

ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Catechist: Kay O'Connor 020 8429 5682

(Monday - Thursday)

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Multiple Choice

When I was in the seminary we practised saying Mass in our liturgy classes towards the end of our formation. One of my fellow deacons was asked by Fr Allen Morris which Eucharistic prayer he was going to choose. Until that moment, he believed that there was a book which instructed us which one to use – he was quickly disavowed of this notion.

But before talking about what can dictate the priest's choice, we need to understand that the Eucharistic Prayer is a prayer of thanksgiving and sanctification and is the centre and summit of the Mass. We quite literally lift up our hearts in prayer and unite our thoughts with those expressed by the priest who addresses God in the name of the community. And since he acts in the person of Christ we also join ourselves with Him to proclaim the marvellous deeds of God.

However, I have a lot more to say than you! There is a bit of dialogue at the beginning, we all say the *Sanctus* and the memorial acclamation together and you assent to the prayer with the great Amen. But the rest of the time you listen and pray in silence to a text which demands and rewards a lot of attention.

Many priests know parts of the prayers by heart but when the new texts are introduced, it will take time to learn how to express them in a way which helps everyone to pray. This is because the sentences are longer and more involved and as with the other texts I've talked about, the vocabulary is richer. But they are rather beautiful and I hope they will truly lift up your hearts and minds.

As I mentioned at the start, there are a variety of these prayers. Before the Second Vatican Council there was only the Roman Canon or Eucharistic Prayer I as it is also known. It is especially appropriate on Sundays, on days when we celebrate the feast of any saints named in it, and on days when a special phrase denoting the nature of the celebration may be inserted into it such as at Christmas, on Holy Thursday, and during the octave (eight days) of Easter and so on. The three others were added right after that Council. Two is the shortest and is based on a prayer from the third century. Given its length, it is designed particularly for weekday Masses or times when the attention span of the congregation is stretched as on Palm Sunday or when there are lots of children present. Three was newly composed after the Council. It is especially appropriate for Sundays and feast days of saints who are not mentioned in the first as it allows you to insert a name as you will notice I do with St John Fisher on a Sunday. The one you rarely hear is four which is based on an Eastern prayer from the fourth century. It has its own preface (the prayer before the *Sanctus*) and therefore can only be used on a weekday that is not a saint's day.

There are also some special Eucharistic prayers. There are two for reconciliation which are particularly appropriate for use in Lent or in times of conflict in the world. There is also another for Masses for Various Needs and Occasions because there are a range of prayers in the Missal which means the intention of the Mass can range from praying for the civil authorities to asking for good weather! These Masses can only be celebrated on a weekday and this prayer was composed to enhance them. Within it there are four variations which allow it to make a better connection to the intention of the day and each variation has its own preface and a changeable part within the body of prayer.

Finally, there are Eucharistic prayers for children and one for the deaf. The language in the former is so simplistic and bears such little resemblance to the normal ones that they have been dropped altogether. The prayer for the deaf is not so simplistic and seeks to fulfil the ultimate purpose of sign language which is to make visible the words of the priest and hence that will remain.

It really is multiple choice. *Fr Kevin*

Sick - Betty George, Ann Brien, Aarti Taylor, Michael Byrne, Colette Thornborough, Susan Morgan, William Graham, Wilma Woodstock, Richard Cobb, Bob Smith, Daphne Bose, James Lloyd, Nadia Tagliani, Lalitha Fernando, Aaron Eni, Polly Porter, Mary Sammon, Elizabeth Hessian, Valerie Theodore, Patrick Casserly, Kevin Teahan, Declan Hurley, Pat Rebbitt, Benny Hoft, Pragdibaj Patel, Shirley Norton, Jennifer Roche, Janet Francis, Judith Cullasuk, Bronach McCann, Nelly Dyt, Suzanne Ryan, Grace O'Shea, Jim McDonnell, Cynthia D'Cruz, Thayaparan Ratnadurai, Paddy Nevin, Irene Letchet, Robin Shortland, Maria McCullough

Recently Deceased - Regina Emmanuel, Maria Ustanikova

Anniversaries - Queenie Lee, Bernard & Ann Devine, Jean McSweeney, Brendon Connolly, Ciara Carvell, Vincent Breen, Bob Howard, Kay McGrath, Jack Keane, Walter Hickey, Magda Gordon, Nora McManamon, Grace Schifano, Aoife Conroy

Mass Times

Sunday 6pm (Saturday) 8.30, 10.00, 11.30am
Monday 10am - Easter Feria
Tuesday 10am - Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday 10am - St. Justin, Martyr
Thursday 7.30pm - Easter Feria
Friday 10am - & 7.30pm (First Friday) - SS Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs (in Uganda)
10.30am - 7pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Benediction at 7.15pm
Saturday 9.30am - Easter Feria
Exposition & Benediction - Saturday 10 - 10.30am
Confessions: Saturday 10 - 10.30am 5.15 - 5.45pm

First Friday, 3rd June - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is from 10.30am - 7pm. Please write your name on the sheet in the Church porch if you are able to watch for half an hour.

Welcome to our Parish - If you are new to the parish, or have been away for some time, welcome to our community! Please introduce yourself to Fr Kevin or Kay after Mass and they will give you a parish registration form. Please hand it into the Parish Office when completed. If you are already registered, it would be appreciated if you could let us know of any changes to your particulars i.e. change of address, phone no.

Are you going into hospital? - If you should have to be admitted to hospital, or know of someone who is in hospital, it would be appreciated if you could inform one of the Parish Team. If you, or a relative/friend, have to be admitted to Northwick Park Hospital, please ask for the RC Chaplain and phone the Hospital Chaplaincy giving the name and ward of the patient 8869 2112.

