2,000 people had fled within 12 months.



The report states: "Millions of Christians are part of a mass exodus of those displaced in conflict zones, some of it religiously motivated... This has spread, turning entire swathes of countries in Africa and Asia into danger zones."

Kidnappings and killings remain widespread, with some victims beheaded. Conflict and instability are also raising increasing fears for Christianity's survival in its heartland in the Middle East. Senior Church leaders in Syria have warned of an existential threat – the country's Christian population is reported to have fallen by more than 80 percent since 2011.

The report also highlights increased state repression. In China, intensified government control of religious teaching and practice has placed further restrictions on underground churches, while arrests of Christians have doubled in Iran. Nicaragua has expanded its crackdown, with Christian leaders arrested, imprisoned and exiled.

Religio-nationalism is fuelling discrimination and violence elsewhere. In India, anti-conversion laws and Hindutva nationalist rhetoric have contributed to hundreds of incidents targeting Christians, including attacks on churches and worshippers. In Pakistan, forced conversion and marriage of Christian girls remains endemic, while blasphemy accusations continue to create fear and insecurity. In some countries, persecution is already so severe that conditions can scarcely worsen, with North Korea highlighted as a particularly extreme example.

ACN (UK) Head of Press and Public Affairs John Pontifex said: *"Twenty years after we first launched Persecuted and Forgotten? we can say that the oppression of Christians remains a human rights catastrophe the world refuses to acknowledge. People are still forced to deny their faith – bullied in the classroom, discriminated in the workplace and denied justice in the courts – and, in some cases, make the ultimate sacrifice. Persecution has become a huge, yet often hidden, factor driving entire communities from their homes, changing the religious demography of entire regions, especially in Africa. What will it take for the world to act?"*

This is the 10th edition of Persecuted and Forgotten? which was started in 2006. It is now translated into multiple languages and made available by ACN in countries all over the world. You can find a copy of the report at **https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2026/10/The-Persecuted-and-Forgotten-2024-2026.pdf**

Our political leaders have a duty to prioritise dialogue and seek peaceful solutions, say Bishops

UN Disarmament Week, marked from 24-30 October, is recognised internationally as an opportunity to increase awareness around weapons control and disarmament.

Disarmament has become a central theme in the papacy of Pope Leo XIV. Pope Leo has extended the idea beyond a focus solely on weapons, reminding us to disarm our words, disarm technology, and seek an 'unarmed peace' through dialogue and conversation.

As UN Disarmament Week draws to a close, the lead bishops for Conflict and Peacebuilding, Bishop Nicholas Hudson and Bishop William Kenney, have issued a statement:

"This week should serve as a reminder that war and conflict are not inevitabilities, but that our political leaders have a duty to prioritise dialogue and seek peaceful solutions.

"In our 2024 document 'Called to be Peacemakers', we acknowledge that there is a clear human cost to our collective failure to make meaningful headway in terms of disarmament: 'While the absolute number of people killed in conflict has declined since the end of the Second World War, armed violence is still taking place in and between dozens of countries across the world, directly resulting in hundreds of thousands of deaths each year. Countless others are suffering and dying from the wider impacts of conflict including restricted access to clean water, food, healthcare and basic services.

"The call to disarm is not just for those in positions of great power. It is something that we should all seek to implement in our own lives and in our own communities. We can all disarm our words and promote dialogue. We are all invited to speak with a charitable spirit, to use our voices to welcome others, and to deepen the spirit of unity within our communities rather than to sow division.

"To quote St Paul: 'Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.' (Ephesians 4:29).

"We urge Catholics to stand together for peace, and to pray that our political leaders will promote dialogue leading to meaningful disarmament. Let us also pray for the grace to live out this message in our own lives, reaching out to those on the margins and choosing peace over conflict and division."

Bishop Stephen Wang

On Friday evening Bishop Stephen Wang celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving in Westminster Cathedral. Some of our parishioners were there,









Saint of The Week
Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Patron Saint of apple orchards, bishops, catechism writers, catechists, catechumens, seminarians, starch makers, and spiritual directors
Invoked against abdominal pain, colic, stomach diseases, and ulcers)



Most dearly beloved brethren, If you should look diligently into what was written in the Old Law about the excellence and purity of priests and other ministers serving the altar, and what was written about external cleanliness of body, it will surely enough become clear to you how much more excellent and pure, and how much more free from all stain and blemish of body, and even more of soul, the ministers and priests of the Law of the Gospel must be. For if we compare the New Law's most holy sacrifice of the immaculate Lamb, the sacrifice of the Son of our God and Lord offered daily on the altar to God the Father for our sins, with those irrational victims slaughtered in the Temple of Solomon on prescribed days, what else will that be, if not to compare shadow to reality, darkness to light, earth to heaven, or rather brute animals to the most high God of gods, our savior Jesus Christ? ***~Saint Charles Borromeo to newly ordained priests***

