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 Closed

Sacraments and Devotions:
Sacraments: on enquiry; devotions : Rosary after morning weekday Mass.

In case you are admitted to hospital……..
In light of data protection please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain. Also state that you would like the RC Chaplain to visit you.

Psalter week 4 & 1



16th and 17th Sunday Y
Year A
Sunday 19th and 26th July 2026



Readings This Week (16th Sunday) Wisdom 12:13, Ps 86(85); Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43
Readings for Next Week (17th Sunday) Kings 3:-5-6a, Ps 119(118); Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52
Readings for following week (18th Sunday) Isaiah 55:1-3, Ps 145(144), Romans 8:35; Matthew 14:13-21

Reflections from Fr. Hilary: Women and the Church

I have mentioned how precious is the Creed we recite. When doing so we should not only make it a wonderful statement of our Faith but use it as a prayer of deep gratitude for the powerful truths contained. However, it is helpful when one or more of those truths are expressed in a different style as below: Why the emphasis on women? Why not, when for centuries they have been kept in the background by society and the Church? Note the emphasis Jesus gives.
The author is unknown

I believe in you, God,
Who created man and woman
In your own image
Who created the world and
gave both sexes the care of the earth. *(Genesis1)*

I believe in Jesus
Born of the woman Mary
Who listened to woman and likes them.
Who stayed in their homes
Who discussed the Reign of God with them
Who was followed and supported
By woman disciples *(Luke 8)*

I believe in Jesus who discussed
The meaning of life with a woman at the well *(John 4)*

I believe in Jesus
Who thought of pregnancy and birth
With reverence
As a wrenching event
A metaphor for transformation
Born again: anguish into joy. *(John 16)*

I believe in Jesus
Who spoke of himself
As a mother hen
Who would gather her chicks
Under her wing *(Matthew 23)*

I believe in Jesus
who, having risen, appeared first to Mary Magdalene
who sent her with the stunning message
Go and tell them *(John 20)*

I believe in the "Wholeness"
Of the Saviour
In whom there is neither
Jew nor Greek
Slave nor free
Male or female
For we are all ONE in Christ. *(Galatians 3)*

No Wonder God Loves Children

As you know, children can utter amusing things without realising it. Here are some sayings actually written by children talking to God.

Dear God, I didn't think orange went with purple until I saw the sunset you made on Tuesday. That was cool! *Eugene*

Dear God, did you mean for the giraffe to look like that or was it an accident? *Norma*

Dear God, instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don't you just keep the ones you have now? *Jane*

Dear God, who draws the lines around the countries? *Michael*

Dear God, I went to this wedding and they kissed right there in the Church. Is that OK? *Neil*

Dear God, thank you for my baby brother but what I prayed for was a puppy. *Edward*

Dear God, please could you send me a pony. I never asked for anything before. You can look it up. *Sharon*

Dear God, if we can come back as something, please don't let me be Jennifer Horton because I hate her. *Denise*

Dear God, I think about you sometimes, even when I'm not praying. *John*

Dear God, I want to be just like my Daddy when I grow up but not with so much hair all over! *Sam*

Please keep for prayerful reflection

Rest In Peace We pray for the repose of the souls of:

James Frain whose requiem will be celebrated on **Tuesday 21st July at 11.30am.** This replaces the Mass of the day. The intention for Primitiva & Agustina Povenda Guerra has been moved to 28th July.

Gwenn O'Connor whose requiem will be celebrated on **Wednesday 29th July at 10.30am.** These replace the Mass of the day.

Weekend Masses during August Please not that there will be **no Sunday evening Mass.**

Liturgical Ministries

(Contact details for information: Deacon Andrew andrewgoodall@rcdow.org.uk; Anna northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk or 07787 048144). Training will begin in September.

a) Altar Servers & Readers New recruits required. Anyone of any age – from 8 to 80+! - eligible as long as First Communion has been celebrated. Training involves fortnightly sessions on Tuesday evenings after evening Mass. Please contact Deacon Andrew for more information

b) Eucharistic Ministers In order to be able to offer the option of Communion under both kinds (ie. the Body and Blood of Christ), more parishioners are needed. If you'd like to know more, please contact either Deacon Andrew or Anna.

c) Ministries of Reader and Eucharist Please sign up your availability over the summer break up to 19th/20th September. Please give Anna details of your availability between 26th/27th September and 19th/20th December by the beginning of September for the new rota to be compiled. Thank you!

