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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8th Sunday Year C

27th February 2022

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**Readings:**

**This Week** **(8th Sunday in Ordinary time)** Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7, 7-9, Ps 91:2-3, Corinthians 15:54-58, Luke 6:39-45

**Next Week** **(1st Sunday in Lent)** Deuteronomy 26:4-10, 7-9, Ps 90:1-2, Romans 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13

Psalter Week 4

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**Reflection from Father Hilary. Lent – A Spiritual Revolution**

Dear Fellow Penitents: -

“You must give up your “old” way of life as you get corrupted by following illusory desires. Instead, you must be renewed by a Spiritual Revolution so that you can put on the “new” self-created in God’s way”.”

That’s St. Paul writing to the Christians of Ephesus. But it is God’s word to us today too. “Revolution” is a word that doesn’t readily spring to mind when thinking of Our Lord. But it should. He gives the word more depth and meaning than the usual understanding of it. That’s because he gets at the heart of things. He gets at the heart of the human person. He offers a change of heart. He alone can satisfy the hunger deep in every heart. He offers solutions of Revolution in Faith and Revolution in Love – his quality of Love. A Revolution of unselfishness. A different kind of Revolution indeed! Yes, this would truly “turn the world round” – turn it upside down. The revolutions of history, on the other hand, always resulted in a great mess, often a greater mess than before.

This is where Lent comes in. A Spiritual Revolution is what we need most of all. Each individual needs it, the whole world desperately needs it. I know the world needs economic solutions and political solutions but of much greater urgency and profundity is the Spiritual Revolution. Get that right first and then economic and political solutions would follow. Sadly, Christ is a Stranger, not only to non–Christians but to many Christians too. He is no plaster-cast nonsense you sometimes see in bad art and bad paintings. He is someone with fire in his belly. So should we be! A very Happy Lent to you!

**On with the Revolution!**

*Please use for prayerful reflection.*

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**Lent** Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Masses with distribution of ashes will be celebrated at 9.30am and 11.00am.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 8.30am – 9.15am, followed by Morning Prayer Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, throughout Lent (unless there is a funeral).

**Stations of the Cross** After Friday morning Mass, beginning 4th March.

**Lent Retreat ‘Encountering the Spirit’** Parishioners are invited to join those preparing to be initiated or received into the Church in prayer on Wednesday evenings, beginning this Wednesday, 2nd March, 7.45pm – 9.15pm, Parish Hall. All welcome.

**Faith Sharing** This Lent the resource has been produced by the Agency for Evangelisation team, and it is offered to encourage and enable the continuation of “spiritual conversations” begun during the parish listening phase of the diocesan synodal process. It can be used in many different ways; by existing small communities, by newly-formed groups in homes or at church, or by synodal parish gatherings during the week or after weekend or weekday Masses. Copies are available on the table at the back of the church. If you would like to meet as a group during the day, please contact Anna either by e-mail or by leaving a message with Rosa in the parish office.

**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, Wednesday, 7.30pm. New musicians and singers of all ages always welcome to join.

**Urgent!**. New volunteer church cleaners needed to give an hour or so once a week or less, to clean the benches and the floor. Please contact Rosa if you are willing to help as a matter of urgency.

**Offertory Envelopes** There are over 100 sets of envelopes that were never collected for tax year 2020-21 (at a cost to the parish of approx. over £100.) We are close to ordering the set for 2022-23 tax year. Please advise if you no longer wish to have your envelopes **by the end** **of next weekend.** If no contact has been made by this date, the envelope will be cancelled.

**Masses this week**

**Sunday 27th February (8th Sunday Year C) Thursday 3rd March (St Katherine Drexel)**

*(Sat.)* 6.00pm John Ryan (Ann.) **No Mass**

 8.30am Joseph Satchell (Ann.)

10.00am Martin Fernandes (Ann.) **Friday 4th March (St Casimir)**

11.30am Janusz Zielinski (LD) from KSC 9.30am Josephine McGroarty (Int.)

 6.00pmCatherine Devlin (Ann.)

 **Saturday 5th March**

**Monday 28th February No Morning Mass**

9.30am Monsignor John McIntyre (Int.) **Sunday 6th March (1st Sunday of Lent Year C)**

**Tuesday 1st March (St David)**  *(Sat.)* 6.00pm Mass of Thanks from Magin Family

6.00pm Chelsey Miller (LD.)8.30am Olga King (Birthday Ann.)

**Wednesday 2nd March** **(Ash Wednesday)** 10.00am Janusz Zielinski F(LD.)

9.30am Peter Magin (LD) *moved from 9/2/22* 11.30am Jadwiga Treszka (Ann.)

6.00pm Francisco Rodrigues (Ann.)6.00pm Michael Flahive (Ann.)

**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, William (Billy) Lloyd, Antonio Masella, Janusz Zielinski, Joseph Atkinson and Chelsey Miller and those whose anniversaries occur around this time including, John Ryan, Joseph Satchell, Martin Fernandes, Catherine Devlin, Francisco Rodrigues, Olga King, Jadwiga Tresza, Michael Flahive, Michael O’Sullivan and Ellen Fitzgerald. 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** will be restarting during 10am Mass from **today**. Liturgy is aimed at children aged 3 -7 (Nursery to Year 2). We currently 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. For more information, contact Anna. Meeting after 10.00am Mass **today**, in the Parish Hall.

**First Communion** Sessions continue this week in person, Weds., Parish Hall, 6.00pm – 7.00pm, ‘Peter’ group.

**Confirmation** Continues today in person in the **Parish Hall** 4.00pm – 5.30pm, for ‘Gifts’ group.,

**RCIA (Becoming Catholic)** Sessions continue Weds. 2nd March , 8.00pm, Parish House Please pray for our catechumens: Brian, Shiyun and Nathan and our candidates for reception, Alan, and Mick, as they prepare to celebrate the Rite of Election at Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 5th March, 3.00pm..

