**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23rd, 2020. - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

*(Parish Mass Book P67)*

**ST MATTHEW’S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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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 22nd 18.00 **People of the Parish**

SUNDAY 23rd **[Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)]**

09.00 **Ame Townley (Anniv)**11.15 **Agostino Di Falco (Anniv)**  
18.00 **Rosemary O’Connor (Anniv)**

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

MONDAY 24th *[Feria]*

10:00 **Karla Sabina Murray (Intn)**

TUESDAY 25th *[Feria]*

10.00 **Maureen Cuss**

WEDS 26th  *[Ash Wednesday]*

10.00 **Stephen Byrne (Sick)**

19.30 **People of the Parish**

THURS 27th *[Lent feria]*

19.30 **Mary Joseph (Thanksgiving)** FRIDAY 28th *[Lent feria]*

10.00 **Christine Kumuthan**

SATURDAY 29th *[Lent feria]*

10.00 **Wiktor Suchocki RIP**

18:00 (Vigil) **Joe Da Cunha RIP**

SUNDAY 1st **[First Sunday of Lent (A)]**

09.00 **People of the Parish** 11.15 **Tony Marano RIP**

18.00 **Jeff Stanley RIP**

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**GENERAL PARISH NOTICES**

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION(S)**

Offertory collection: £

2nd collection for parish hall: £   
Many thanks, as always, for your generosity.

**PARISH SICK LIST**

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers: Saul Morton, John Cash, Stephen Byrne, Betty Conti, Margaret Wedgworth, Victor Kumarathasan, Jean Vaughan, 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.

**THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK – ASH WEDNESDAY 26th FEBRUARY**

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES:**

Masses on Ash Wednesday will be Masses with distribution of ashes at 10:00am and 7:30pm There will also be Mass at 12:00 at Northwood HQ for those who live or work there.

**Prayer during Lent**

During Lent there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before both the regular Saturday and Sunday evening Masses from 5pm, during which time Confessions will be available. The Church will be open daily, as usual.

**Lenten alms 2020**

Almsgiving is one of the three traditional disciplines that we exercise during Lent. This differs from regular forms of charitable giving that we night ordinarily engage in, since its focus is primarily a spiritual one. Our self reflection guides us to solidarity and openness to share with those who are less materially well-off, is motivated by our prayerful recollection of them, and is connected to the ancient tradition of self-sacrifice.

This year our Lenten Alms will be split between a local project and an international or missionary one. Our local project is the Cardinal’s fund, which provides financial assistance in the form of grants to projects that promote **Marriage and Family Life, Youth and Evangelisation** or **Social Outreach within Civil Society.** This has been at the request of the diocese to all parishes. Our Missionary project is to support the work of the **Matumaini Project** in Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), which was founded by a religious sister who has brothers in the parish, and who died during the last year. This enterprise was also supported by the parish UCM group until it ceased to meet last year.

From this weekend, there are small collection boxes available to be taken home by anyone who wishes to have one. We hope that they will remind us of our Lenten commitments that we make as we begin this week on the journey towards Easter. These can be returned after Easter.

Please join us after the 9am Mass **today,** 23rd of February for a big (pancake) breakfast in the hall. Information about The Cardinal’s fund and the Matumaini project will be on display, and also some information about the causes that were not adopted this year, but whom we might assist in the future.

We will also be supporting the CAFOD Lenten family fast day, in the customary manner. This year the Family Fast day is Friday March 6th.

**Lenten Talks - The Year of The Word**

We will host three talks during Lent to assist us in reflecting on the Year of the Word. These talks will all be held in the Fr Bebb Room, commencing at 8:15pm, following the 7:30pm Mass.

Our speakers will be:

**Thursday 5th March: Fr Brian, St Matthew’s**

**Thursday 19th March: Rabbi Dr Adrew Goldstein,** Rabbiemeritus of Northwood and Pinner Liberal Synagogue

**Thursday 26th March: Fr John Hemer MHM** Scripture Studies Professor at Allen Hall Seminary

‘**Day By Day’**

Small booklets to guide us through the Lenten Season with the daily Mass readings and reflections have been ordered and will be available for a small charge. There are also infant and junior versions that may aid different age-groups of children to participate in Lent.

**BIG (Pancake) BREAKFAST**

The first Big Breakfast for 2020 will take place on Sunday 23rd February after the 9am Mass. Since this is the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday, we will serve pancakes instead of the usual fare. Please join us if you are free, everyone is welcome.

**UPCOMING PARISH SOCIAL EVENT – ST PATRICK’S**

The first social event in 2020 in aid of our Fabric Fund is a St Patrick’s Day party. This will be on the Saturday before St Patrick’s day, March 14th. It will be a ticketed event, and ticket bookings can be made through the Parish Office or by using the dedicated email address for the Parish Hall [northwoodph@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:northwoodph@rcdow.org.uk). Tickets will then be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

**Raffle Prize Appeal**

Can you help us with supplying prizes for the raffle that we will hold on the night of the party? Donations of items such as bottles or other goodies that can be raffled will be gratefully accepted.

**Landings program ‘Taster Day’**

Information about this initative to assist people who may have drifted from the practice of the Faith is available in the Church porch. An introduction day with take place on 15th February, 10am-2pm at St Mark’s School, 106 Bath Road, Hounslow TW3 3EJ. The organisers are particularly keen that several representatives from Hillingdon Deanery attend – is anyone interested? To book a free place contact: Warren Brown at [catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catadmin@rcdow.org.uk)  or  0207 798 9152. Please bring a packed lunch.