Music in Sunday Mass The music ministry is taking a break until September.

Monday Morning Coffee and Chat . No Coffee morning this week 20th July . Why not come to morning Mass and then meet with fellow parishioners in the Parish Hall? Or just come along for the coffee! Bring a friend!

Parents & Toddlers Finished till September. 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 (northfields@rcdow.org.uk) in the office if you are interested.

London Irish Social Group The club runs weekly on a Thursdays from **11am – 2pm.** Summer BBQ **30th July 11am -3pm**, £5 entrance, live music by Dylan. Contact Maria Connolly on 07592508680.

Meditation Group The parish meditation group invite anyone interested in trying Christian Meditation to drop in to our weekly session. We meet on Mondays in the parish hall from **8 to 9 pm.** After a short reading, we sit in silence for 20 mins to be present to the spirit of God. We finish with a closing prayer. Please come and see if Christian Meditation is for you. Just turn up!

Help Needed . A local Care Home would like to invite people to drop in on a casual basis, interact and chat with the residents. For more information, please call Elizabeth (0208 567 1415) or Hazel (0208 567 9595).

The Passage Are looking for Men's Jeans and jogging bottoms, if you have any please call Elizabeth (0208 567 1415).

Catechists In order to provide regular sessions with children and young people for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and Communion and Confirmation, as well as providing faith enriching opportunities such as Children's Liturgy and Religious Education for Children in Non-Catholic Schools, and to comply with Safeguarding guidelines regarding adult: child ratios a large team of catechists/group leaders is needed for September, not comprised of parents of candidates only. Eligibility: 18 years of age and above. **A DBS check processed by the diocese is required for these roles.** In order to equip new volunteers well with formation, training and support, it is desirable that we know **as soon as possible** who may be interested in this particular and most important ministry of guiding and accompanying candidates along their sacramental journey and deepening their relationship with Christ. Theology degrees not required! If you would like to know more, please contact Anna, preferably by e-mail in the first instance: northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk) to arrange a chat at a mutually convenient time. Training will be arranged to take place early autumn covering various aspects of catechesis.

Venezuela Appeal The UK Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), of which CAFOD is a long-standing member, has launched the Venezuela Earthquake Appeal to raise vital funds for communities affected by the earthquake in June. Please consider if you are able to contribute to the appeal. For more information and ways to donate, go to : https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/venezuela-earthquake-appeal . Please also keep those affected by this disaster in your prayers.

Parish Office will be closed from Friday 24th July till September 2nd, there will be ad hoc cover during this period, please email or phone if you need to come in. Emails and phone messages will be checked during this time.

Safeguarding **The Parish reps** are Susie Worthington, northfieldssg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk and Tracy Patterson northfieldssg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Please note: the **taking of photos or recording in any way during Mass is strictly prohibited,** in accordance with Safeguarding policies.

Masses over the next Fortnight

Sunday 19th July (16th Sunday Year A)
(Sat.) 6.00pm Patrick Butler (LD.)
8.30am Mary O'Gorman (LD.)
10.00am Peace for the People of Donetsk
11.30am Richard Armstrong (Birth Ann.)
6.00pm Josie Connery (LD)

Monday 20th July (St Apollinaris)
9.30am Dr Pati Singh (LD)

Tuesday 21st July (St Lawrence of Brindisi)
11.30am *Funeral* James Frain *RIP*

Wednesday 22nd July (St Mary Magdalene)
9.30am Josie Connery (L.D.)

