Catholic Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Northfields

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Parish Priest: Fr. Jim Duffy; Parish Deacon Rev Andrew Goodall

Pastoral Assistant: Anna Maria Dupelycz; Parish Administrator: Rosa Bambury

**Alternative Number:** 07787 048144 (Anna); northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk

**Office Opening Hours Mon – Weds.& Fri, 10am – 2.00pm. Closed Thursdays.**

**Sacraments and Devotions: Suspended until further notice.**

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4th Sunday Year C

30th January 2022

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**Readings:**

**This Week** **(4th Sunday in Ordinary time)** Jeremiah1:4-5, Ps 70:1-6 Corinthians 12:31-13:13, Luke 4:21-30

**Next Week** **(5th Sunday in Ordinary time)** Isaiah 6:1-8, Ps 137:1-5 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11

Psalter Week 3

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**Reflection from Fr. Hilary: The Struggle for the Soul of Britain (3)**

This is the third and final extract from Maranatha Community. Their report dismissed the assumption that the rise of the kinds of terrible behaviour already mentioned “happened by chance”. This community blames them on the aggressive attacks on Christianity.

“There has been a fervent promotion of secular ideas over recent decades in the media, commerce, education and politics, which has sought to undermine the time-tested rock of Judeo-Christian foundation of our nation, replacing it with an approach that amounts to shifting sand.

There is no such thing as spiritual neutrality. When the spiritual dimension of life and the morality that goes with it are abandoned, we are left with either political correctness with all its intolerance and coldness or an alternative belief system.”

So that’s the last quote. These three quotes given over three Sundays challenge us all. What they say cannot be denied. Surely Christians cannot stand by and look the other way? Remember the opening night of the Olympics in 2012? We all enjoyed the marvellous display of so many key subjects in Britain’s history including the industrial revolution. But – but there was no mention whatever of Christianity, even though, **unlike anything else**, Christianity influenced all aspects of people’s lives for well over a 1000 years. Not a mention. Not a word. In other words, Christianity deserved to be emphasised more than anything else. But did you hear loud protests from the British people? Neither did I. The whole thing speaks volumes.

*Please keep for prayerful reflection.*

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**Relaxing of Covid Restrictions and Acts of Worship**

These pints are direct quotes from the latest guidance received from the Bishops’ Conference to help strike a balance between moving forward and feeling safe whilst attending Mass:

“Those attending an act of worship may continue to wear a face covering (both nose and mouth) whilst in the church building. There is no need for formal social distancing in church buildings, although those present should be sensitive to the needs of others around them. Churches should continue to ensure there is good ventilation, balancing this against the need for church heating, especially at this time…. it is still good practice to sanitise hands on entry and exit of churches,…. For the time being, Holy Communion must continue to be given under one kind only.”

**Liturgical Ministries:**

**a) Altar Servers**  Recruitment of new servers is ongoing. Please contact Deacon Andrew (andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk).

**b) Stewards** For weekends, the resurgence of a ministry of welcome is desired. Please consider if you and/or your family would like to be involved in this important role.

**c) Music in Mass :** Rehearsals taking place in the church are as follows: for 10.00am, Thursday, 7.30pm ; 11.30am, this week, no rehearsal. New musicians and singers of all ages always welcome to join.

**Urgent!** Since the celebration of Mass resumed, there has been a dedicated small team of church cleaners who have been cleaning and sanitising the benches almost on a daily basis. A more normal regime of cleaning can now take place but this requires new volunteers in teams of 3-4 to give an hour or so once a week or less, to clean the benches and the floor. This is vital work to keep the church clean and safe for all. Please contact Rosa if you are willing to help as a matter of urgency.

**Parish Parent & Toddler Group** Meets on Wednesday mornings in the Parish Hall,9.30am to 11.00am Please bring your own mug/cup for refreshments and a floor blanket for your own child/ren. Thank you!An additional volunteer leader is required. Please contact Rosa or Anna.

**Music Tots-** Would like to start up again. This is held on a Tuesday morning in the Parish Hall. In order for this to restart an additional volunteer is needed to help. Please contact Rosa or Anna.

**Safeguarding** The Parish reps are Susie Worthington, northfieldssg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk and Tracy Paterson northfieldssg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

**Masses this week**

**Sunday 30th January (4th Sunday Year C) Thursday 3rd February (Sts Blaise & Ansgar)**

*(Sat.)* 6.00pm Tom & Alan Hartnett (Ann.) **No Mass**

 8.30am Thomas McMahon (LD.)

10.00am Tony Ryan (1st Ann.) **Friday 4th February**

11.30am Gerry Harlowe (Ann.) 9.30am Mary Fortune & Family (Int.)

 6.00pmMargaret McCormack (LD.)

 **Saturday 5th February**

**Monday 31st January (St John Bosco) No Morning Mass**

 9.30am Ali Shahabdi (Ann.)

