 **Catholic Church of Sts. Peter and Paul, Northfields**

*38, Camborne Avenue, Ealing, London, W13 9QZ.* Tel. 020 8567 5421

e-mail: [northfields@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:northfields@rcdow.org.uk); website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/northfields>

Facebook page: <https://fb.me\38camborneavenue>

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](mailto:northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk)

**Office Opening Hours: 10.30am to 2.30pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.**

**Sacraments and Devotions:**

**Sacraments: on enquiry; devotions: Rosary after morning weekday Mass.**

**In case you are admitted to hospital........**

In light of data protection please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain. Also state that you would like the RC Chaplain to visit you.

Psalter week 4

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24th Sunday in Ordinary time Year C (Education Sunday)

Sunday 11th Sept 2022

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**Readings for This Week** **(24th Sunday Year C)** Exodus 32:7-11, Ps 50:3-4, Timothy 1:12-17, Luke 15:1-32

**Readings for Next Week (25th Sunday Year C)** Amos 8:4-7, Ps 112:1-2, Timothy 2:1-8, Luke 16:1-13

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**Reflection from Fr. Hilary: Facts Vital for Us to Accept**

**“**I tried to find in my life a clear-cut pure joy without a pervading shadow of loss and failure. It is not possible. Our life is a short time of expectation, a time in which sadness and joy kiss each other at every moment. In every satisfying experience there is an awareness of limitations. In every success, a fear of jealousy. Behind every smile there is a tear. In every embrace there is loneliness. In every friendship some distance. And in all forms of life, the intimations of approaching darkness.” Fr Henri Nouwen.

An excellent statement. Every sentence here matters. Like Fr Nouwan we too have tried to find in our lives a clear-cut pure joy without a pervading shadow of loss and failure. We have indeed. But it is not possible. Please study his words slowly to let their truthfulness sink in. If anyone would say that his statement is pessimistic and miserable, I would reply, with respect, that that would be a false and foolish reaction. Why? Because the statement gives **facts** about life, not opinions. So life won’t make sense if we try to run away from the facts.

Therefore to ignore such facts and pretend they’re not true – **that’s** what would make us pessimistic and miserable. It would be stupid to duck them. We must grasp the nettle of Fr Nouwen’s words. By doing that we will acquire an acceptance of the statement which will lead to a peacefulness in the midst of the limitations spelt out in the quotation. But it has got to be a willing and wholehearted acceptance not a grudging one.

Jesus offers us his unique peace. Remember he, God the son, had to live the statement himself and he did so willingly. “We have not here a lasting city but we seek one that is to come.” Yes, “your life is a short time of expectation.” It is destined for fulfilment in the hereafter, “when every tear will be wiped away.”

*Please keep for prayerful reflection*

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**Liturgical Ministries:**

**a) Altar Servers**  New recruits required. Anyone eligible who has celebrated First Communion. Please contact Deacon Andrew ([andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk)) Training resumes Tuesday 20th September

**b) Music in Mass :** The music ministry returns this weekend. Rehearsals as follows: 11.30am: Weds and 10.00am on Thurs. Both rehearsals begin at 7.30pm in the church. New musicians and singers of all ages always welcome to join.

**c) Readers and Eucharistic Ministers** We need to increase the numbers exercising these ministries. For more information or to express an interest, please contact Anna or Deacon Andrew. (This includes young readers ie. Post-First Communion upwards.) Please sign up on the sheets in the sacristy indicating your availability. A new rota should be available over the weekend of 17th/18th September covering the period up to Christmas only. Please contact Anna asap with dates you may **not** be available.

**Catechists** urgently needed to serve across the age range. Volunteers, who may be interested in this particular and most important ministry of guiding and accompanying candidates along their sacramental journey and deepening their relationship with Christ, should please contact Anna if you would like to know more and to arrange a chat at a mutually convenient time. Theology degrees not required! Training will be arranged for early September in various areas of catechesis. Sessions for **First Reconciliation and Communion catechists** : **Weds 14th and 21st September, 7.30pm – 9.00pm**, Parish Hall. Please contact Anna for more information about these courses. Helper opportunities available for young people, including anyone undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

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**Masses this week**

**Sunday 11th September (24th Sunday Year C) Thursday 15th September**

*(Sat.)* 6.00pm Noreen & Christine Sinclair (RIP) **No Mass**

8.30am Peter Barry (Ann.)

