



# ST MATTHEW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, NORTHWOOD

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF NORTHWOOD AND NORTHWOOD HILLS

*'Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations...' [Matt 28:19]*

## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (NOVEMBER 20TH - 27TH)

DEAR PARISHIONERS,

### Christ our King

I am now in my second year and so I am beginning to know what to expect with some occasions. These last few days have seen many people in church praying before Our Lord enthroned in the monstrance. It has been a real team effort to keep our church open for basically three days for private prayer. It has been a real time of grace. Perhaps you managed to come and spend time in prayer. You may have had a wonderful mystical experience, you may have been distracted or (like me) you may have even nodded off during prayer. However you prayed, I pray that our hearts have all been touched by the love of Our Lord. Thank you for making this happen. I would also like to thank those who helped prepare the church on Tuesday with the flowers, candles and preparing the altar. I also want to thank especially Maria Wilson, who at the end of each day, prepared the church for the next day and has worked tirelessly throughout these last three days.

Another second experience was last Sunday and I attended the Remembrance Day service at the war memorial. Although I knew what would happen, there were some moving moments, one was an old Jewish Veteran being assisted to lay his wreath of poppies and the other was the singing of the National Anthem. It took all my effort to remember to sing 'God save our gracious KING', but I'm sure I wasn't the only one. This is the first time for many of us who are celebrating this feast when we have a monarch who is a King rather than a Queen. As we continue to pray for King Charles, we recognise that we have a great king (as does he) and that is Christ our King.

As we celebrate the Kingship of Christ today, let us remember the truth that he is not our King if we do not listen to him, love him, serve him, and follow him. We belong to his Kingdom only when we try to walk with him, when we try to live our lives fully in the spirit of the Gospel and when that Gospel spirit penetrates every facet of our living. If Christ is really King of our life, he must be King of every part of our life, and we must let him reign in all parts of our life. We become Christ the King's subjects when we sincerely respond to his loving invitation: "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart" Today's Feast of Christ the King reminds us of the great truth that Christ must be in charge of our lives, that we must give him sovereign power over our bodies, our thoughts, our heart and our will.

Citizens of Christ's kingdom are expected to observe only one major law--the law of love. "Love God with your whole heart and love your neighbor as yourself." "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments." Jesus expects a higher degree of love from His followers: "Love one another as I have loved you." On this great Feast of Christ, the King, let us resolve to give him the central place in our lives and promise to obey his commandment of love by sharing what we have with all his needy children.

With all my prayers and best wishes,

*Fr Tom*

### CONTACT US

#### Parish Address:

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HA6 1DW  
[www.stmatthewsnorthwood.org](http://www.stmatthewsnorthwood.org)

**Telephone Number:**  
01923 840 736

**In an emergency:**  
07919 842 767

**Email:**  
[northwood@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:northwood@rcdow.org.uk)

**Fr Tom Montgomery  
Parish Priest:**

**Email:**  
[tommontgomery@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tommontgomery@rcdow.org.uk)

#### Parish Office:

Contact Cheryl Myring or Siobhan Hogg  
9:00 — 2:30pm Monday - Friday

#### Sunday School & Catechetics:

RE Co-ordinator: awaiting appointment

**Hall Bookings:** contact the office or  
[northwoodph@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:northwoodph@rcdow.org.uk)

### SAFEGUARDING

Colette Quirk  
Elizabeth Scudder

**EMAIL(S):**  
[northwoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:northwoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
[northwoodsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:northwoodsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
Or [safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk)

### Our Sanctuary Lamps burn

**In thanksgiving for prayers  
answered**

(Blessed Sacrament)  
and for

**John & Eileen Wildsmith  
& Family intentions**  
(Our Lady)

## ***Last Week's Offering***

Loose Cash: £280.93 Planned Giving Envelopes: £132.16 Standing Orders: £597..00 Contactless Giving £93.41  
**Total Offering: £1103.50.**

## ***RE Co-ordinator***

We recently advertised for this post in our parish and we received some applications. Two were shortlisted, but for various reasons, we were unable to interview any of the candidates. We are therefore re-advertising the post. Details can be found on <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/religious-coordinator-northwood-parish/> The closing date for applications is Monday 5th December 2022 at noon. If you know anyone who may be suitable for this post, please pass on this information.