Thursday 23rd July (St Bridget of Sweden)
No Mass

Friday 24th July (St Sharbel Makluf)
9.30am Moses Nivia (Get Well)

Saturday 25th July (St James)
No Morning Mass

Sunday 26th July (17th Sunday Year A)
6.00pm (Sat.) Frank White (LD.)
8.30am Anselm Thompson (Ann.)
10.00am
11.30am Barney Murray (LD.)
6.00pm Betty Tully (LD.)

Monday 27th July
9.30am

Tuesday 28th July (1st Ann)
6.00pm Primitiva & Augustina Poveda Guerra (& LD)

Wednesday 29th July (Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus)
10.30am *Funeral* Gwen O'Connor *RIP*

Thursday 30th July (St Peter Chrysologus)
No Mass

Friday 31sth July (St Ignatius of Loyola)
9.30am

Saturday 1st August (St Alphonsus Liguori)
No Morning Mass

Prayers for the Sick We pray for those suffering from illness and their carers: Sheila Henderson, Betty O'Sullivan, Jadzia Stevens, Sally & Mick Chapman, Ellie O'Connor, Maria DeMarco, Denis Barry, Lauren Guidera, Eddie Jansz, Angela D'Souza, Richard Chance, Sean Nally, Aimi McEwan, Anna Keane, Geraldine Davison, Cerys Edwards, Donna O'Hagan, Ann Hagan, Alan Worman. M.S., Margaret Adu, Therese Biks, Shantha Kumari, Sagundala Devi, Ernst Barroclough, Barry Kiernan, Jane Spur, Sr Nichola Lovett MMS. Pat Regan. 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 those who have recently died Patrick Butler, Mary O'Gorman, Josie Connery, Frank White, Betty Tully, Barney Murray, Dr Pati Singh, Augustina Povenda Guerra and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time Richard Armstrong, Anselm Thompson, Primitiva Guerra, 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 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 October.

Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10am Mass, term time**.** Please note: Liturgy is aimed at children aged 3 -7 (Nursery to Year 2) and is a celebration and catechesis centred on the Gospel of the day, mirroring what is happening in the main church. Parents who accompany their children are expected to help their children to engage fully in this celebration. **More volunteers required now**. Please contact Anna for further information initially by e-mail. A DBS check is required for this role. Contact the parish Safeguarding reps. (see below.) Liturgy resumes in September.

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.

Getting Married? Please note that at least 6 months' notice is required wherever your marriage is taking place. Church paperwork should be completed in the parish where you live. For further initial information, please go to https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/northfields/sacramental-prep/marriage-preparation/

Aged 16 or over, Catholic and never been confirmed? If this describes you and you would like to be confirmed, contact Anna, preferably by e-mail (northfieldscat@rcdow.org.uk) or phone/text on 07787 048144 Sessions will be arranged for baptised Catholic adults aged 16 and over who are looking to be confirmed. Please contact Anna so appropriate arrangements can be made.

First Communion & Confirmation Preparation 2026-2027 Application forms are available to collect from the back of the church. **Please note the strict deadline for the return of the forms: the end of Sunday 2nd August.** This is to give time to make preliminary arrangements. Please only apply if you live within the parish boundaries or attend Mass here regularly (ideally weekly). For First Communion children in the new academic year, need to be in Year 3 at school or above; for Confirmation, Years 9 to 11. **Please read the forms carefully before completing them.**

The St John Bosco Children's Camp 25 July – 1 August and 1 – 8 August The St John Bosco Children's Camp in Brentwood, Essex is an activities camp with a Catholic ethos that runs for two weeks each summer for boys and girls. Applications are now open for children currently in school years 5 – 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. Week One 25 July – 1 August or Week Two 1 – 8 August. Activities include archery, fishing, Aqua Park visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at https://boscocamp.co.uk.

Dates for Your Diary! More information to come…

19th September, Parish Hall, Northfields: screening and discussion on the 'National Emergency Briefing'.
10th & 11th October - Adoremus Eucharistic Celebration, Westminster Cathedral and other venues.

24th October, Lectio Divina with Archbishop Richard Moth, Westminster Cathedral Hall.

Important Parish & Church Dates for August – December 2026

Below you will find some key dates for 2026
Details for all events will be given at the appropriate time.

