



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 10.30am to 2.30pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Sacraments and Devotions:
Suspended until further notice.

Psalter Week 2

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 1st October 2023

Readings:

This Week (26th Sunday) Ezekiel 18:25-28, Ps 24:4-9, Philippians 2:1-11, Matthew 21:28-32

Next Week (27th Sunday) Isaiah 5:1-7, Ps 79:9, Philippians 4:6-9, Matthew 21:33-43

Reflection from Fr. Hilary: Faith 1: Faith and Reason

This is the first of 6 pieces on Faith. Please keep them all. I hope you find this helpful for yourself and in talking to others about matters of Faith. Faith and reason are different, yes, but they are not in opposition. They are complementary. Why shouldn't they be since both come from God? Away, then, with the idea that Reason cancels out Faith or makes nonsense of it. Our Reason is a wonderful faculty and so should be treated with respect. That respect however, won't be slow to admit the limitations of Reason. Reason needs to welcome Faith but Faith too needs to welcome Reason because if you stick to an **irrational** Faith you will find you can't integrate Faith into life. Also, it's unlikely people out there will listen.

Some worry that the truths which science is continually unfolding so rapidly might make us shaky in our faith and diminish people's respect for Faith. This shows a complete misunderstanding. Faith seeks understanding of Truth. So does Reason. Truth cannot contradict truth. But each has its own way of probing Truth. Reason seeks to speculate on life, what it is about, does it have meaning or is it meaningless, is death the end. Vital matters. But Reason can give only very inadequate answers. Faith, however, does offer adequate answers – well, adequate for our needs this side of the grave. Only in the hereafter can we expect fully satisfying answers. The expression 'unaided Reason' is helpful. Unaided Reason needs very much the insights of Faith.

Some people you talk to will speak of Faith being blind and therefore unreasonable. They are wrong. The truths of Faith are given by Christ – truths of Revelation. Reason cannot discover them. Christ and his Church are one. The Church is that unique Community he founded to promote these precious truths. We believe and accept on his Word. So, though faith has a darkness it is also, paradoxically, a powerful light! It is not, then, blind in the sense of believing any old thing irrespective of whether there are good grounds for doing so. Faith, therefore, is reasonable.

We accept lots of matters in ordinary life on faith of some sort. How much more, then, should one accept Christ's Word! He came not to destroy the truth already there but to fulfil. He proclaimed himself as THE TRUTH. Faith isn't meant to be a set of detached propositions to be kept tucked away from the real world. No, **it is meant to give reality, true reality, to the so-called real world!** Get that straight. It casts light on the whole of human existence and leads to God. Faith illuminates our Reason and inflames our heart with powerful love. Fabulous.

Please keep for prayerful reflection.

Season of Creation Week 5 – Saint Francis of Assisi In this final week we celebrate the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron of ecology. Through his prayer, the *Canticle of the Sun*, he presents all creation as a manifestation of the goodness of God – a sacramental expression of God's generous love. We are interconnected with the natural world and we must understand how our actions have contributed to ecological crises. Saint Francis was known for his dedication to the poor, peace and interreligious dialogue and we can follow his lead and unite our voices in support of vulnerable communities impacted by climate change. Let us call on the UK Government to reinstate the green policies it has just U-turned on: go to www.cafod.org to sign the petition.

CAFOD Fast Day is **Friday 6th**. Envelopes available this weekend to bring back for the appeal and collection next weekend.

Liturgical Ministries:

Altar Servers New recruits required. Anyone of any age – from 8 to 80! - eligible as long as First Communion has been celebrated. Next Training **10th October at 6.30pm**. Please contact Deacon Andrew (andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk)

Readers We are now recruiting young people for the next round of training which will begin **3rd October**. Also, more adult readers needed for all Masses. Please contact Anna or Deacon Andrew for more information.

Music in Mass Rehearsals are as follows: for 11.30am Mass, Weds, 7.30pm -9.00pm, for 10.00am Mass, Thurs. 7.30pm. Both rehearsals take place in the church. Singers and musicians of all ages welcome.

Finance Committee meeting **Monday 2nd October at 8.00pm**.

Mass With Anointing of the Sick will take place on **Sun. 8th Oct, 2pm**, followed by refreshments.