## ***Sebastiano Di Falco RIP***

The details of Sebastiano's funeral rites are as follows. **Sunday 27th November** 7.30pm. Reception of body into church. **Monday 28th November.** 12 noon Funeral Mass followed by burial in Northwood cemetery. After the funeral there will be a reception in the Parish Hall to which all are welcome. We hold Sebastiano and his family in our prayers.

## ***Michael Tolputt RIP***

Michael Tolputt who had been a member of our parish for many years died on All Saints Day. (Apologies for the lateness of this announcement). His funeral will be on Friday 25th November at 12 noon St. Luke's Pinner. We hold Michael and his family in our prayers.

## ***First Holy Communion Programme***

This weekend, those children who have begun their classes will be enrolled in the Communion Programme at the 11.15am Mass. Please pray for those children, their parents and our catechists.

## ***200 Club***

The November Draw will take place this Sunday between the 9.00am Mass and 11.15am. Please come and join us in the hall for coffee and cake. Mark it in your diary and perhaps bring a friend along for a coffee and chat.

## ***Month of The Holy Souls***

Throughout the month of November Masses will be offered in the parish for the work of God's grace in the souls in purgatory. Envelopes are available for you to take home, in which to include details of the names of those for whom we will be offering Mass, together with whatever stipend you offer for these Masses. You can return the envelopes through the letterbox of the Presbytery. The collected names will symbolically rest close to the altar for the month.

## ***Sick and Retired Priests Fund***

Thank you to those who donated through the recent collection. We will be sending £682.93 from the parish. This figure doesn't include any donations made directly by the QR code or cheques that were made payable directly to the Fund.

## ***Children's liturgy***

Every Sunday at the 9am Mass young children until Year 2 are invited to celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word. They must be accompanied by their parent or a responsible adult. Thank you to those parents who are accompanying their children and to those who have volunteered to lead the sessions. If you are interested in helping lead these session, please speak with Fr Tom.

## ***Parish Database***

After many delays due to technology, we are finally in a position to build a new parish database. Our volunteer now has access to the diocesan system and can start collating the data from the forms that have been returned. This will enable us to have up to date contact details of all parishioners and would enable us to contact you when we need to. We ask that every household fills in a new parish registration form and return it to the Parish Office (or posted through the letterbox of the presbytery). At the moment we have no proper database and so this will help Fr Tom in his work as Parish Priest. It is particularly useful for when Fr Tom has to sign school forms. If you have any questions then please speak with Fr Tom.

## ***Advent and Christmas Resources***

The Advent 'Day by Day' booklet for infants and juniors are now available in the repository. The 'Walk with Me' booklets should arrive sometime this week. There are also Christmas cards available for sale.

## ***Advent Giving Calendar***

Caritas have published their 2022 Advent Giving Calendar, you can download this from their website, or scan the QR code on the example on the noticeboard in the porch. As always it is a way for people to remember people in their communities who need a little help as Christmas approaches, and to give an item each day to our local food bank. <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/caritas-food-collective-918.php#AGC>

## ***Preparing the Way for the Lord... Step into the Season of Advent***

St Luke's Pinner invite you to join them for a Morning of Recollection led by Fr John Hemer, MHM on 3 December. A very engaging speaker, Fr John will present a series of three talks from 10:30am to about 1:30pm with a time for Confessions. Fr. John is a Mill Hill missionary priest who hails from Liverpool and has done missionary work in Pakistan, Kenya and Uganda. He now is a full-time lecturer on Sacred Scripture at Allen Hall. You are very welcome to come for all or part of the morning.

## Appeal to all Long-Standing Parishioners

Can you share your memories of St Matthews and its Parish Priests from years gone-by. If you've got recollections from years ago of amusing or significant moments in parish life, please note them down and let Fr Tom have the gist of your memorable moments. We would like to pull together for our Centenary Celebrations all those little bits of parish 'history' which have made St Matthews so special. If we have a good response from our longstanding parishioners, we might get you together in the Hall to share your memories over a cup of tea/coffee or perhaps something stronger."

## Advent Sunday Musical Oratory at Brompton Oratory

The Brothers of the Little Oratory invite you to the annual Advent Musical Oratory with the Oratory Junior Choir next Sunday 27th November at 4.30pm in the Little Oratory. With readings, Advent hymns & choral pieces.

