



St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church
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Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Middleton, 020 8429 5684, shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Catechist: Kay O'Connor, 020 8429 5682, kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Claudia McHugh, 020 8429 5681, claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk (10am - 1pm Mon-Wed-Fri)

20th November 2011 ~ Feast of Christ the King A

We Welcome...

People of All Faiths and Cultures
Divorced or Separated Persons
Families with Children
Those in Loving Relationships
Those in Difficulty
Married Couples
Single Persons
Those in Recovery
Travellers from Far and Near
Widows and Widowers
Visitors

We Seek...

To live the Gospel of Jesus Christ
To Gather the Community and Tell the Story
To Sing and Make Music to the Lord
To Break the Bread and Share the Cup

We Celebrate...

Diversity
A spirit of hospitality
The unity that God wills
Enlightening those who seek God
Forming small faith communities
Reaching out to alienated Catholics
Reverencing the dignity of each person
Caring for the needs of the less fortunate
Empowering Christians to realise their call
Providing a spiritual Oasis
Honouring an understanding among all faiths
Nurturing our gifts and sharing them

The Gospels assert that Jesus was of royal blood, descended from the House of David. But, what sort of king was ever born in a stable not a palace, with no place to lay his head, and buried in another man's tomb? His accession to the throne was his entry into Jerusalem, the royal capital, riding on a donkey rather than in a state coach. His royal robe was a spittle-covered purple rag, his crown was of thorns and his sceptre a reed. He made his royal progress weak and bleeding through the streets, to the jeers not the cheers of the populace. At Calvary he was enthroned on an executioner's gibbet.

Christ the King has nothing in common with earthly rulers, so his kingdom can be nothing like an earthly kingdom. In his realm there are no masters because everyone is a servant. Even the King came to serve and not to be served. Those who would be greatest in the Kingdom are those who make themselves the least. The reward for service is not promotion and financial gain but to be given further opportunities for service. When his subjects become rich or gain promotion, they are impoverished and demoted, the mighty being cast from their thrones and the lowly exalted. The lowest are the highest and tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom before the hypocritical Pharisees, members of the religious and political establishment, who take the best seats in the synagogues, encourage salutations in the market places and create heavy burdens for other people to bear without lifting a finger to help them.

It is difficult for us Christians to live simultaneously in two kingdoms, that of this world and that of Christ. We are prone to amalgamate them, to make one look so much like the other that we can't tell the difference. Often it seems that the Church, and our lives within it, have been made to fit the image of a temporal earthly kingdom rather than making earthly kingdoms fit the image of Christ's eternal heavenly Kingdom. It is difficult for Christians to live in society because the structures of that society are not the same as those in the Kingdom of God.

The distinguishing feature of Christ's rule is that of justice, but not the kind of justice we're used to. We tend to think that justice is giving people what they deserve. But justice in Christ's kingdom is the opposite. There the ultimate in justice is forgiveness. If we all got what we deserved what a sorry place God's Kingdom would be. Most of us would be cast into that outer darkness Jesus talks about in today's Gospel. Throughout his life Jesus emphasised forgiveness and it is this that tempers justice. That's why you can recognise the people who feel at home in the Kingdom. They are the ones who are ready to forgive. They are the people who feed and give drink to the hungry and thirsty, who welcome outcasts back into society, who clothe the naked and visit the sick and imprisoned.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, THE HOLY SOULS ARE REMEMBERED AT ALL OUR MASSES.

Saturday 19th (First Mass of Sunday)
18.00 Chris Conlon (Int)
Sunday 20th – Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King
08.30 David Rimmer (Anniv)
10.00 People of the Parish
11.30 Joe O'Regan (Anniv)
Monday 21st – Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
09.30 Patrick Kiernan (Anniv)
Tuesday 22nd – St Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr
09.30 Jim Fogarty RIP
Wednesday 23rd – Feria, Thirty Fourth Week of Year 1
19.00 Bernie Minoli & Anita Simoes
Thursday 24th – SS Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest
08.00 Mariamma Manuelpillai RIP
Friday 25th – Feria
09.30 Marie Vimala Chandra RIP
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 17.15-17.45

Please keep the sick in your prayers. A list of sick parishioners is displayed on the notice board.

