



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 (9.30am-1.30pm, Mon-Wed-Fri)

14th April 2013 ~ Third Sunday of Easter

PRIEST TRAINING FUND

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

On the 21st of April, next Sunday, we will celebrate the world day of prayer for vocations and the religious life. In our diocese of Westminster God has blessed us with forty men who are training for the priesthood and who in due course will work in our parishes. This is more than double the number of men that were in training 10 years ago. This is wonderful news but it also means that we have to find £50 a day to fund each seminarian through his training. That's just under £20,000 a year for each student. The money that we raise covers tuition fees, books, accommodation and other items and courses that are necessary for the formation in the priesthood.

10 years ago we had 17 men in formation, now there are 40 men preparing for priesthood. That is an increase of 135%. We thank God for his grace in calling men to serve in our parishes and for the generous response of those who have been called and who are engaged in a long process of discernment and formation. But there is another reality that we have to address and that is that our annual collection to support the training of our future priests has not gone up by 135%.

On top of all this the seminary building is in need of modernisation and additional classrooms have to be built. In short the Priest Training Fund is having to spend more than is being brought in and that means that if we do not increase income for the fund the fund will run out of money in the next two to three years. This would be a tragedy at a time when so many men are answering the Lord's invitation to follow him by living their lives as priests.

There are two things that we can do to help. First and most importantly we can offer our prayers and secondly we can make a contribution to the collection which will be held next week for the Priest Training Fund. All we can ask is that you take the envelope, that has been attached to this week's newsletter, home with you. Make your offering and bring the envelope back with you next week. Asking for extra help in a time of economic difficulty is a hard thing to do, but please be as generous as you can for this very worthwhile cause. We need good, holy and well formed priests.

If you are a taxpayer, could I urge you to complete the Gift Aid declaration form on the back of the envelope. This will add 25p for every pound that you give at no extra cost to yourself.

Fr. Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 13th April (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Paul Cleland (Sick)

Sunday 14th – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

08.30 Wyn Bowker RIP

10.00 People of the Parish

11.30 Avito Saldanha (Anniv)

Monday 15th – Easter feria

09.30 Agnes O'Sullivan RIP

11.00 Funeral of Antonio Cacchioli RIP

Tuesday 16th – Easter feria

09.30 Michael Hughes (Anniv)

Wednesday 17th – Easter feria

19.00 Bertie Pillai RIP

Thursday 18th – Easter feria

09.30 Funeral of Celine O'Brien RIP

Friday 19th – St Alphege, Bishop & Martyr

09.30 Sheila Rebello Eian (Thanksgiving)

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 at the back of the Church.

Recently Deceased, Celine O'Brien.

Pray Also For, Avito Saldanha, Michael Hughes, Joanne Flannery, Margaret Monahan, Phyllis Healy, Una Graydon, Bernard Devine, Patrick Kennedy, Teresa Kitchie, Joe & Nora Broderick, Mary Maher, Seamus O'Brien, Richard Plesner, Theresa Sundaram, Irene Hurst, Bridget Byrne, Trenton "Lloyd" Henry, Helen McNamara, Kathleen Forde, Alice Tobin, Nellie Connolly, William O'Riordan, Tom McCann, John Manners, Andrew Blyth and Karl Smol whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please Remember Antonio Cacchioli who has died. His funeral will take place at St John Fisher Church on Monday, 15th April at 11am followed by burial at Northwood Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends.

Please Remember Celine O'Brien who has died. Her funeral will take place at St John Fisher Church on Thursday, 18th April at 9.30am followed by burial at Kensal Green Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to her family and friends.

Baptisms We welcome Monika Cifrova, Ava Kelly, Isla Kelly and Rachael Nirmalan who are being baptised in our church this weekend.

Keeping Up Appearances As you will be aware, we have started work on the restoration of the kneelers in the church. As well as this the porch will also be redecorated next week and we hope that you will be pleased with the results.

St John Fisher School Annual Fundraising Dinner & Dance Raffle Ticket stubs and monies will be collected after all Masses this weekend.

Fairtrade Stall Will be open in the porch after all Masses next weekend.

St. Vincent de Paul Society For anyone interested in joining, there is a further welcoming meeting this Tuesday, 16th April at 7pm in the small hall of the Parish Centre.

Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) Next meeting is on Wednesday, 17th April after Mass when we shall have a Quiz.

Bethany Group Our next meeting is on Thursday, 18th April at 7.30pm in the Sacristy Room. Members please make every effort to attend.

"The Pylon" Summer edition - Creative Writing Page Please would you send any of your original writing, whether a short story, poem or flash fiction to barbaratowell@sky.com or put it in my pigeon hole by 31st May, 2013. We would particularly welcome work written by young people 13 years and above. However, all the work received will be considered for the page. There is no set theme, but since this is a summer edition, it would be good to read pieces relating to that theme where possible. Look forward to reading your submissions. *Barbara Towell*

Children's Creative Writing Competition - "The Pylon" Summer edition If you are 12 years old or under and enjoy writing, why not enter this competition? The winner will receive a £10 Smith's gift token, the runner up a consolation prize. Both will have their work published in the magazine. The theme this time is SUMMER. You can write either a story, poem, description or piece of flash fiction. **This must be your own original work.** Make sure your first and surname, plus **your age** and a contact number are at the bottom of the work. E-mail your entries to barbaratowell@sky.com or place your work in my pigeon hole - Barbara Towell. All entries must be received by **31st May 2013**. Happy writing and good luck to you all.

St. John Fisher Church Theatre Group Please see notice in the porch for changes of coach times for "Tosca" on 12th July.

Social Club - Tea & Coffee making facilities now available During opening hours on Tuesday 9-11pm, Friday 8-11pm, Saturday 8-11pm, Sunday 12-3pm (after 11.30am Mass).

Faith Matters Talks for the Year of Faith – May 2013 For details please see poster in Church porch. Registration is required as places will be limited. Suggested donation per lecture is £3. All lectures are in Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN.

St. Luke's Hospice Summer Proms at Harrow School Summer Classics – 15th June, The London Welsh Male Voice Choir – 6th July, Please see poster in Church porch.

Banneux ND Pilgrimage Join us on the Feast of Pentecost for a few days of peace and tranquillity among the pine trees, at the Virgin of the Poor shrine in Belgium, 17th/23rd May 2013 (the 80th anniversary the Apparitions). Cost £450 fully incl of travel, hotel (full board), and insurance. For details please ring Maria Hare 01895 420753.

Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead On Saturday 22nd June 2013. Coach leaves St Mary Magdalen Church, Athenaeum Road, Whetstone, N20 at 9am sharp returning about 6/6.30pm. Cost: £21, includes coach travel plus packed lunch, teas, coffees, soft drinks. Please contact Stella Devlin on 020 8445 3099 for further details.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2013 St. John Fisher School are collecting these vouchers. You can either drop them in the collection or hand them in at the presbytery. Many thanks for your support.