10.00am Kathleen Keane (LD.) **Friday 16th September**

11.30am Patrick O’Donoghue (LD.) 9.30am

6.00pmHelen Lonergan (LD.)

**Saturday 17th September**

**Monday 12h September**  **No Morning Mass**

9.30amCarmel Harford(Ann.)

**Sunday 18th September (25h Sunday Year C)**

**Tuesday 13th September**  *(Sat)* 6.00pm People of the Parish

6.00pm  8.30am Neil & Anne Holden (Ann.)

10.00am Deceased members of Aiyadurai Family

**Wednesday 14th September**  11.30am Martin Guidera (1st Ann.)

9.30am People of the Parish  6.00pm

**Prayers for the Sick** We pray for those suffering from illness and their carers: Aimi McEwan, Doreen Foley, Vera Zunzic, Anna Keane, Barbara Lennon Snr, Teresa Hartnett, Stephania Pullin, Geraldine Davison, Dave Mortby, Cerys Edwards, Andrew Chandiram,, Kathleen Walsh, Donna O’Hagan, Ann Hagan, Alan Worman. Sankar Ghosh, Margaret Adu, Therese Biks, Shantha Kumari, Sagundala Devi, Victor Young, Ernst Barroclough, Kathleen 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 souls of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Edgar DeSouza, Patrick O’Donoghue, Helen Lonergan and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including, Carmel Harford, Neil & Anne Holden, Martin Guidera. Peter Barry, Noreen & Christine Sinclair. 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 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** during 10am Mass, term time. 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**. Liturgy resumes today**.

**First Reconciliation and Communion 2023**  Preparation for these sacraments is open to children who will be in Year 3 from September to Year 6. Anyone older please contact Anna to discuss possible arrangements. Families should be living within the boundaries of Northfields parish and/or attend Mass here regularly. Applications are now closed, except for any families new to the parish. Parents’ meeting **Monday 19th September, 7.30pm**, in the Church for those who have applied

**Confirmation 2023** Preparation for Confirmation is open to young people who will be in Years 9 to 11 in September, living within the boundaries of Northfield parish and/or attend Mass here regularly. Applications are now closed except for families new to the parish. Anyone older than Year 11 (age16), please contact Anna to discuss possibilities. Meeting for parents’, candidates and any available sponsors, **Sunday 18th September, 4pm**, Parish Hall for those who have applied.

**Thinking of Becoming Catholic? Or would like to know more about the Catholic faith?** For more information on how to go about this, please contact Anna to arrange an informal chat in the first instance.

**Getting Married?** Six months’ notice is required regardless of where the marriage is to take place. Please contact Anna to check on requirements, such as documents required, and attending a Catholic marriage preparation course. 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/>

**Parent and Toddler Group** needs volunteers to help run the group, resuming on **Weds. 14th September.** Please contact Rosa or Anna in the parish office.

**DEC (CAFOD) Pakistan Floods Appeal** A special collection will be arranged soon. In the meantime, should you wish to make an immediate contribution, please do so online at cafod.org.uk/Give (<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Pakistan-floods-appeal?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIuKy9rPz1-QIVhu7tCh3OQQTcEAAYASAAEgJ5u_D_BwE>) or by scanning the QR code on the displayed posters.

**‘Belong and Believe’:** online Introduction to this resource from Faith Café. **Thurs. 15th Sept**., 7.30pm – 9.00pm Register on Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUlde-gqDMuH90lEdRPXKNLE6rg3DoAgk7b>

**Hope for a new beginning – a weekend for the widowed, separated and divorced**: at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex, 14-16 October 2022. Beginning Experience is a ministry to the widowed, separated and divorced led by a team of trained volunteers. Their work is carried out at special weekend gatherings which encourage participants to deal with the natural process of grief and loneliness. For further details please contact: Freda: 01322 838415, Maura: 07795 498445 or [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com)

**Safeguarding The Parish reps** are Susie Worthington, [northfieldssg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:northfieldssg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) and Tracy Paterson [northfieldssg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:northfieldssg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)