



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)

2nd June 2013 ~ Corpus Christi

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

Perhaps it is relatively easy for us to see the priestly dimension of Christ's saving work in the self-sacrifice of the cross which is conveyed in the pouring of wine and the breaking of bread. We grasp the connection between the signs and the suffering they signify as we rehearse the words and gestures of Christ at the Last Supper, and enter into the meaning which he gave to his death. In sharing the meal, we discover the sacrifice. We understand at least something of the prayer that goes up to the Father, which carries within it our deepest and conflicted longings for love and forgiveness.



At Mass we hear the words of Jesus as the bread and wine are offered and are changed into his own risen body and blood. Then as we receive that transfigured bread and wine we are transformed by that pre-eminent sacrament which encourages within us open and contrite hearts.

St Thomas Aquinas, wrote the antiphon to be sung on this feast of Corpus Christi: *'O sacred banquet, in which Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given us!'* The mind is filled with grace. We don't leave Mass unaltered. The real presence is a fact, but not a cold fact, nor a brute fact. There is a meeting of hearts; and in that, from that, a real sanctification gets underway within us. Below the levels we can adequately gauge or sense, God is powerfully at work to make us holy, to fit us for the glory we are called to share.

The figure of Melchizedek, who we hear about in the first reading, identifies for us the true power and dignity of God's love. St Luke's Gospel tries to capture the bounty of this Eucharistic love in his account of a different miracle, the feeding of the five thousand. The evangelist stresses that 'all ate as much as they wanted' while there was still plenty left over. Assembled and fed in companies of fifty, with food left over that is collected into twelve baskets, a rag-tag crowd has become the first manifestation of a new Israel, like the twelve tribes assembled in their thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens in the Book of Exodus. In Christ, God now makes us a holy people, a royal priesthood. To celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi is not only to celebrate the reality of the body and blood we receive at communion, but to acknowledge that through this gift we become ourselves members of that body of Christ in the world.

So, when Christ becomes our food and drink in this way he does not adopt a disguise, pretend to be what he is not. He shows himself most clearly for what he really is: the source of our new life in God. And by eating the body of Christ, by drinking his blood in this sacramental form, we accept his gift in a way that most clearly reveals our dependence on God, our hunger for his love.

That changes how we think about the world. It sharpens our appetite for the truth, and for the kingdom. With St Thomas we can pray together on this feast-day: *'O sacred banquet, in which Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given us!'*

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 1st June (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Sadie Horan (Anniv)

Sunday 2nd – **CORPUS CHRISTI**

08.30 People of the Parish

10.00 Mary Cross (Anniv)

11.30 Humiliana Fernandes RIP

Monday 3rd – St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

09.30 Terry Rough RIP

Tuesday 4th – Feria, Ninth Week of Year 1

09.30 Anne Griffin (1st Anniv)

Wednesday 5th – St Boniface, Bishop & Martry

19.00 Mr. M. Ariyam (20th Anniv)

Thursday 6th – Feria

09.30 Mrs. Gertrude Nicholas RIP

14.30 Mass – St. John Fisher School years 3-6 will attend

14.30-20.30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction

21.00 Reception Service for Michael McBreen RIP

Friday 7th – **THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

09.30 Mary Parker RIP

10.30 Funeral of Michael McBreen 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 at the back of the Church.

Recently Deceased, Julia Reilly, Ernest Humble, Pdraig McNamara, Michael McBreen.

Pray Also For, Sadie Horan, Mary Cross, Anne Griffin, M. Ariyam, Magda Gordon, Nora McManamon, Grace Schifano, Aoife Conroy, Jim O’Gorman, Marian Tallon, Anne Tyhurst, Bridie Aherne, Christopher Duncan and Mary Pauline Rajakarier whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please Remember Michael McBreen who has died. Reception on Thursday, 6th June at 9pm. Requiem Mass on Friday, 7th June at 10.30am at St John Fisher Church followed by burial at Carpenders Park Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends.