August
2nd Deadline for Confirmation and First Holy Communion applications
6th The Transfiguration
15th The Assumption
25th Bank Holiday

September
1st World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
Season of Creation:'Living Water'
13th Education Sunday
14th Exaltation of the Cross
19th. Screening of the 'National Emergency Briefing'
27th Evangelii Gaudium Sunday

October
2nd Harvest Fast Day
4th CAFOD Harvest Fast Appeal and Collection
Mass with Anointing of the Sick

13th St Edward the Confessor
18th World Mission Sunday
24th British Summer Time ends

November
1st *All Saints*
2nd All Souls
8th Remembrance
15th World Day of the Poor
22nd Christ the King; Youth Sunday
29th First Sunday of Advent Year B

December
6th Second Sunday of Advent, Year B
8th Immaculate Conception

What are Mass Intentions and Offerings all about?

It doesn't cost anything...but if you're able to give, an offering is appreciated. There is no price tag on the Mass, however, it is customary to give an offering when requesting a Mass for an intention, this becomes the priest's daily living allowance. That said, money should never be the reason for deciding against this beautiful tradition. Simply make your request known and talk with the priest who will make sure that a Mass is able to be said if your financial situation does not allow for a donation. It doesn't have to be a large sum. The usual Mass Offering is in the region of £5 -£10.

Mass can be offered for a person who is still living:

Though we often think of having a Mass said for those who have died, Masses can be offered for those who are still alive. The Council of Trent says that Mass may be said "for the living and the dead, for sins, punishments, satisfactions, and other necessities." In other words, if you know someone who could benefit from the spiritual graces that come with having a Mass said on their behalf, there is no need to delay in doing so!

You can have a Mass said in Thanksgiving or for a celebration:

Again, most people remember to have a Mass said for the death of a loved one and a few may think to have a Mass offered for a special intention or friend who is suffering, but rarely do we think of having a Mass offered for a celebration! Is there a better way to show our gratitude to God? Masses can be said for birthdays, anniversaries, in celebration of the reception of the sacraments, or for prayers that have been answered!

It's not a difficult process to request a Mass. Though the practice of offering a Mass is ancient, the method for doing so is not! You can submit your Mass request by phone (020 8567 5421), e-mail (northfields@rcdow.org.uk or coming in person to the parish office during office opening hours.

Because the Mass is the highest form of worship on Earth, there are many fruits and graces that result from having a Mass said. The reason that this tradition has been passed on for centuries is because of the many spiritual fruits that result from this form of prayer. The celebration of the Eucharist is the highest form of worship in the Catholic Church because we unite ourselves with Christ's sacrifice on the cross in worship of his Father. St. John Paul II emphasized the graces that come when a Mass is offered. "The Church believes that she will be heard, for she prays in union with Christ her Head and Spouse, who takes up this plea of His Bride and joins it to His own redemptive sacrifice." Don't miss out on these graces for yourself and those you love! Find a reason to have a Mass offered today!

Events and Opportunities Further Afield

Free Family Faith Resources! The 'Celebrate' trust offers family activity packs and prayer resources for families, packed with ideas, films, books, activities on numerous seasons of the Church's year. Take a look at them by going to https://www.celebratetrust.org/celebratereathome . Donations are very much optional.

Looking for Prayer and Deepening Faith Opportunities? Check out what the Agency for Evangelisation is offering over the near future by picking up a bulletin from the back of the church or by going to Bulletin – Diocese of Westminster

Faith Sharing Group Leaders Gathering **Saturday 12th September, 2:00-5:00pm, St Monica's, Palmers Green**

This day is particularly aimed at current or aspiring Faith Sharing Group Leaders. We will have a first look at autumn's Faith Sharing Resource and hear about how Faith Sharing Groups work in different parishes. During the day there will also be the opportunity to tell us about the support your parish would need to establish or develop Faith Sharing Groups. For more information and to book please scan:

Looking for Work? There are vacancies working in parishes or diocese. For the current list and further details, please visit https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/