



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

1st Sunday of Lent Year B

Sunday 18th February 2024

Readings:

This Week (1st Lent Year B) Genesis 9:8-15, Ps 24:4-9, Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

Next Week (2nd Lent Year B) Genesis 22:1-2, Ps 115:10, Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

Reflection from Father Hilary. **Lent – A wonderful Blessing (2)**

"Without me you can do nothing." Famous words of the Lord. But **with** Him we can achieve great things. We must believe it. Deeper repentance, ongoing change of heart – we cannot achieve these by our own efforts. God is always ready to achieve great things in us and between us by his power. What is required is our willing cooperation with Him. That's Lent for you!

St Paul has a powerful phrase: "Put on the Lord, Jesus Christ." Please reflect prayerfully on that. He also quotes the prophet Isaiah: "Who can know the mind of the Lord?" A rhetorical question because we cannot fathom God adequately. However, Paul goes on to say boldly: "But we have the mind of Christ." Surely a contradiction? Not really. He means that because Jesus has revealed so much to us, we can know his mind and the Father's mind, **to a certain extent**. Now, note carefully. This will enrich our humanity, our dignity no end provided **we allow** the mind of Christ to influence us deeply, in the core of our being. That's Lent for you! The "saint" side of us will then develop while the sinner side diminishes. Growing in his mind will lead to growing in his heart too. Thus Truth and Love will be inseparable.

So, "putting on Christ" is the true aim of Lent. Get that right please. The beauty of Christ in us will take over from the ugliness and misery of sin. To put it another way, our true self will take over from our false self. That's why Lent is terrific. Indeed, it is exciting in the best sense of the word.

Please keep for prayerful meditation.

Lent

1. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays throughout Lent before morning Mass from 8.30am.

2. Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Fridays during Lent after morning Mass. If you would like to lead on one of the Fridays, please sign up on the list in the sacristy.

3. Faith-Sharing "We Dare to Say" is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring 5 sessions, each based on a line from the Lord's Prayer, includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions, connection of the Our Father with the sacraments and the devotional life wisdom from the saints. Copies of the booklet are available from the back of the church at cost of £4 to be placed in the 'newspapers' wall slot above the hymnbooks. Large print copies also available.

4. Christian Meditation- Prayer of the Heart Would you like to learn to meditate in Lent? There are opportunities to explore this either in person or on line. Do come along and join us in the Parish Hall on Monday evenings, 8pm-9pm OR there are opportunities to join groups that meet on line. To find out more, visit www.meditatiocentrelondon.org or to speak to a parish contact, email gabrieljones2015@gmail.com or mary.howley@mail.com

5. Music for Holy Thursday and Good Friday Rehearsals for these Holy Week services will begin on Weds. 21st February, 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the church. (Entrance via the Parish Office on Felton Road.) For more information, please contact Anna (northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk) Singers and musicians of any age welcome.

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 **20th February at 6.30pm**. Please contact Deacon Andrew (andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk)

Readers Next session **27th February** 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 -9.30pm; for 10.00am Mass, Thurs. 7.30pm. Both rehearsals take place in the church.

Monday Coffee Morning after morning Mass in the Hall, from around **10.00am**. Come in for refreshment and a natter!

Masses this week

Sunday 18th February (1st Sunday Lent Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Sean (Jack) O'Dwyer (LD.)
8.30am Annie Barry (Ann.)
10.00am Francie Carr (Ann.)
11.30am Peter McConnon (LD.)
6.00pm Marie Kiely (LD.)

Monday 19th February

9.30am Macdara Faherty (LD.)

Tuesday 20th February

6.00pm Kay Cunningham (Get Well.)

Wednesday 21st February (S Peter Damian)

9.30am Elizabeth McGee (LD.)

Thursday 22nd February (Chair of St Peter)

No Mass

Friday 23rd February (St Polycarp)

9.30am Kathleen Carty (Ann.)

Saturday 24th February

No Morning Mass

Sunday 25th February (2nd Sunday Lent Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm People of the Parish
8.30am John Ryan (RIP.)
10.00am Martin Fernandes (Ann.)
11.30am Adrian Botley (RIP.)
6.00pm Kathleen Bierney (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 Sean O'Dwyer, Peter McConnon, Marie Kiely, Elizabeth McGee and Kathleen Bierney. and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including, Annie Bary, Francie Carr, and Martin Fernandes. 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.** Please pray for candidates and their families during their time of preparation.

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. 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 Next session: Parents' meeting **Monday 19th Feb., 8.00pm in the church.** Please note: this is a change to the timetable. **Sat. 24th Feb.,** 4.00pm -5.30pm, Parish Hall: Reconciliation workshop: a repeat of the December session.

Confirmation 2024 Preparation session for the fundraiser, **Sun. 25th Feb.** 4.00pm – 5.30pm, Parish Hall, The annual fundraiser will take place on **Sun 3rd March, 9.00am to 1.00pm,** in the parish hall and will be in aid of the Energy Project.

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/> A Marriage preparation course will take place in March. Date still to be confirmed.

Parents & Toddlers Wednesday mornings, term time only, 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.

Towards the Synod 2024 Following on from the Synod meeting in Rome in October, we are invited to consider a couple of aspects that emerged from that meeting. The Cardinal suggests that we consider how we are tackling the renewal of our sense of mission, in the context of building up communion and widening participation. To that end a gathering of parishioners of any age is being arranged on **Wednesday 21st February, 7.30pm,** in the Parish Hall. The questions to address are: How do we witness as a Parish and proclaim our faith to those who have never heard of Christ, those who have ceased walking with Christ, those with whom we worship Christ (those who come to church)/? How do we organise ourselves as a Parish to do this more effectively? What concrete steps/formation opportunities would help us begin to witness and proclaim our faith more effectively? What structures may need to change? How might we need to develop the way we are organised currently?

Are you a UK Taxpayer? As a parish we can claim the tax back on all donations received that have been gift aided, which increases your donation at no extra cost to yourself. Gift aid forms are available at the back of the church and we ask that you fill one in and either leave in the box or return to the Parish office.

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