



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 Year B (Sunday of The Word of God)

Sunday 21st January 2024

Readings:

This Week (3rd Sunday Year B) Jonah 3:1-5, Ps 24:4-9, 1 Corinthians 7:29-11; Mark 1:14-20

Next Week (4th Sunday Year B) Samuel 16:1, Ps 22, Ephesians 5:8-14; John 8:12

Reflection from Fr. Hilary

Wisdom Amid Modern Technology

Some time ago, a number of young people agreed to carry out an experiment – to do without their mobiles for a week. Some reactions after the week: Oh, I nearly died..... my world collapsed..... I was never so lonely..... I was miserable etc! Oh dear, oh dear. We laugh, but it is serious too. How on earth did people survive before mobiles?! Nothing wrong of course with having a mobile, although I'm often regarded as being a bit odd because of not having one. I don't mind being with the dinosaurs!

A word about the serious side. Modern technology and the social media are indeed very useful. But their misuse can make them into a kind of a god. Some suffer from a fear of being left out if they don't pursue the latest fashion, get into gossiping, acquire gadgets of all sorts. They crave for cheap popularity and worry about what others think of them. False and dangerous attitudes are often taken on board.

There is a false sense of self which easily pursues shallow values to our detriment. Our true self is what matters, made in the image of God. This emphasises our great Dignity. So we shouldn't be slaves to what is false and superficial. We are offered instead true freedom from Christ. This is freedom of the best kind. It leads to deep, inner peace, whereas slavery causes misery, despondency and lack of self-worth.

Please keep for prayerful reflection

Sunday of the Word of God is celebrated this weekend. The motto chosen is taken from the Gospel of St John: "Remain in my Word" (John 8,31). To highlight the importance of the Word in Mass and the ministry, there will be a blessing of all readers who currently serve on the rota at all Masses.

Quoting the accompanying resource for the Sunday : '...we need to foster an ongoing personal and community encounter with the Word of God. We know well that listening, sharing, living and proclaiming the Word of God is not a one-day task, but a task to undertake for our whole life.' This week, why not reflect on how often do I listen to or read the scriptures? Link to the handbook in various languages: <http://www.evangelizatio.va/content/pcpne/en/attivita/parola/2024/sussidio.html>

Suggestions and resources for reading more Scripture:

1. Having a small (pocket-sized) Bible or New Testament.
2. Using a Bible App or downloading the Bible onto mobiles eg. Bible Gateway <https://www.biblegateway.com/app/> , Pray-As-You-Go <https://pray-as-you-go.org/> which provides a reflection on a reading from the Mass of the day, plus some of the suggestions given below.
3. Praying a scriptural Rosary (eg <https://everydayprayerco.com/blogs/news/praying-scriptural-rosary-pdf> or Stations of the Cross (eg. <https://acollectionofprayers.files.wordpress.com/2021/03/scriptural-way-of-the-cross-2.pdf>) or on video (various available on YouTube)
4. Set aside some family time for a short reading of a Scripture passage, for example, the Sunday Gospel. Choose a comfortable and quiet place in the home, away from the distractions of television and phones. Begin with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to God's Word. Read the passage aloud and then allow some time for the family to reflect and share their impressions. Finish with a prayer together that this Word will bear fruit in our lives, helping us in the walk toward holiness.
5. For a constantly increasing resource on the Bible and Catholics, <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/>
6. For anyone wishing to go a little deeper into the place of the Bible in Catholic, read the Vatican II document 'Dei Verbum', available free at https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19651118_dei-verbum_en.html
7. For children:

- There are many resources available for free online - video/animated clips of Bible stories on YouTube (including using Lego and Minecraft!)
- Children's Liturgy here in the parish, explores the Gospel of the Sunday.
- Use and/or take home the 'Look' sheets available at the back of the church near the newsletters.

Masses this week

Sunday 21st January (3rd Sunday Year B)
(Sat.) 6.00pm Tony & Margaret Gunn (Ann.)
8.30am Ramaswamy Iyer (LD.)
10.00am John Sweeney (Ann.)
11.30am Foncie Kennedy (Ann.)
6.00pm Sean (Jack) O'Dwyer (LD.)

Monday 22nd January (St Vincent)
9.30am Jean & Don Loughnane (Int.)

Tuesday 23rd January
6.00pm Aiden McAvennia (80th Birthday.)

Wednesday 24th January (St Francis de Sales)
9.30am Elizabeth & John Mooney (Int.)

Thursday 25th January (Conversion of St Paul)
No Mass

Friday 26th January (Sts Timothy & Titus)
9.30am Nuala Hirth (LD)

Saturday 27th January (St Angela Merici)
No Morning Mass

Sunday 21st January (3rd Sunday Year B)
(Sat.) 6.00pm Gerry Collery (Sick.)
8.30am Mario Farrugia (LD.)
10.00am Gerry Harlowe (Ann.)
11.30am Rose McGee (Ann.)
6.00pm Pat Dennehy(LD.)

Prayers for the Sick We pray for those suffering from illness and their carers: Madge Starr, Richard Chance, Sean Nally, Bridget Hopkins, 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 Kathleen Bierney, Brian Conneller, Pat Dennehy, Noreen Lally, Ramaswamy Iyer, Sean (Jack) O'Dwyer, Marie Kiely, and Nuala Hirth, Mario Farrugia. and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including, Tony & Margaret Gunn, John Sweeney, Foncie Kennedy, Rose McGee and Tony Devlin. 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 February.

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 Preparation In-person sessions for the children continue on **Wednesday 23rd January, 6.00pm – 7.15pm**, Parish Hall. Please pray for the children and their families during this time of preparation.

Confirmation 2024 Next session for candidates will take place on **Sunday 28th January**, 4.00pm – 5.30pm, Parish Hall, followed by a Rite of Commitment during the Sunday 6.00pm Mass.

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.

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 **30th January at 6.30pm**. Please contact Deacon Andrew (andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk)

Readers Next session **23rd 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., 7.30pm -9.00pm, for 10.00am Mass, Thurs. 7.30pm. Both rehearsals take place in the church. .

Coffee Morning after Monday Mass Come join us in the hall for coffee after Mass on Mondays. All welcome

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, **Thursday's 10am to 12.45pm**. All Welcome. .Contact Maria Connolly or Mary Whelan-O'Neill on 07592508680.

One Night Only! Charity Gig Get your dancing shoes ready for 'Five years of 'One Night Only!' at The Globe, Windmill Road, Brentford, Saturday 27th January from 8.30pm with a raffle for Ealing Food Bank and Acton Homeless Concern. All welcome! For any more information, contact Roisin roisinsullens@gmail.com

Offertory Envelopes We are close to ordering the next set for 2024-25 tax year. Please contact Rosa or Anna in the parish office to advise if you no longer wish to have your envelopes

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