**SUNDAY DECEMBER 8th 2019 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)**

*(Parish Mass Book P28.)*

**ST MATTHEW’S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

32 Hallowell Road, Northwood, HA6 1DW  
Tel: 01923 840736  
Email [northwood@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:northwood@rcdow.org.uk) Website [**parish.rcdow.org.uk/northwood**](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/northwood)  
Parish Priest: Fr. Brian O’Mahony ([brianomahony@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:brianomahony@rcdow.org.uk))  
R.E. Coordinator Eileen O’Sullivan [eileenosullivan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:eileenosullivan@rcdow.org.uk)

Administration Assistant (and Hall Bookings) : Cheryl Myring (Mon-Fri 9am-11am)

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**MASSSES AND SERVICES THIS WEEK**

SATURDAY 7th *[St Ambrose]*

18.00 **Mary O’Sullivan (Anniv)**

SUNDAY 8th **[2nd Sunday of Advent (A)]**

09.00 **Martha Murray (Intns)** 11.15 **Giovanni & Anita Angelino (Ann.)** 18.00 **People of the Parish**

*Weekday 10 am Masses preceded by Morning Prayer at 9:45*

MONDAY 9th *[The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed   
Virgin Mary]*

10:00 **Laurie Scudder RIP**TUESDAY 10th *[Advent feria]*

10.00 **Peggy Lovett RIP**

11:30 **FUNERAL: Ethan Jacob**  
WEDS 11th  *[Advent feria]*

10:00 **Norris Vella RIP**

THURS 12th *[Advent feria -* ***Day of Prayer for our country]***

07.30 **Arthur & Joyce Dyer RIP**FRIDAY 13th *[St Lucy]*

10.00 **Peggy Lovett RIP**SATURDAY 14th *[St John of the Cross]*

10.00 **Laurie Scudder RIP**

*10:30 – 11:30 Confessions Avail.)*

18:00 (Vigil) **Private Intention (BP)**

20.00 **Portuguese Mass**

SUNDAY 15th **[3rd Sunday of Advent (A) ]**

09.00 **Aniello Pirfo RIP**  
 11.15 **Tony Marono RIP**  
 15.00 **Parish Service**

18.00 **Seueu Brito Carvalho RIP**

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**GENERAL PARISH NOTICES**

Tuesday 10th 18.00 Pre Confirm.Class cont. *(Fr Bebb)*

19:00 Confirmation Class cont. *(Fr Bebb)*

Wednesday11th 10.30Prayers for our Children *(Church)*

Thursday 12th **07:30 – 21:30 DAY OF PRAYER FOR OUR ` COUNTRY**

14.30 Bible Timeline continues *(Fr Bebb Rm)*

Friday 13th 13.30 Prayer Group (*Fr Bebb Rm)*

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION(S)**

Offertory collection:   
Many thanks, as always, for your generosity. This week there is an appeal and a retiring collection for the Catholic Children’s Society.

**PARISH SICK LIST**

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers: The list of those we pray for this week especially can be found in the Lady Chapel.

**CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT**

Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconcilaion during Advent is a fruitful way to prepare individually for the coming of Jesus. In addition to the regular publishied times, Confessions will also be available at these times this week: Times for the following week will be printed in next week’s newsletter.

Sunday8th  17:00 – 17:45

Monday 9th & Friday 13th 9:15 – 9:45

Thursday 12th 12:30 – 13:30, 16:00 – 16:30 & 19:00 – 20:00

Sunday 15th: 17:00 – 17:45

**PORTUGUESE ADVENT MASS**

Next Saturday there will be Mass celebrated by the Portuguese Chaplain at 8pm, with Confessions available from 7pm.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY BAPTISED**

We pray especialy for Daniel who was Baptised this weekend in our Parish and relatives of his who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with prayers during the same ceremony. We assure his family of our prayers.

**GIFTS FOR JESUS & CATHOLIC CHILDRENS SOCIETY APPEAL**

This weekend there will be an appeal at all Masses for the work of the Catholic Children’s Society, especially as they prepare for Christmas; when their work is more urgently needed. We will continue the annual parish tradition of supporting their annual gift-giving drive this Advent. There will be a collection of children’s gifts for delivery before Christmas to families in need. Gift-wrapped presents with an indication of the appropriate age and gender of the recipient can be brought to the Church up until Sunday 15th of December.

**APPEAL FOR WILLING CHRISTMAS ELVES**

Can you spare some time on **SATURDAY 14th** of December to assist us with preparing the church for the Christmas Celebrations? Volunteers are needed from 12:30 onwards to assist with all the many seasonal jobs, including building the crib, putting up the tree and moving furniture. Tea & mince pies will be provided for the workers! Donations of Seasonal greenery will be gratefully received and can be left at the Parish office from Wednesday.

**UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTION**

The Parish Hall will be in use as a polling station, as in previous elections.

**Day of prayers for our country:** On Polling Day, the church will be open all day, with Exposittion of the Blessed Sacrament from 7:30 Mass until 9:30pm. Anyone visiting our parish will have an opportunity to light a candle and say a prayer for our country on this important day. As with the recent 40 hours devotion, there are sign-up sheets in the porch for anyone who feels that they can offer half and hour with The Lord to ensure the Church is occupied all day.

**Ask your Candidate Campaign and message from the Bishops Conference:** Engaging responsibly with public affairs is an important Christian duty.Two helpful documents containing questions to put to candidates and to reflect personally on, in order to be better informed on polling day and to better judge those seeking office, are available in the church porch.

**CHRISTMAS MASS AND SERVICE SCHEDULE:**

**Sunday 15th Dec. (3rd Sunday of Advent)**

**Blessing of Cribs**

**3pm Parish service of carols, readings and prayers lead by Sunday School Chidren (Followed by party)**

**Christmas Eve:**

**Masses: 17:30 (families with children are especially welcome)**

**Midnight: Solemn Mass of the Nativity**

**Christmas Day:**

**Masses: 09:00**

**11:15**

**St Stephen’s Day (December 26th)**

**11:00 Annual Mass for Altar Servers**

**Friday 27th & Saturday 28th December**

**11:00 (plus usual 18:00 Saturday Vigil)**

Tom Erhard, Teresa Bingham-Daly, Don Williamson, Anne Anderson, Victor Kumaratharsan, Jean Vaughan, John Csh, Mrs Klavkowski, Michael Enskat, Laura Everest, Curzio Pirfo, Czeslaw Czaprowski, Mary Hodgison, Alexandre Silva, Bella King, Margaret Tso, Gerard O’Brien, John Donohoe, Margaret Saines, Mary Ahern, Dominic Manley, Cecil Cain, Eileen Murray, Kathleen Wood, Duncan Webster, Lisa Walker, James Elton, Michael Coyle, Timor Yonel, Jason Jackson, Luke Slater, Anna Benton, Joe Da Silva, Emma Quirke, Mary Wallace, Jacob Nuske, Susan Birley, Barrie Jervis, Ann Kelly.