Charles Borromeo was born to a noble Italian family in the Castle of Arona in the Duchy of Milan. Charles' father was the Count of Arona, and his mother was from the powerful Medici family. As the second son, Charles was expected to pursue a career within the Church. He received the tonsure at age twelve and was granted the honorary title of titular Abbot of Sts. Gratinian and Felinus at Arona, endowing him with a steady income. At the University of Pavia, he studied Church and civil law.

On Christmas Day, 1559, Charles' uncle, Cardinal John Angelo Medici was elected pope after Pope Paul IV's death. The new Pope Pius IV called his twenty-one-year-old nephew Charles to Rome and made him a cardinal, even though he was not a priest. As a cardinal, he would help elect the next pope, assist with Church governance, and advise his uncle. Soon after, the pope appointed Cardinal Borromeo to a number of high Church positions, including Papal Protector and Legate.

Over four years, Cardinal Borromeo exercised his new responsibilities and enjoyed a good income. He encouraged his uncle to conclude the Council of Trent. In early 1562, the Council's eighteenth session was held, and seven more would follow, concluding with the promulgation of the decrees on January 26, 1564. Since he was not an ordained bishop, Cardinal Borromeo could not participate in the council as other bishops did, but he was involved behind the scenes in formulating the decrees.

During the final period of the Council of Trent, Cardinal Borromeo's older brother suddenly died childless. Because Charles was the only living male in the Borromeo family, his relatives urged him to abandon his Church career, become the Count of Arona, marry, and have an heir. This was a turning point for Charles. Deciding to pursue his vocation, he secretly arranged to be ordained a priest. After ordination, Charles celebrated his first Mass on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Mother of God at the tomb of Saints Peter and Paul. Three months later, he was ordained a bishop in the Sistine Chapel and was soon appointed Archbishop of Milan at age twenty-five.

Following the Council's conclusion, Charles dedicated himself to enforcing its decisions. He helped develop the Roman Catechism, as well as various liturgical documents and hymns. He executed the Council's decrees and reforms within Rome, including the ban on selling indulgences and church positions, reforming monasteries, training clergy, enforcing clerical celibacy, returning reverence to liturgical ceremonies, and strengthening the laity's faith and morals.

In Milan, Cardinal Borromeo devoted nineteen years to enforcing the Council's decrees, igniting a Catholic reawakening within his archdiocese that resonated throughout the Church. In addition to the reforms he had pursued in Rome, he instituted the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine to educate the young and old. While he had basked in his noble heritage and wealth as a young man, as a priest, he adopted a simpler lifestyle, fasted, prayed, donated most of his wealth to the needy, and made pastoral journeys across his archdiocese. His fervour grew steadily, setting his ministry aflame. .

Saint Charles Borromeo, you were born into privilege,
but once ordained, you became a fervent follower of Christ
and a holy shepherd of God's people.
Please pray for me, that I will follow your example of Church reform
by applying the fervour you had to my own soul and family.
May all I do always be done for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.
Saint Charles Borromeo, pray for me.
Jesus, I trust in You.



Linda Grimes RIP

Her Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 3rd November at 11.30am in the Sacred Heart Church, Ruislip.

A Book of Remembrance has been opened for people to sign if they wish. It is in the St Joseph's Chapel



Masses in our parishes

10.00am Mass (St Matthew's)
12 noon: Mass (St Joseph's)
7.00pm: Mass (St Matthew's)

Readings at Sunday Mass

First reading *Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14*

I, John, saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying, 'Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.' And I heard the number of the sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels were standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?' I said to him, 'Sir, you know.' And he said to me, 'These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. ℟ cf. 6*

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and those who dwell in it.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the rivers he made it firm.

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The clean of hands and pure of heart,
whose soul is not set on vain things.

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

Blessings from the Lord shall he receive,
and right reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the people who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

Second reading *1 John 3:1-3*

Beloved: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden,
says the Lord,
and I will give you rest.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 5:1-12a*

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

The Gospel of The Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please join us in praying for those who are sick and those who have died:

Please contact us with any additional names you may wish to be added to these lists which are updated weekly, and accept our apologies for anyone we have omitted.