  **Sunday 6th February (5th Sunday Year C)**

**Tuesday 1st February** *(Sat.)* 6.00pm Michael Riddle (20th Ann.)

 6.00pm Richard Armstrong (1st Ann.) 8.30am Arthur Doughty (LD.)

 10.00am Richard Armstrong (RIP.)

**Wednesday 2nd February (Presentation of the Lord)** 11.30am Deceased members of the Dunne Family

 9.30am Nora & Geraldine Lynch, Mary Cotter nee Cronin (Ann.) 6.00pm Patrick McNerney (Ann.)

**Memorial Mass – Saturday 5th Feb at 12.30pm** memorial Mass for Patricia Timmons, all welcome.

**Prayers for the Sick** We pray for those suffering from illness and their carers: , Nina Roldan, Doreen Foley, Vera Zunzic, Anna Keane, Barbara Lennon Snr, Teresa Hartnett, Stephania Pullin, Geraldine Davison, Sylvia O’Connor, Dave Mortby, Cerys Edwards, Andrew Chandiram, Ivan Mahon-Smith, Kathleen Walsh, Donna O’Hagan, Ann Hagan, Alan Worman. Sankar Ghosh, Margaret Adu, Therese Biks, Shantha Kumari, Sagundala Devi, Victor Young. Ernst Barroclough, Kathleen & Patsy O’Donoghue. Our Lady, help of the Sick, pray for us.

**Prayers for those Recently Deceased and Anniversaries** We pray for the repose of the soul of, Charles John Coll, Lawrence Burton, Thomas McMahon, Arthur Doughty and Margaret McCormack and those whose anniversaries occur around this time including, Gerry Harlowe, Tom and Alan Hartnett, Tony Ryan, Ali Shahabdi, Nora & Geraldine Lynch, Mary Cotter, Michael Riddle and Richard Armstrong and Patrick McNerney. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

**Catechetics (Sacramental Preparation)** Contact Anna initially on northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk or 07787 048144 with enquiries and queries. **Please include a mobile/phone number with your e-mail enquiry.**

**Infant Baptism** Participation in a short preparation course is required before celebrating the sacrament. For more information, please contact Anna preferably by e-mail initially.

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word** We would like to restart children’s liturgy during 10am Mass from 27th February. We have sufficient leaders but more helpers are needed for this ministry to run safely and in accord with Safeguarding guidelines. Please contact Anna as soon as possible. DBS checks processed by the diocese are required for this role. Details of a planning meeting will be available next week.

**First Reconciliation** Sessions continue this week via Zoom. Details will be sent out via e-mail.

**Confirmation** Continues today in person in the Parish Hall 4.00pm – 5.30pm, for ‘Gifts’ group; next week (6th Feb.),

**RCIA (Becoming Catholic)** Sessions return to being in person from Weds. 2nd Feb, 8.00pm. This week: A Tour of the church’. Please pray for our catechumens: Brain, Shiyun and Nathan and our candidates for reception, Alan, Mick and Abby, in their journey of faith.

**Getting Married in 2022?** Six months’ notice is required regardless of where the marriage is to take place. Attending a Catholic marriage preparation course is a requirement. Paperwork should be completed in the parish of domicile. More

information available on the parish website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/northfields/sacramental-prep/marriage-preparation/>

**Parish marriage preparation course** consisting of 4 sessions, will take place online on Fridays in March (4th, 11th,18th and 25th) , 7.30pm – 9.00pm. Please contact Anna by 28th February should you wish to attend. Limited places.

**Mass with Anointing of the Sick** takes place on **Sunday 13th February,** 2.30pm, followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall.

**Young CAFOD** Calling all 12-18 year olds of the parish! We are a group working with the parish to raise awareness and funds for the overseas development work of CAFOD. Join us at our next meeting **Sunday, 13 February**, at 5pm, in the church hall, when we will be planning for exciting activities over Lent. Zoom could be made available if required. Parents and guardians please contact Jo Lo at YoungCAFODNorthfields@gmail.com with any comments and queries.

**Synod in the Parish** The Listening Wall has been transformed: you can now read a summarised version of the parish’s submission to the diocese.  (There is not enough space on the wall to display all 20+ pages of our submission – such was the parish’s generous participation in the process!)  You can also engage with a Word Cloud there: it highlights key words mentioned in your posts during the past three months.  The next step is for the parish to listen to the Holy Spirit by listening to one another – to “discern” together the will of the Holy Spirit.  You are invited to contribute to this by posting on the Listening Wall what stir and strike you, as you read the submission summary and the Word Cloud.  Please continue to pray for synodal process in the diocese, and watch this space for how we could continue to participate in the discernment process in the parish!

**Diocesan Evangelisation Events** See January bulletin for more information

**‘The God Who Speaks: Scripture Festival’** will be taking place at St Alban’s Cathedral, 3rd to 5th February. For further information go to <https://rcdow.org.uk/scripturefestival/>