**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) 7.00pm – 9.00pm. Please contact Anna by **28th February** should you wish to attend. Limited places.

**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.

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony, Westminster Cathedral Saturday 14th May 2022 at 3pm.** The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5**th **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please send in to the parish office the following details by the end of March : husband and wife’s names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

**Fundraiser in Aid of Children of Afghanistan** will take place **Friday 4th March 8-11pm** in the Parish Hall. Tickets £5, on sale after all Masses this weekend. An evening of Irish and country Music, in support of desperate families in Afghanistan. Donations can be made to [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/singingfortheirsupper](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/singingfortheirsupper)

or through CAFOD <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Afghanistan-update>

**Needed:** Men’s trainers, size 7-11, Trousers, Jogging bottoms and new underwear for homeless men at The Passage. Please call Elizabeth Gowans on 0208 567 1415 for pick up. Many thanks.

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

**Synod in the Parish** The summary and Word Cloud of your synodal sharing are available on the Listening Wall. The next step is for the parish community to discern together the will of the Holy Spirit through mutual listening. You are invited to contribute to this by posting on the Listening Wall what move and strike you, as you read the summary and the Word Cloud. Please continue to also pray for synodal process in the diocese.

**CAFOD’s Walk Against Hunger Lent Challenge**  Some of the Confirmation candidates are forming a team and also arranging a 5k Community Walk on 26th March to which parishioners will be invited to join. To donate or to join the team go to <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/northfields-confirmation-challengers>. More information at <https://cafod.org.uk/>

**Energy Crisis** Caritas has been talking to National Energy Action, who can provide support to households facing energy stress. Their Warm and Safe Homes helpline, 0800 304 7159 is open daily, 10am-12pm, to support clients with energy advice around topics such as reducing energy consumption, Warm Home Discount and Priority Services Register, fuel debt, water rates and benefits advice.

**Caritas Volunteering Fair** Saturday 5 March, 12-2pm, Westminster Cathedral Hall. Find out more here [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/caritas-volunteering-fair-tickets-250053004267](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/caritas-volunteering-fair-tickets-250053004267)

**Prayer for Peace in Ukraine and the World** Pope Francis has announced that Ash Wednesday be a day of prayer and fasting for peace: “Speaking at the end of the General Audience, Pope Francis invited everyone to make 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. “I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war,” he said.” (*Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, News, 23rd February)* To this end, there will be a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after morning Mass until 11am.

**Pastoral Message from Cardinal Vincent** The Cardinal asks us all to offer an invitation, an encouragement, to all Catholics, and others, to take up a renewed, or new, practice of the faith beginning on Ash Wednesday and in the lead up to Easter. The letter is reproduced in full below.

**ARCHBISHOP’S HOUSE,**

**WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1P 1QJ**



**Pastoral Letter for the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**26/27 February 2022**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

Today I want to take a moment, first of all, to thank you for your faithfulness and for your presence here at Mass. These last two years have been very difficult and I thank God for the gift of faith which you have received, which you have nurtured and from which, I know, you receive great grace and strength. I know this to be true because it is true for me too.

Now I would like to ask your assistance.

During these last two years there were times when our way of life was severely curtailed. We were in ‘lockdown’. At one time, for three months, even the doors of our churches were firmly closed. Being unable to enter the House of God and to take part fully in the celebration of the Mass was, for many, an experience of real dismay and pain.

But that is no longer the case. We are again able to fashion the way of life that we choose. The doors of our churches can stay wide open. Yet, as you know, many have not resumed the pattern of coming to church, week by week. Other activities have filled that space. For some, the thirst for being at Mass, for celebrating life-giving sacraments, has diminished.

This is where I ask for your help. I would like you to be ready to approach those whom you know, and who are not present here today, with a word of invitation for them to join us. I know this is not easy. You may well feel it is an intrusive thing to do. Also, taking the step across the threshold of the church can be daunting for someone who has been away for a long time. So I ask you to exercise great deference and kindness when approaching them, perhaps offering to accompany them on this return journey.

I make this request now not simply because fear and restrictions are eased, but because we are approaching Lent, the traditional and powerful season of our renewal in faith. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, this coming week, we respond to the Lord’s invitation to come forward and meet him afresh. He invites us to come through the doors of the church to stand before him and receive his blessing, his mark of mercy.

Lent is the time to reset our patterns so that there is time for God in our hearts and in our weekly routines. You know well that the highest form of prayer is the celebration of the Eucharist. It is here, above all other places, that the Lord wishes to fill us with his gifts, so that we, in turn, can offer those gifts to others. And then, when we give that which we have received, we bring this precious light of Christ into our world. He is the best antidote to the darkness of the pandemic, to the loneliness it has brought, to the lack of clear hope for the future, to the deep weariness and unexpressed resentment that has entered into the souls of so many.

So, please, do what you can to invite those who are missing to come with you to be part of this great family of faith at prayer. If each of you can give a word of encouragement to one other person, to one other family, then the reward will be great. Then we can journey together to Easter. There we proclaim again that Jesus alone has mastered death, that he alone is the Lord of life, that he is now among us and calling us to come to meet him here, in this House of God, in this Gate of Heaven.

I thank you again for your presence here today. I thank you for all that you will do in response to this request and I ask God’s blessing on the words that you will speak. Remember the words of St Paul that we have just heard: ‘Keep on working at the Lord’s work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain’ (1Cor. 15:58).

Pease continue in your prayer for peace in Ukraine. We cry out: No more war, no more violence!

And remember me in your prayers as I will remember you, the faithful people of God!

Yours devotedly,



✠ Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Archbishop of Westminster