



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 4

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 12th November 2023

Readings:

This Week (32nd Sunday) Malachi 1:14--22, Ps 130, Thessalonians 1:5-10, Matthew 22:34-40

Next Week (33rd Sunday) Proverbs 31:10-13, Ps 127:1-5, Thessalonians 5:1-6, Matthew 25:14-30

Reflection from Father Hilary Ministry of the Bedpan

Surely a misprint – bedpan? Not at all. Let me explain. A friend of mine was visiting her daughter in hospital. Her daughter suffered from the terrible disease cystic fibrosis and died in due course. Someone phoned her mother there at the hospital and asked “What are you doing just now?” Her reply: “I’m doing the ministry of the bedpan.”

That would strike some as rather odd, exaggerated or even unbecoming. No, no. It is spot on correct. In Church situations we apply ‘ministry’ to ministers of the Word of God and ministers of the Eucharist. That’s right. The word ‘minister’ is a pure Latin word meaning servant. Hence certain people are called ministers of State and ministers of Religion, simply because they are supposed to serve the people. But **every** member of the Church is a minister of the Word of God and a minister of the Eucharist commissioned by the **Lord Himself** by virtue of their Baptism and Confirmation. In what way? By living that Word and living the implications of the Eucharist. The Word of God and the Eucharist in their deepest meaning are the most eloquent sources of **all manner of service** to be done to God and to his people. This is expressed by exercising the magnificent beauty and costly Love of Christ in sincere dedication and a willing self-sacrificing spirit. Please pause and ponder all that.

Now, back to the bedpan! This will help us realise more clearly ‘all manner of service’ because the bedpan brings us down to earth – and rightly so. I told you recently about the work of the wonderful Little Brothers of Jesus. One of them was a public lavatory attendant. He said he was invisible – in the sense that no one took any notice of him. But far from that making him feel miserable with self-pity, he was smiling with a deep joy which comes from Christ, not from the world. Look at all the things a mother does for her children, including a lot of messy tasks. And fathers too. All of us, married or single, we **all** have our tasks.

And let us get this clear – there is no such thing as menial work. I can’t stand it when people apply the word ‘menial’ to certain kinds of work! The Divine Carpenter who created the Universe deliberately became the obscure and humble carpenter at Nazareth. The work of cleaners in hospital is vital as the work of doctors and nurses is vital. So let’s fight all snobby attitudes to different kinds of work usually displayed by so-called sophisticated people! So what I am saying is that **all** your endeavours in the nitty-gritty of life are precious, sacred and truly **holy** – not least the ministry of the bedpan!

Please keep for prayerful reflection.

Month of the Holy Souls

1. November Dead Lists Lists and envelopes

available from the back of the church. Please return to the box provided. No donation necessary.

2. Tuesday Evening Masses This week we remember deceased grandparents, parents and spouses.

3. Remembrance Sunday Mass at 11.30am **today**.

4. Blessing of graves There will be a blessing of the graves at Gunnersbury, Cemetery **on Thurs. 19th Nov. at 3pm.**

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 **14th November at 6.30pm.** Please contact Deacon Andrew (andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk)

Readers We are now recruiting young people for the next round of training, next session **21st November**. 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.

Carol Service will take place on **Sunday 17th December**, time tbc. Music rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings in the church from 7.30pm. All are welcome

CCP Forms Nursery, Reception and Sixth Form Fr Jim will be available this week to sign forms as follows: Mon. 13th and Weds. 15th between 4.30pm and 6.30pm. No appointment necessary. Please email the office if you need copies of Baptism Certificates. There will be more opportunities next week and will continue until the first week of December.

Masses this week

Sunday 12th November (32nd Sunday Year A)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Arlene Chandiram (Ann.)

8.30am Falbert Ahti (Ann)

10.00am Joseph Barry (1st Ann.)

11.30am Denis Daly (Ann.)

6.00pm Brian Jones (Ann.)

Monday 13th November

9.30am Patricia Boyle (LD.)

Tuesday 14th November

6.00pm Deceased Grandparents, Parents, Spouses

Wednesday 15th November (St Albert the Great)

9.30am Annie Bambury (Snr) (1st Ann.)

Thursday 16th November (St Edmund of Abingdon)

No Mass

Friday 17th November (St Hilda; St Hugh of Lincoln; St Elizabeth of Hungary)

9.30am May Burne (RIP.)

Saturday 18th November (Dedication of Basilicas of Ss Peter & Paul)

No Morning Mass

Sunday 19th November (33rd Sunday Year A)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Santana DeMello (Ann.)

8.30am Margaret Clarke (Ann)

10.00am Daniel Moylan (Sick.)

11.30am Jack Murphy (Ann.)

6.00pm Afra Countinho (Ann.)

Prayers for the Sick We pray for those suffering from illness and their carers: Madge Starr, Richard Chance, Sean Nally, Bridget Hopkins, Fraser Thompson, Aimi McEwan, Doreen Foley, 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, 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, Nuala Hirth, Rosaleen Edward, John Callaghan and Patricia Boyle and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including Arlene Chandiram, Falbert Ahti, Joseph Barry, Brian Jones, Annie Bambury, Santana DeMello, Margaret Clarke, Jack Murphy and Afra Countinho. 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. The next course will take place in November.

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. DBS checks processed by the diocese are required for this role.

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 Preparation has begun with parents guiding their children at home. In-person meeting for parents, **15th November**, 8.00pm, Parish Hall.

Confirmation 2024 Next session for candidates who have applied **Sunday, 19th November, 4.00pm**, Parish Hall.

Getting Married? Six months' notice is required regardless of where the marriage is to take place. Please contact Anna to check on requirements. 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/>

'Second Sunday' Coffee Morning Today after 8.30am and 10.00am Masses. Come along to catch up with parishioners whilst enjoying tasty refreshments!

Sick & Retired Priests' Fund Collection A second collection will be taken this weekend. Donations can also be made online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations or scanning the QR code on the posters and envelopes.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal... Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Fundraiser in Aid of Acton Homeless An evening of music and song by 'A Wing and A Prayer' will take place on **Sat. 25th November**, 8.00pm – 11.00pm, in the Parish Hall. Tickets £5, on sale after all Masses next weekend, price £5.

Online talks both sets taking place online to register with Warren at catadmin@rcdow.org.uk and a request of a suggested donation of £5 per talk to be made via <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/agency-for-evangelisation/>

1. Jubilee 2025 As part of the preparation for the Jubilee, there will be a second talk on the Church on 28th November, given by Fr Brian O'Mahony. More information at <https://rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/evangelisation-events/> and on the poster. For donation, please add 'Year of the Council' in the optional message box.

2. Advent Online Scripture Talks by Fr John Deehan on the prayers and Gospels of Christmas, will take place on Thursdays, beginning 23rd November, 7.30pm – 8.30pm. For donations, please add 'Advent Talks' in the I message box.

Leadership Programme Aged 18 - 22? Westminster Youth Ministry is taking 20 young Catholics on this exciting leadership training course, beginning at the start of Advent and culminating in a pilgrimage to Lourdes in July, during which the young leaders will support the Redcaps as they accompany sick or elderly pilgrims. Application deadline: 16 November 2023. Visit youth.rcdow.org.uk to apply or email youth@rcdow.org.uk for more information.

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

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