Recently Deceased: Shirley Norton.

Pray Also For, David Rimmer, Joe O'Regan, Patrick Kiernan, Patricia Mangan, Anita Simoes, Ellen Papworth and Theresa Pereira whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Welcome Ministry Rota We are looking for new people to join the Meet & Greet rota so if you are interested please contact suemoriarty@sky.com.

Readers & Ministers of the Eucharist Please collect your new rotas from the Church Porch this weekend.

Annual Parish Meeting To be held on Monday, 28th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Items for the Agenda should be notified, in writing, to the Chairman, c/o the Parish House, no later than 14 days prior to the meeting.

The Pylon Fr Shaun would like to start a parish magazine. It would initially appear twice a year and would be a review of parish life. Séan White has kindly agreed to produce and edit the magazine. Would those people who lead various groups in the parish, please contact Séan on seangwhite@btinternet.com or 07710 099262/8866 6706 to discuss possible articles. The magazine is called "The Pylon" because there is a pylon in the presbytery garden that takes energy into nearby houses. In the same way we hope that the energy of the parish will make its way into your home.

Parish Coffee Morning Will take place today after both the 10am and 11.30am Masses.

Post Early for Christmas If you haven't got all your Christmas cards yet, remember you can buy them from the

Traidcraft stall in the Church Porch. You can also order lovely gifts that can be collected the following week. All profits go to help the disadvantaged around the world.

In The (Christmas) Mood Gregg McCann & the Hands of Jazz return once again to John Fisher for an evening of music and dance in aid of HCTP-The Pilgrimage Trust on Saturday, 3rd December. Tickets £20 (incl fish & chip supper). BOX OFFICE 8866 3836. Entry by advance ticket only, no tickets on the door. Please see poster & booking form in Church Porch.

The New Evangelisation – A Call to Serve For nearly a century the Knights have answered the call of our faith whenever the need has arisen through 'Serving God by Serving Others'. Today the need is greater than ever. In Sept10, the Holy Father called us all to be New Evangelists at a time when profound poverty of spirit and faith exists in our countries. We therefore launched 'The Opportunity to Serve' at the end of October and hereby invite more Catholic Men, aged 16 or over to become more involved in the Lay Apostolate. If interested please contact Peter Oliver on ksc.prov30press@yahoo.co.uk or 07905 657285.

Mass for those buried at Pinner New Cemetery Will take place at 11am on Friday, 25th November in the Cemetery Chapel.

Order of Mass Booklet The complete text of the Order of Mass in the new English translation is available from the Catholic Truth Society on www.cts-online.org.uk. Cost £1.95.

A Christmas Gift with a difference *Shanti the Grass-eating Lion* is a book written by Paul Sinclair to fundraise for orphanages and child welfare work. Please see poster on noticeboard. Cost £4.00 (incl. postage/packing) from www.grasseatinglion.org/Shanti.htm or e-Book at £2.43 through Amazon.co.uk & Apple iBook store. All profits go to charity.

Volunteering Overseas Would you like to volunteer overseas with the Jesuits for 6 months or longer? We have assistant teaching placements in Africa, Asia and South America. Training takes place in July and departures are in Sept 2012 and Jan 2013. For more info please see leaflets in Church Porch or www.jesuitmissions.org.uk.

Damage to Car If you witnessed damage to a light blue Toyota Corolla, YK55 ZTH in the Church Car Park on Sun, 13th Nov after the 11.30am Mass please contact Agnes Wong on 8866 3977 who would be grateful for any information.

Collection Last Week Loose £562.42, Planned Giving £802.78, Total £1,365.20. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting the work of the parish.

Senior Citizens' Christmas Party Saturday, 26th November, 2011 at 7pm for 7.30pm. Please state **clearly** if you need transport. All replies to be returned by **Sunday, 20th November**.