**SUNDAY JANUARY 12th 2020 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)**

*(Parish Mass Book P53)*

**ST MATTHEW’S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

32 Hallowell Road, Northwood, HA6 1DW
Tel: 01923 840736
Email 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)
R.E. Coordinator Eileen O’Sullivan 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 11th *[Christmas feria]*

 18.00 **Sophia & Henry Myring (Intns)**

SUNDAY 12th **[The Baptism of the Lord (A)]**

09.00 **Simon Manouvel RIP**11.15 **Laurie Scudder RIP**
18.00 **Robert Crovella (Anniv)**

*Weekday 10 am Masses preceded by Morning Prayer at 9:40*

MONDAY 13th *[Feria]*

 10:00 **Alice Devlin RIP**TUESDAY 14th *[Feria]*

 10.00 **Monica Conneely RIP**

WEDS 15th  *[Feria]*

 10.00 **Patrick Chow RIP**

THURS 16th *[Feria]*

  **7:30am** **Joanne Reape RIP**FRIDAY 17th *[Feria]*

 10.00 **Salvatore Lo Cascio (Anniv)** SATURDAY 18th *[Feria]*
 10.00  **Laurie & Monica Scudder RIP**

18:00 (Vigil) **Geoffrey Eneh (Anniv)**

SUNDAY 19th **[Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)]**

09.00 **Peggy Lovett RIP**
 11.15 **Tony Marono RIP**

 18.00 **Mary Banemle Dikong RIP**

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**GENERAL PARISH NOTICES**

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION(S)**

Offertory collection: £918.75
Catholic Children’s Society £2,246.88 (including Crib)

Many thanks, as always, for your generosity.

**CATHOLIC CHILDRENS SOCIETY CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

With grateful thanks for the enthusiastic respose to the appeal that we made over the Christmas season for the Catholic Children’s Society. Including the crib collection, together we have raised in excess of £2,200!!

**PARISH SICK LIST**

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers: Margaret Wedgeworth, Don Williamson, Victor Kumaratharsan, Jean Vaughan, John Cash, 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.

**MINISTERS & READERS**

There is a new rota available in the Sacristy for those who haven’t received one via email.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY BAPTISED:**

We extend our heartfelt Congratulations and assurances of our prayers to Esther Evah who was Baptised in the Church this weekend. We pray for her family also.

**NOTE OF THANKS**

Thanks to all who came to assist us this weekend in dismantling the Christmas decorations in the church, your help is thouroughly appreciated. The Crib figures will remain in the Church until the Feast of the Presentation on February 2nd.

**EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING 20+C+B+M+20**

There is a small quantity of blessed chalk remaining from last week for those who may have missed out and wish to start (or continue) the tradition of beginning the year by invoking God’s blessing on their home for the year ahead.

**FUNDRAISING FOR THE PARISH HALL LOAN**

**Monthly Second Collection:**

The first of our monthly collections in 2020 for the repayment of the Hall Loan will take place this weekend at all Masses.

**Social events:** On the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday, (Sunday February 23rd), we will host a big pancake breakfast after the 9am Mass in the Parish Hall. All will be welcome.

The first social evening being planned in 2020 is for a St Patrick’s Day party. More details will be available soon.

**MINOR CHANGES TO TIMES AND SCHEDULES IN 2020**

**Thursdays:**

Due to Fr Brian’s changing lecturing commitments at Allen Hall (our diocesan seminary) in Semester II, Mass at 7:30am will no longer be possible on Thursdays. **From Thursday 30th January,** until at least the end of the Academic Year there will be an evening Mass instead. **Mass will be at 7:30pm**

**Sunday School (resuming this weekend)**

For the new term, it has been suggested that the start and finish times of Sunday School be moved back by 10 mins, to allow for a less panicked rush from the 9am Mass for catechists and families alike. Sunday School will therefore now commence at 10:10am, and run until 10:55. We apologise if this causes any inconvenience as we settle into this altered routine. We are always keen to hear feedback about changes.

**2020 – A YEAR OF THE WORD**

The Word of God is at the heart of all we believe. During 2020, we we will be focussing on the place of the Word of God in Sacred Scripture in our lives as Catholics. It is hoped that this initiative will deepen our knowledge of, and love for the Word of God in the Bible. In this parish, during Lent we hope to arrange a series of talks on different aspects of the Word of God. We are exploring other ideas also, including forming small groups for shared discussion and prayer. More information will be available shortly.

**PARISH DIARIES**

Several people have enquired about 2020 diaries. Unfortunately these arrived with several printing errors that were not rectifiable by the supplier. It was necessary to erase the contact details that were printed incorrectly. Anyone who wishes to have a diary this year can obtain one from the repository shop for 50p.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

There will be a PPC meeting in the last week of January.The PCC is a consultative group that meets periodically and assists and supports the Parish Priest in the planning and direction of the parish. Anyone who has a contribution to make to the agenda is welcome to do so.

**CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE- SUNDAY JAN 26th**

This year the local service to mark the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity will be hosted by St Edmund’s Anglican Church on Pinner Road, HA6 1QS. The Service will begin at 4pm. Christian Unity is an important cause, and everyone is warmly invited to join in us in prayer for unity with our other Christian brothers and sisters.