



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 1

5th Sunday Year B

Sunday 4th February 2024

Readings:

This Week (5th Sunday Year B) Job 7:1-4, Ps 146:1-6, Corinthians 9:16-19; Mark 1:29-39

Next Week (6th Sunday Year B) Leviticus 13:1-2, Ps 31:1-2, Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45

Reflection from Fr. Hilary: Appreciating the Word of God - *For your reflection following on from the Sunday of the Word of God*

Please look closely at the following quotation:

"I ask you, brothers and sisters, tell me: which to you seems the greater, the word of God or the Body of Christ? If you wish to say what is true you will have to answer that the word of God is not less than the Body of Christ. Therefore just as when the Body of Christ is administered to us we take great care that nothing of it falls from our hands to the ground, so should we with equal care see that the word of God which is being imparted to us shall not be lost to our souls."

(St Caesarius of Arles, 470 – 543)

Maybe you are taken aback by that but I hope not! Rather, I hope you are thrilled like me! If we use a small "w" – the word of God or in the plural, the words of God over the many centuries preparing for Christ, we see how **all** that God the Father has to say is now summed up and fulfilled beyond expectation in His Son. This Son is **the** Word of God made flesh. "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God." The letter to the Hebrews says: "At various times in the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets but in our own time, he has spoken to us through His Son."

Now please look at the next quotation from the Second Vatican Council (1965):

"The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures just as she venerates the Body of the Lord, since from the table of **both** the word of God and of the body of Christ she receives and offers to the faithful the bread of life, especially in the sacred liturgy."

You can see now that this statement of the Second Vatican Council is saying the same as the first statement above! Great! So, Scripture is food as the Eucharist is food. Please – you must keep this for future reflection.

Please keep for prayerful reflection

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 **6th 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 -9.00pm, for 10.00am Mass, Thurs. 7.30pm. Both rehearsals take place in the church. .

Mass with Anointing of the Sick will take place next **Sun. 11th February**, 2.30pm, followed by refreshments in the hall.

National Marriage Week is an annual celebration offering the opportunity to support and promote marriage and family life. It is celebrated this year from 7-14 February. The Week is "an opportunity to ponder on this display of God's love for the world he created. It is a chance for married couples to reflect, perhaps with their families, on how they might develop the good things that exist between and within them. It is a time to demonstrate the value of marriage, based on sincerely lived vows, to men and women and to society as a whole. This is a week of prayer for the whole Church, in gratitude to God who has given us life and taught us to love so that we can be as he made us – a visible icon of himself." (*Excerpt from the message by Bishop David Evans, Lead Bishop for Marriage and Family Life, Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham*) You can download an eight-page PDF resource here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2024/01/Marriage-Week-2024c.pdf> Printed copies are available from the back of the church.

Second Sunday Coffee Morning will take place next Sunday morning after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses.

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.

Masses this week

Sunday 4th February (5th Sunday Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Mary-Anne Osborne (Ann.)
8.30am Peter Coghlan (LD.)
10.00am Kay Lorenzato (LD.)
11.30am Deceased members of Dunne Family
6.00pm Kathleen & Michael Flahive (Ann.)

Monday 5th February (St Agatha)

9.30am Bridie McGowan (LD)

Tuesday 6th February (St Paul Miki & Companions)

6.00pm ~Bernard Shand (Get Well)

Wednesday 7th February

9.30am Richard Armstrong (Ann.)

Thursday 8th February (St Jerome Emiliani; St Josephine Bakhita) No Mass

Friday 9th February

9.30am Tom Burke (LD)

Saturday 10th February (St Scholastica) No Morning Mass

Sunday 11th February (5th Sunday Year B)(World Day of Sick)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Mary Butler (Ann.)
8.30am Andrea Drury Mangambo Malungu (LD.)
10.00am Frida Victorian (LD.)
11.30am John Patrick Callaghan (LD)
2.00pm Mass with Anointing of the Sick
6.00pm Anna Hohlon (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 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 Jadwiga Kirchner, Peter Coghlan, Kay Lorenzato, Bridie McGowan, Tom Burke, Frida Victorian, John Patrick Callaghan and Anna Hohlon. and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including, Kathleen & Michael Flahive, Mary-Anne Osborne, Richard Armstrong and Mary Butler. 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 7th February, 6.00pm – 7.15pm**, for 'Paul' group, Parish Hall. Please pray for the children and their families during this time of preparation.

Confirmation 2024 Next session for candidates will take place **today**, 4.00pm – 5.30pm, Parish Hall, Please pray for the candidates during this time of preparation.

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. Dates will be confirmed in next week's newsletter.

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

Parents & Toddlers 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.

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

Lent Faith-Sharing Resource "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. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. The connection of the Our Father with the sacraments and the devotional life is explored, and wisdom from the saints is offered for the spiritual growth of group participants and individuals alike. 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.

Homes For Ukraine Programme Caritas Social Action network (CSAN) and St John of God Hospitaller Services (SJOG) are working in partnership to provide temporary housing and support for Ukrainian displaced individuals as they adapt to life in the UK. As the war continues, the number of those wishing to evacuate and find refuge in the UK remains high. In addition to matching hosts with guests, the project has expanded to assist Ukrainians in the UK to find private rented accommodation at the end of their hosting period. The programme has been extended until March 2024. If you think you could host or would like to know more, please go to <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk> or e-mail homesforukraine@sjog.org.uk. One way we can all support the programme is through prayer. Prayer cards available from the back of the church.

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