



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](mailto: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 1

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year B

### Sunday 10th December 2023

#### Readings:

**This Week (2<sup>nd</sup> Advent)** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 84; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

**Next Week (3<sup>rd</sup> Advent)** Isaiah 61:1-2, Ps 1:46-50; Thessalonians 5:16; John 1:6-8

#### Reflection from Fr. Hilary: The Heart of the Matter

This poem alongside contains thought-provoking truths, urgent and beautiful written by Madeleine L'Engle. When you have read the first and second verses, you get the answer in the third verse. Honour and Truth and Love are trampled on today too. The inn is full – i.e. the greed and arrogance and selfishness of the world are rampant. That makes it all the more urgent for Love to be born – to be born much more in us all and to take the risk of **giving it birth**, bearing in mind this point : **the person who risks nothing risks far too much.** Very true. Once again please – prayerful reflection and help to spell it out to the children.

#### The Risk of Birth

This is no time for a child to be born  
With the earth betrayed by war and hate  
And a star lighting up the sky to warn  
that time runs out and the sun burns late.

That was no time for a child to be born  
In a land in the crushing grip of Rome:  
Honour and Truth were trampled by scorn  
yet here the Saviour makes his home.

When is the time for Love to be born?  
The inn is full on the planet Earth,  
And by greed and pride the sky is torn.  
YET LOVE STILL TAKES THE RISK OF BIRTH.

*Please use for quiet prayer.*

#### Rest In Peace

We pray for the repose of the souls of

1. Jacqueline O'Dowd whose requiem will be celebrated on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am. This replaces the Mass of the day. The intention for Thomas Nicholas has moved to Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Dec.
2. Gerrard Hartnett whose requiem will take place at Our Lady of The Visitation Greenford on 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10am.

#### Advent 2023

1. **Advent Giving Calendar** arranged by Caritas. Copies available in the porch. Buy a listed item each day of Advent to give to a food bank or homeless charity. As a parish, we will be collecting items for Acton Homeless. Please bring any of the listed items to the boxes in the porch this weekend and no later than the end of 17<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you!
2. **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** will take place from 8.30am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during Advent.
3. **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** (Confession) There will be a visiting priest next Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 10.00am – 11.00am, to celebrate the Sacrament in the church.
4. **Carol Service** will take place on **next Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December**, 3.30pm. Music rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings in the church from 7.30pm. All are welcome. Readers required of all ages. Please sign up on the list in the sacristy or e-mail Anna ([northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk)) A rehearsal will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup>, 6pm, in the church.
5. **All Age Flower Workshop** will take place on **Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> December** at 10.00am in the Parish Hall. Please sign up on the list in the sacristy.
6. **Christmas Eve Masses, Children's, 5pm and Family, 7pm** There will be an initial meeting on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>**, from 4.30pm in the church for children interested in reading or acting in these Masses. The main rehearsal will take place on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**, after school. If you can't attend on 13<sup>th</sup>, please e-mail Anna.
5. **Masses on 24<sup>th</sup> December** The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve this year. Masses to celebrate the Sunday will take place on Saturday at 6.00pm and Sunday at 9.30am only, before going into Christmas Eve mode!
6. **Christmas and New Year Services** Leaflet available this weekend.

**Ministry of Reader and Eucharist over Christmas and New Year** Please sign up on the lists in the sacristy indicating your availability over the Christmas period. New rotas will be available the weekend of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> January to run up to 17<sup>th</sup> March inclusive. Please let Anna know of your availability over this period

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

## Masses this week

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December (2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Mattie Butler (L.D.)  
8.30am William Casey (Ann.)  
10.00am Michael Kearney (B'day Ann.)  
11.30am Peter O'Sullivan (Ann.)  
6.00pm Bernard Nicholas (LD.)

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December (St Damasus I)

9.30am Jack McPadden (Ann.)

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December (Our Lady of Guadalupe)

6.00pm People of the Parish

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December (St Lucy)

9.30am Hilda McGin (Ann.)

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December (St John of the Cross)

No Mass

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

11.00am *Funeral* Jacqueline O'Dowd RIP

### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December

No Morning Mass

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December (3<sup>rd</sup> Advent Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Nuala Hirth (L.D.)  
8.30am Una Grogan (LD.)  
10.00am Stefan & Vinceta Moraes (Wedding.)  
11.30am Peter MaGin (Ann.)  
6.00pm Madge Starr (Birthday)

**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 Bernard Nicholas, Mattie Butler, Jacqueline O'Dowd, Nuala Hirth, Una Grogan and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including William Casey, Michael Kearney, Peter O'Sullivan, Jack McPadden, Hilda McGin, Peter MaGin, Hugh O'Neill. 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](mailto: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 January.

**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.

**Confirmation 2024** Next session for candidates who have applied **today, 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/>

## 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 **12<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm**. Please contact Deacon Andrew ([andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk))

**Readers** Next session **9<sup>th</sup> January** 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, this week Weds., **7.00pm** -9.00pm, for 10.00am Mass, Thurs. 7.30pm. Both rehearsals take place in the church. Singers and musicians of all ages welcome.

**Jubilee 2025** Following the Year of the Council we have now entered the Year of Prayer as the next stage in preparing for the Jubilee Year in 2025. There will be a reflection available for each week of the coming year, based on Pope Francis' recent catechesis on prayer

**Parents & Toddlers** has now reopened on Wednesday mornings in the Parish Hall, 9.30am – 11am, a great opportunity to meet with families of the parish and the local area. We are still looking for volunteers to help run the group. please contact Rosa or Anna in the office if you are interested.

**London Irish Social Group-** Parish hall, **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10am to 12.45pm is the last session till after Xmas.** All Welcome. .Contact Maria Connolly or Mary Whelan-O'Neill on 07592508680.

**Resonate** - Westminster Youth Ministry's primary event for young adult Catholics aged 18-35, looking to explore and learn more about their faith. Next event: A Christmas Carol: The Origin of Carols and How to Sing Them, a talk by Stephen Bick, **Thurs. 14 Dec.** 19:00 - 21:00, Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street SW1P 1QN. See poster or QR code.



**Vinnie Packs** The **SVP** are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack. Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237 . Thank you so much for your support."

**CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal...** Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://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.