Mass Intentions - It would be helpful if parishioners could give **at least 10 - 12** weeks notice if they would like a Mass celebrated for a particular intention.

Daily Reflection Leaflets - of today's Gospel are available in the church porch.

Sunday Morning Children's Liturgy Would leaders and helpers please collect their new material from the pigeon holes in the Church porch.

Readers & Special Ministers of the Eucharist - If you have not already done so, do please collect your new rota **this weekend**.

Maureen Nolan RIP - Maria and Eileen and their families extend their thanks to Fr. Kevin and everyone who sent Mass cards, messages of sympathy and attended the funeral of their mother, Maureen. Your support was greatly appreciated.

Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 2nd June after 7.30pm Mass. Fr Norman will be coming to give a talk to us - everyone welcome to attend.

Knights of St. Columba Sponsored Walk - Sunday, 5th June in aid of the Friends of Michael Sobell House. Members of the KSC will be in the Church porch after all Masses this weekend - please be as generous as you can in sponsoring those taking part.

Corpus Christi Mass - will take place on Sunday, 26th June at 2pm followed by a procession and Benediction at 2.45pm, to which this year's First Communion children and all parishioners are invited. Following normal tradition, we invite parents of **last year's** First Communion children to help set up the Parish Hall, put the food and drinks out and clear up afterwards. If you are able to

offer your help in any way, please phone Kay on 8429 5682.

Fr. Joe Ryan's Ruby Jubilee - 11th

June - As mentioned in last week's newsletter, it would be very helpful if payment (£6 per person) could be made in advance, either in cash or cheque (payable to St. John Fisher Church), and write your envelope for the attention of Mary Evans. The coach will leave our church at 10.30am, return pick up will be 3.30pm from St. John Vianney's to arrive back at St. John Fisher's at approximately 5pm. If you have any queries, please contact Mary Evans on 8429 5681

Knights of St. Columba Pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory - Sunday, 12th June, leaving from St. John Fisher Church at 9am and returning at approx. 7pm. Cost £12 per person on a first come first served basis. To reserve a seat, please phone Jim Reilly on 8930 1303 or Marcel Martins on 8422 9401.

A Timeless Catechesis on Life and Love - 3rd International Symposium on John Paul II's Theology of the Body - 3rd - 5th June 2011 at St. Mary's University College, Twickenham. More details email info@tob-conference.com, or Leonora Paasche paaschel@smuc.ac.uk

The Living Theology Allen Hall Summer School 2011 will be held from Friday, 24th June - Monday 27th June at Allen Hall, 28 Beaufort Street, Chelsea SW3 5AA. For enquiries and bookings please contact Mrs. Paula Brown on 020 7349 5600 (Option 0) or paulabrown@rcdow.org.uk or visit the website www.livingtheology.org.uk

Hearing God in the Silence - A summer quiet day at the Grail Centre, Pinner, Saturday, 25th June 9.45am - 4.15pm £15.50, bring packed lunch, hot drinks provided. To book a place or for more information contact Valerie 8866 2195 or bookings@grailsociety.org.uk

Young Adults Retreat Day - to Worth Abbey, 23rd July. Join Bishop Alan and young adults from the diocese on a retreat day to Worth Abbey. Spend a day in prayer, reflection and adoration with like-minded young adults, hear talks by Bishop Alan and Fr. Richard Nesbitt, 'Grill the Bishop', enjoy a 'Bring & Share' picnic with the retreat culminating with Mass celebrated by the Bishop. Departure will be from Westminster Cathedral via coach, returning at 6pm. Cost of the day £15. For more information, contact daveburke@rcdow.org.uk

"The Way" - a beautiful and moving film with a Catholic/Christian message, showing at the Lexi Cinema, Camber-

layne Road, Kensal Rise, NW10 on Friday, 17th June at 6.15pm, Sunday 19th June at 7pm and for carers and babies Monday, 20th June at 11am.

Diocese of Westminster

Vacancy - Parish Administrator, North Harrow parish, hours of work 9 hours per week (10am-1pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday), salary £9 - £11 per hour (neg). Closing date 10th June 2011, interview date 15th June 2011. For an application pack phone Julie Dauncey on 7798 9167 or www.rcdow.org.uk/jobs.

National Grandparents Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday, 23rd July celebrating Saints Joachim & Anne, grandparents of Jesus. Mass at 12 noon, Bring a picnic - various fun activities for children. More information available by visiting the website: www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.com

St. John Fisher Social Club

Recovery on Track - The Social Club Committee would like to update everyone on the progress being made in returning the Club to a lively and vibrant place for our community to use. In the last notice in the newsletter we outlined a series of planned events to encourage parishioners to get involved and help support the Club so it would be able to continue operating. We are pleased to report that both these events were a resounding success in terms of attendance and monies raised and feedback was very positive. I would like to thank all members of the committee, especially John & Lynn Durcan for their pivotal role in organising and driving forward the recovery plan. In December 2010 the condition of our Club was critical so it's future does still depend upon, and needs, parishioner support and involvement on an ongoing basis.

A reminder of forthcoming events planned: Quiz evenings scheduled in September/October, Concert planned for November, which will be advertised in and around the parish near the date, we hope you will support them.

With the long 'balmy' summer evenings approaching, why not come down to the Club? There is a safe outside play area for the children to let off steam while you have a 'catch up' with friends and family. Opening times:

Tuesday 9pm - 11pm
Friday & Saturday 8pm - 11pm
Sunday 12 noon - 2pm

Do please contact me if you would like to help and get involved - Stephen Pal, Chair, St. John Fisher Social Club (stephen.pal121@virginmedia.com)