Baptisms We welcome Ethan Hubert, Christopher Li Mow Ching, George Parsons and Taylor Speke who are being baptised in our church this weekend.

Growing in Faith We are delighted to be able to tell you that the chair of the Growing in Faith Committee, Mgr. Jim Curry, will come to our parish on **Monday, 3rd June at 8.15pm**. Mgr. Jim will give a presentation about Growing in Faith and he will be available to take questions. If you can’t make that meeting then on **Wednesday, 5th June at 7.30pm** Fr. Shaun will also give a presentation about Growing in Faith. Both these meetings will take place in the Parish Hall. Do please come along.

Growing in Faith Team Meeting Will take place in the Small Hall on Monday, 3rd June at 7.45pm.

Confirmation 2014 Application forms are available for anyone currently in School Year 8 or above who would like to be confirmed in 2014. See Kay after Mass, incl. Saturday Evening.

First Holy Communion & Reconciliation 2014 Application forms are available for parents of children currently in School Year 2 or above. See Kay after Mass, incl. Saturday Evening.

Coffee Morning An invitation is extended to all to come and join us for Cream Tea after both the 10.00am and 11.30am Masses

next Sunday, 9th June. Weather permitting we can enjoy it on the lawn! This will be our last meeting until September, so please do come along and taste the delights of home-baked scones and catching up with old and new friends. As usual, raffle tickets will be on sale after both Masses.

Fairtrade Stall Open in the porch after all Masses next weekend.

International Day Once again this year the school and parish will work together to provide an International Day. This will take place at St John Fisher School, Melrose Road, HA5 5RA, on June 22nd, The Feast of St John Fisher, from 11am to 3pm. Could you please help with the following donations: Jolly Jars, Bric-a-Brac, Teddies, Toys - in good condition, Books, DVDs/CDs, Posh Bags, Drinks for tombola. You can drop these off in the Church porch or the sacristy.

International Kitchen Do get involved and share some of your home and culture with the parish. If people could spare half an hour on the day to help serve in the kitchen that would be fantastic - there is a separate sheet for this.

As for all you cake makers out there, please get baking, we need your help to provide cakes for the cake stall and for the tea and coffee stall. This is a real parish and school effort, it is about working together and supporting each other so we hope that everyone can get involved, give some time and attend the International Day.

International Day Talent Show We are planning to celebrate St. John Fisher Parish Talent. If you can sing, dance, play music or anything else and would like to share your talent at the International day please contact Maria Conlon, Deputy at St John Fisher Catholic School. It would be fantastic to celebrate the talents of St. John Fisher Parish. It would be wonderful to have some older children/adults to perform as well. Email mconlon.310@lgflmail.org.

UCM (Union of Catholic Mothers) Next meeting on 5th June. Jo Telfer will be giving a talk entitled "My fascination with bees!"

Parish Women's Group walk On Thursday, 13th June - meet at 8pm near the booking office, Harrow-on-the-Hill Station. For more info contact Elspeth on 07779 392244.

Knights of St. Columba Next meeting on Thursday, 6th June 2013 at 8pm in the sacristy room.

SVP We meet again this Tuesday at 7pm, could new members bring their DBS (ex-CRB!) paperwork with them. Here’s hoping!

Pilgrims Progress The June edition is available in the porch.

IF Campaign Rally CAFOD supporters are joining groups from other charities at a rally in Central London on Saturday, 8th June. They will be asking the G8 leaders, meeting in London, to focus their talks on helping the one in eight people in the world who go hungry each day. See www.cafod.org.uk/Events/IF-campagain-event for more info. If you would like to travel to the Service as a group meet at 9.30am at North Harrow station - contact Elspeth Everitt on 07779 392244.

Year of Faith Mass to celebrate the Year of Faith will take place on Thursday, 6th June at 2.30pm with Years 3-6 of St John Fisher School. This will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, which will conclude with Benediction at 8.30pm, please try to pop in during the afternoon to spend some time in prayer, giving thanks for the gift of your faith.