For those who are sick: Ronni Hagger Dickson, Amy De Souza. Mary Sullivan, Pope Leo XIV, David Astley, Mary Emmanuel, Joe Mullen, Leo McLoughlin, Patrick Coyle, Lourdes D'Silva Torres, Eliana Ost, James Conradi, Anne Paget, Mary Vaughan, Helen Jones, Sinead Ceasar, Gilda Kumarathasan, Siobhan Frost, Leslie Caesar, Mary Elizabeth Thomas, Georgette Gornall, Ann Archer, Kathleen Lynch, Kathleen Andrews, Harry Nandlal, Dawn Tannian, Phil Carey, Alice Sheppard, Brendan Davern, Shay Murray, Ruby King, John Wildsmith, Cecil Swampillai, Belinda Plummer, Marilyn Theodore, Veronica Savill, Levan Soloman, Patricia Procter, Philip Wilson, Mary Hyde, King Charles, Moira Montgomery, Patricia Lee, Peter Fitzpatrick, Mark O'Connor, Marie Marron, Carol-Ann Frost, Ron Picardo, Kerry Blackburn, James Wilson, Rafael Pino, Julius Fayiti, Anna Kelly, Justin, Margaret Downing, as well as others for whom we have been praying together recently.

For those who have died recently: Julia Carney, Linda Grimes and all who have died as a result of violence, war and conflict or natural disaster and those who have no one to pray for them.

For those whose anniversary occurs around this time: Teresa O'Neill, Philip Wildsmith, Michael Tolputt, Mary White, James Brownlow, Norah Taylor, Vincent Brady, Nora Devitt, Gertrude Rosso, Frank Gray, Maurice Egan, Peter Freeman, Harry Tolputt, Sidney Austin, Winifred Wildsmith, Mike Makar.

Pope's Prayer Intention for November: **For the proper use of wealth,** we pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less..

Worship this week

Sunday Readings: *Year A* ***Weekday Readings:*** *Week 31 (Year 2)* ***Daily Office:*** *Week 3*

	5.00pm -5.45pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions *(St Joseph's)* **6.00pm: Anticipated Mass of Sunday** - *People of the Parishes (St Joseph's)*
Sunday 1st *ALL SAINTS DAY*	**9.00am: Mass** - *Holy Souls (St Matthew's)* **11.15am: Mass -** *Holy Souls (St Joseph's)* **6.00pm: Mass** - *Holy Souls (St Matthew's)* 8.00pm: Holy Hour Concluding with Night Prayer (St Matthew's)
Monday 2nd ***All Souls Day***	**9.00am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **09:40 Morning Prayer** **10.00am: Mass** - *Holy Souls* ***Followed By Rosary*** *(St Matthew's)* **12 noon: Mass**- *Holy Souls (St Joseph's)* **7.00pm: Mass** - *Holy Souls (St Matthew's)*
Tuesday 3rd *S. Martin de Porres*	**9.00am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **09:40 Morning Prayer** **10.00am Mass** - *Holy Souls* ***Followed By Rosary*** *(St Joseph's)*
Wednesday 4th *S. Charles Borromeo*	**NO PUBLIC MASS**
Thursday 5th *Feria*	6.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **7.00pm Mass** - *Holy Souls (St Joseph's)* ***Followed By Rosary*** *(St Joseph's)*
Friday 6th *Feria*	**9.00am** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **09:40 Morning Prayer** **10.00am: Mass** - *Holy Souls (St Matthew's)* ***Followed By Rosary***
Saturday 7th *S. Willibrord*	**09.45 Morning Prayer 10.00am: Rosary** **10.30am:Mass -** *Holy Souls (St Matthew's)* 11.00am - 11.50am: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions **ending with Benediction**
	5.00pm -5.45pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions *(St Joseph's)* **6.00pm: Anticipated Mass of Sunday** - *Holy Souls (St Joseph's)*
Sunday 8th *32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*	**9.00am: Mass** - *People of the Parishes (St Matthew's)* **11.15am: Mass -** *Holy Souls (St Joseph's)* **6.00pm: Mass -** *Holy Souls (St Matthew's)*

Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to have a Mass intention or lamp intention for a particular date.

Parish Directory

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Deacon: Rev Hervé Boisson ***Email:*** herveboisson@rcdow.org.uk

	St Matthew's	***St Joseph's***
Parish Office	Cheryl Myring Siobhan Hogg ***Tel:*** 01923 840736 ***Email:*** northwood@rcdow.org.uk	Awaiting Appointment ***Tel:*** 020 8428 0088 ***Email:*** carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk
Catechetical Team	Elvadia Tolputt northwoodcat@rcdow.org.uk	Donna Osborne carpenderscatechist@rcdow.org.uk
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