Masses this week

Sunday 1st October (26th Sunday Year A)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Gren & Moira Corke (Wedd Ann.)
8.30am Maria Da Silva (Ann.)
10.00am Daniel Moylan (Sick)
11.30am Rupert Noronha (LD.)
6.00pm David Hall (LD.)

Monday 2nd October (Guardian Angels)

9.30am Antony Marriot (LD.)

Tuesday 3rd October

6.00pm Anna Biernat (Sick)

Wednesday 4th October (St Francis of Assisi)

9.30am Valerie Cronin (Sick)

Thursday 5th October (St Faustina Kowalska)

No Mass

Friday 6th October (St Bruno)

9.30am

Saturday 7th October (Or Lady of the Rosary)

No Morning Mass

Sunday 8th October (27th Sunday Year A)

(Sat.) 6.00pm
8.30am
10.00am Daniel Moylan (Sick)
11.30am Michael Cusack (Ann.)
6.00pm

Prayers for the Sick We pray for those suffering from illness and their carers: Valerie Cronin, Madge Starr, Richard Chance, Sean Nally, Bridget Hopkins, Fraser Thompson, Aimi McEwan, Doreen Foley, Anna Keane, Barbara Lennon Snr, Teresa Hartnett, Stephanie Pullin, Geraldine Davison, Dave Mortby, Cerys Edwards, Andrew Chandiram, Kathleen Walsh, Donna O'Hagan, Ann Hagan, Alan Worman, Sankar Ghosh, M.S., Margaret Adu, Therese Biks, Shantha Kumari, Sagundala Devi, Victor Young, Ernst Barroclough, Giuseppe Ianotta, Barry Kiernan, Jane Spurr. 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 Rupert Noronha, David Hall, Antony Marriot and Joanita de Menezes and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including Michael Cusack, Denis Fitzgerald and Maria Bertha Da Silva. 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 Liturgy is aimed at children aged 3 -7 (Nursery to Year 2). If you would like to be involved as a leader or a helper, please contact Anna as soon as possible. DBS checks processed by the diocese are required for this role. For more information, contact Anna.

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.

First Communion 2024 Applications are now closed. If you are new to the parish, please contact Anna as a matter of urgency

Confirmation 2024 Introductory Meeting for parents who have applied on **Sun. 15th October**, 4.30pm, Church.

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/>

Autumn Faith Sharing This Autumn the resources focuses on the 4 main documents of the Second Vatican Council on the Word of God, Liturgy, Church and Church in the Modern World as an opportunity to begin engaging with the Jubilee Year 2025. Booklets now available from the back of the church. Price £4. Please place monies in 'Newspapers' slot above the hymnbooks. If you require a large print version, please contact Anna. (northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk).

CCP Forms Secondary and Sixth Form Dates will be published in the newsletter early October giving times when Fr Jim will be available for form signing. Forms will only be signed by the Parish priest of the parish where you attend Mass regularly. Please refer to the School admissions pack. Please email the office if you need copies of Baptism Certificates.

Mount Carmel Primary School Foundation Governors Required Are you looking for a way to live out your faith and serve your local community at the same time? Foundation Governors play an important part in maintaining and developing the Catholic character of Catholic schools. For more information, go to <https://www.mountcarmel.ealing.sch.uk/vacancies/>

URGENT!! Catechists and helpers needed to help prepare children and young people for the sacraments. If you have a love and enthusiasm for your faith and would like to share it with others, consider being involved in and contributing to this ministry. Please contact Anna to arrange a chat at a mutually convenient time initially by e-mail. northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk.

Youth Event for 11 – 16 Year Olds Ealing Abbey are holding a 'Youth Summit' in the Parish Hall on **Tues. 10th Oct**, 7pm. There will be food, music, activities, speakers and prayer. To say you're going, e-mail formation@ealingabbey.org.uk

London Irish Social Group- Parish hall, **Thursdays at 10am to 12.45pm**. All Welcome. .Contact Maria Connolly or Mary Whelan-O'Neill on 07592508680.

Do you like cooking? A community of 5 elderly sisters living near St Benedict's Ave require a cook, 17 hours a week Mon-Friday but hours can be negotiable plus some shopping. If interested, please contact Sr Catherine or Sr Marie on 02089986731 if no reply please leave a message.

Safeguarding The Parish reps are Susie Worthington, northfieldssg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk and Tracy Paterson northfieldssg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk for any matters relating to Safeguarding, including DBS.