



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 Lent Year B

Sunday 3rd March 2024

Readings:

This Week (3rd Lent Year B) Exodus 17:3-7, Ps 94:1-2, Romans 5:1-2; John 4:5-42

Next Week (4th Lent Year B) Chronicles 16:14-16, Ps 136, Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21

Reflection from Fr. Hilary: Lent Is Wonderful

The first word on the lips of Jesus in St Mark's Gospel is **Repent**. Here is an excellent passage on Repentance by a great biblical scholar, William Barclay:

"To repent means to change one's mind and then to fit one's actions to this change of mind. Repentance means a change of heart and a change of action. Repentance is bound to **hurt**, for it involves the bitter realisation that the way we were following was wrong. Repentance is bound to **disturb** because it means a complete reversal of life. That is precisely why so few people do repent – for the last thing most people desire is to be disturbed. There is a passage in the novel *Quo Vadis*, made into a film. Vinicius, a young Roman, has fallen in love with a girl who is a Christian. Because he is not a Christian she will have nothing to do with him. He follows her to the secret night gathering of a small group of Christians and there, unknown to anyone, he listens to the service. He hears St Peter preach and, as he listens, something happens to him. He felt that if he was to follow that teaching, he would have to place on a burning pile all his thoughts and behaviour, burn them into ashes and then fill himself with a life altogether different. **That** is repentance. Repentance is no sentimental feeling sorry. It is a **revolutionary** thing – that is why so few repent in any big way."

A very good quotation. Someone might be tempted to retort that they prefer the attractive aspects of the Gospel. Oh, now, watch it – watch it! We can't pick and choose. Here, last week, I wrote that the Gospel is Magnificent, the Gospel is Beautiful, the Gospel is Thrilling – and so indeed it is. Now look at Our Lord's words "Repent and believe the Gospel." "Believe" here means take it to heart and live it. So, without **ongoing** repentance, we can't relish properly those attractive aspects of the Gospel. **No short cuts!** Rightly seen then, repentance is a vital part of the Gospel, the Good News. Indeed, it is truly attractive, leading to all those other marvellous attractions! So, a wonderful, marvellous, attractive Lent to you all!

Please keep for prayerful reflection

Lent

- 1. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** will take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays throughout Lent 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. 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 Week** :a) **Holy Thursday and Good Friday** Rehearsals for these Holy Week services take place on Wednesdays, 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the church. (Entrance via the Parish Office on Felton Road.) b) **Easter Vigil** Rehearsals on Thursdays, 7.30pm. For more information on all rehearsals please contact Anna (northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk) Singers and musicians of any age welcome.

CAFOD Family Fast day - Thank you for your generosity. The total to date stands at £2200

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony, Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 at 2.30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and every year after, wedding anniversary of a Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary and would like to attend, please contact the parish office with the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email address or telephone number if no email

Masses this week

Sunday 3rd March (3rd Sunday Lent Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Benny Langan (Ann.)
8.30am Ali Sahabadi (RIP.)
10.00am Deceased members of Aiyadurai Family
11.30am Kieran Foley (Ann.)
6.00pm Francisco Rodrigues (RIP Ann.)

Monday 4th March (St Casimir)

9.30am Moses Navei (Get well.)

Tuesday 5th March

6.00pm Hubert Schlegel (LD.)

Wednesday 6th March

9.30am Jadwiga Treszka (RIP Ann.)

Thursday 7th March (Sts Perpetua & Felicity) No Mass

Friday 8th March (St John of God)

9.30am Johan Hirth (Ann.)

Saturday 9th March (St Frances of Rome) No Morning Mass

Sunday 10th March (4th Sunday Lent Year B)

(Sat.) 6.00pm Denis O'Shea (LD.)
8.30am Stephen Jorden (LD.)
10.00am Bridie Lydon (LD.)
11.30am Bridie McGowan (LD.)
6.00pm Nuala Hirth (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 : Peter Devlin Evelyn McNeely, Hubert Schlegel, Denis O'Shea, Stephen Jorden, Birdie Lydon, Bridie McGowan and Philipiah Thevapalan. and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including, Bennie Langan, Ali Sahabad, Francisco Rodrigues, Kieran Fowley, Jadwiga Treszka and Johan Hirth. 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. Next course will begin in April.

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 **Weds. 6th** : Children's session for 'Paul' group, 6.00pm – 7.15pm, Parish Hall. Celebration of First Reconciliation, 2nd and 16th March. Please pray for the children and their families at this special time.

Confirmation 2024 Fundraiser today. Next preparation session, **Sun 24th March**, 4pm – 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/> A Marriage preparation course will take place on 16th and 23rd March, 2.30pm – 5.30pm. Please register with Anna at northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk

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 **5th March at 6.30pm**. Please contact Deacon Andrew (andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk)

Readers Next session **12th March at 6.30pm** Also, more adult readers needed for all Masses Please contact Anna or Deacon Andrew for more information.

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.

Confirmation Fundraiser takes place today, 9.00am – 1.00pm, Parish Hall, plus 'bucket' collection after all Masses. The group will be raising funds for the parish energy Project as an expression of their living out the Catholic social teaching principle of 'caring for the earth'. They will also be working together with 'Second Sunday' Coffee group in providing refreshments. Raffle, tombola, face painting, bake sale and more! Please support our young people in their efforts. Thank you!

London Irish Social Group- Parish hall, **Thursday's 10am to 12.45pm..Thursday 7th March** Mother's Day Celebrations. All Welcome. Contact Maria Connolly or Mary Whelan-O'Neill on 07592508680.

Beginning Experience is a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. The weekend is led by trained volunteers, who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again. This next programme will be held on 12-14 April; for further details see the poster in the porch or contact: Mary: 0208 647 4760, or Maura: 07795 498445, or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

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