## Christmas Celebration

The annual Christmas Celebration concerts at Westminster Cathedral will take place this year on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st December. For tickets, scan the QR code on the poster in the porch or visit [www.westminstercathedral.org.uk](http://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk).

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## Readings for Sunday Mass

### First reading

*2 Samuel 5:1-3*

All the tribes of Israel then came to David at Hebron. 'Look' they said 'we are your own flesh and blood. In days past when Saul was our king, it was you who led Israel in all their exploits; and the Lord said to you, "You are the man who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you shall be the leader of Israel."' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a pact with them at Hebron in the presence of the Lord, and they anointed David king of Israel.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 144(145):1-2,8-11,13b-14*

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'**

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'**

Jerusalem is built as a city strongly compact.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'**

For Israel's law it is, there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement of the house of David.

**I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'**

### Second reading

*Colossians 1:12-20*

We give thanks to the Father who has made it possible for you to join the saints and with them to inherit the light.

Because that is what he has done: he has taken us out of the power of darkness and created a place for us in the kingdom of the Son that he loves, and in him, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the unseen God

and the first-born of all creation,

for in him were created

all things in heaven and on earth:

everything visible and everything invisible,

Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity.

Now the Church is his body, he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,

he was first to be born from the dead,

so that he should be first in every way;

because God wanted all perfection

to be found in him

and all things to be reconciled through him and for him,

everything in heaven and everything on earth,

when he made peace

by his death on the cross.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

**Alleluia!**

### Gospel

*Luke 23:35-43*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The people stayed there before the cross watching Jesus. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

# PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please contact us with any additional names you may wish to be added to these lists which are updated weekly, and accept our apologies for anyone we have omitted.

## FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL:

Those sick with COVID throughout the world, Ron Picardo, Vince Thapermall, Martha Felleppa, James Wilson, Patricia Lee, Sinead Bushnell, Hayley Duncan, Audrey Potts, Tracy Bessant, Jo Smith, Brendan Smith, Mary Tierney, Michael Keating, Rafael Pino, Julius Fayiti, Anna Kelly, Justin, Margaret Downing, Victor & Gilda Kumarathasan, as well as others for whom we have been praying together recently.

## FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:

Sebastian Di Falco, Michael Tolputt, Fr Charles Dilke and all who have died as a result of war and conflict.

## AND THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS AROUND THIS TIME:

Patrick Cusack, Evelyn Barby, Michael Rossi, Mark Anthony Xavier, Ray Davies and Eleanor Skelton.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK (NOVEMBER 20TH - NOVEMBER 27TH)

### SUN 20TH NOV OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, King of the Universe

09:00 HOLY SOULS

11:15 HOLY SOULS

18:00 HOLY SOULS

MON 21st

*The presentation*

*of The Blessed Virgin Mary*

10:30 HOLY SOULS

12:00 - 16:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament \*

TUES 22nd

*St Cecilia, Virgin,  
Martyr*

10.30 HOLY SOULS

12:00 - 16:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament\*

WED 23rd

*St Clement I*

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

THURS 24th

*SS Andrew Dũng-Lạc  
and his Companions.*

19:00 HOLY SOULS

18:00 - 18:45 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

FRI 25th

*34 week in  
Ordinary Time*

10:30 HOLY SOULS

12:00 - 16:00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament \*

SAT 26th

*Saturday memorial  
of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary*

10:30 HOLY SOULS

11:00 - 11:50 (Confessions available)

17:00 - 17:45 (Confessions available)

18:00 HOLY SOULS

SUN 27TH NOV

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 HOLY SOULS

11.15 HOLY SOULS

18:00 HOLY SOULS

### Holy Father's Prayer intention for NOVEMBER:

During the month of **November**, we pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

\* **EXPOSITION:** Whilst every effort will be made to ensure that this will take place at the times noted, circumstances may dictate that it be curtailed or cancelled at short-notice if Fr Tom is not available to facilitate it. We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

### *Items for the Newsletter.*

If you would like something to be in the newsletter. Please email Fr Tom (email address on front page) by 12 noon on Wednesday



You can make a donation to the parish  
by using this QR code