



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 3

3rd Sunday of Advent Year B (Gaudete Sunday)

Sunday 17th December 2023

Readings:

This Week (3rd Advent) Isaiah 61:1-2, Ps 1:46-50; Thessalonians 5-16; John 1:6-8

Next Week (4th Advent/Christmas Eve) Samuel 7:1-5, Ps 88:2-5; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

A Christmas Reflection from Fr. Hilary: The Word Became Flesh

There are many ways in which the Incarnation is expressed. Here is one which emphasises our human dignity because of God the Son becoming one of us.

The "flesh" is the concrete person. The flesh is we who are present here – people in whom the mark of time can be seen: the child just beginning to live, the vigorous adolescent, the old person nearing the end. The flesh is marked by time. The flesh is the actual human situation, human beings in sin, human beings in painful situations, the people of a nation that seems to have got into a blind alley. The flesh is all of us who live incarnate. The flesh, this frail flesh, this flesh that has beginning and end, that sickens and dies, that sins, that becomes miserable or happy according to whether it obeys God – that is what the Word became. The Word became flesh.

Archbishop Oscar Romero

Rest in Peace We pray for the repose of the soul of Gerrard Hartnett whose requiem will take place at Our Lady of The Visitation Greenford on **19th December at 10am.**

Advent 2023

1. Advent Giving Calendar arranged by Caritas. As a parish, we will be collecting items for Acton Homeless. Please bring any of the listed items to the boxes in the porch no later than the end of this weekend. Thank you!

2. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 8.30am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday this week.

3. Carol Service will take place today **Sunday, 17th December**, 3.30pm, followed by mulled

4. All Age Flower Workshop will take place on **Sat. 23rd December** at 10.00am in the Parish Hall. Please sign up on the list in the sacristy by the end of this weekend.

5. Christmas Eve Masses, Children's, 5pm and Family, 7pm There will be rehearsals as follows on **Wednesday 20th:**

5.00pm Mass: 4.30pm in the church for any children wishing to take part in reading or dramatizing the gospel; Music rehearsal will take place on **Friday 22nd at 7pm December** in the Church.

7.00pm Mass :5.45pm in the church for any children wishing to read.

6. Masses on 24th December The 4th 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!

7. 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 13th/14th January to run up to 17th March inclusive. Please let Anna know of your availability over this period.

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 **16th January at 6.30pm.** Please contact Deacon Andrew (andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk)

Readers Next session **9th 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.

'Second Sunday' Raffle If you have raffle tickets 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50, please contact the office to claim your prize.

Acton Homeless Fundraiser We welcome representatives from Acton Homeless Concern to 11.30am Mass today to tell us about their work and to receive the cheque for £2500 raised at the recent successful fundraising evening enjoyed by those who attended.

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

Masses this week

Sunday 17th December (3rd 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)

Monday 18th December

9.30am Thomas Nicholas (Ann.) moved from 15/12/23

Tuesday 19th December

6.00pm People of the Parish

Wednesday 20th December

9.30am Catherine Spillane (Ann.)

Thursday 21st December (St Peter Canisius)

No Mass

Friday 22nd December

9.30am Andrew Timmons (Ann.)

Saturday 23rd December (St John of Kanty)

No Morning Mass

Sunday 24th December (4th Advent/Christmas Eve Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Tom, Alan & Gerard Hartnett (RIP.)
9.30am Bernard McNicholas (LD)
5.00pm (*Children's Mass*) People of the Parish
7.00pm (*Family Mass*) People of the Parish
9.00pm (*Solemn Mass*) People of the Parish

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 Iannotta, 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, Una Grogan, Gerard Hartnett and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including Peter Magin, Hugh O'Neill, Kate Hussain, Catherine Spillane, Andrew Timmons, Tony and Alan Hartnett. 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 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. Liturgy will take a short break until 14th January.

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 Preparation Preparation resumes in January with a meeting for parents on **Wednesday 10th January, 8.00pm**, Parish Hall. In-person sessions for the children will begin on **Wednesday 17th, January, 6.00pm – 7.15pm**, Parish Hall.

Confirmation 2024 Next session for candidates will take place on **Sunday 14th January, 4.00pm – 5.30pm**, 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/>. It is hoped to run a marriage preparation course in the parish before Easter. More details to follow soon.

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

Coffee Morning after Monday Mass Last one will be on **Monday 18th December** and will resume on **January 8th 2024**.

Parents & Toddlers has now reopened on Wednesday mornings, term time, 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, is taking a short break and will return in January. Contact Maria Connolly or Mary Whelan-O'Neill on 07592508680.

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 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.

Parish Newsletter Next week's newsletter will cover 2 weeks, 24th & 31st December. Please submit any items by Tuesday morning the latest. Thank you!

Parish Office will be closed from 20th December to 8th January. E-mails and phone messages will be monitored during this time. The next newsletter will appear on 7th January.