



## St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

80 Imperial Close, North Harrow, HA2 7LW, 020 8868 7531

[www.stjohnfisheronline.org.uk](http://www.stjohnfisheronline.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Middleton, 020 8429 5684, [shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Catechist: Kay O'Connor, 020 8429 5682, [kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Claudia McHugh, 020 8429 5681, [claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk) (9.30am–1.30pm, Mon-Wed-Fri)

### 19<sup>th</sup> May 2013 ~ Pentecost Sunday

#### *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

In the Gospel Jesus breathes on his disciples to impart the gift of the Spirit. The giving of the Spirit under the sign of breath is immediately linked with the reality of forgiveness in the Church, the power of giving absolution, transmitted by Jesus along with the Spirit to the apostles. Now this passage does have to do with the fact that the apostles, and their successors in the ordained priesthood, have the duty of absolving the sins of Christians. But it also points to the fact that forgiveness has to be at the heart of any community shaped by the Spirit.



A community can be shaped in all sorts of ways. It can be shaped by enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, and so on. But it can also be shaped by love, joy, peace, patience, and the rest. Probably the communities we live in are shaped by a bit of both. And we too probably contribute a bit of both to what shapes the lives of our communities. But what is crucial to the life of any community is whether or not forgiveness is a fundamental value. Because where it is not, a community will only fall apart, with relationships wounded, wounds attracting disease and festering until death. But where there is forgiveness, there is always hope, good will, openness to the possibility of renewal, genuine healing, and a stronger and greater community.

Jesus tells us that if we do not forgive the sins of others, our heavenly Father will not forgive us. And which of us can say that he or she has not sinned? That then is the deal. And there is no better deal. Unless we forgive, we shall not be forgiven. And however difficult it may be for us to forgive the wrongs that may be done to us, the deal Jesus announces is good news for us, because every one of us will benefit, and without it not one of us can really hope.

Forgiveness is often not easy, but for the Spirit. When we look at how our world has rebelled against God, we have to wonder that such a great mass of sin can be forgiven. And yet nothing is impossible for the Spirit who offers forgiveness to all. If the Spirit can forgive all this, then surely he can give us the power to forgive when we find it difficult or even impossible. Because if it sometimes feels that we don't have the natural power to forgive, the power to forgive is entirely natural to the Spirit. And when the Spirit comes to dwell in our hearts, what is natural to him becomes second nature to us.

Forgiveness is as fundamental to the life of the Church as breathing is to the life of the body. Without breath, the body dies. Without forgiveness the Church would die too, and so would our hope. If we don't forgive, we die. But if we do forgive, God opens up a new life of possibilities before us, and hope for a life with him that will never die.

*To Shaun.*

## Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 People of the Parish

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> – **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

08.30 Mary & Joseph Patten

10.00 Augustine Texeira (Anniv)

11.30 Sundararajan (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Feria, Seventh Week of Year 1

**09.30 Funeral of Herbert Hoffmann RIP**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Feria

09.30 Tommy Smith (Anniv)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Feria

19.00 Martin D’Cunha RIP

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Feria

09.30 Annachi Ponnukone (Anniv)

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> – Feria

09.30 Daniel Thiruchelvam (Special Int)

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**, Jéan Constantin, Tom Ryan.

**Pray Also For**, Augustine Texeira, Somasundaram Sundararajan, Tommy Smith, Annachi Ponnukone, Ellen Broadrick, Ranee Saverimuttu, Robert Dorr, Theresa Hughes, Joe O’Gorman, Joe McGrath, Aldo Minoli, Bridie White, Frank Gallagher, Sadie Horan, Cornelius Clancy and Mary O’Shea whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**First Holy Communion** Please keep in your prayers the third group of children who are making their First Holy Communion this weekend.

**Year of Faith** Throughout Harrow Deanery from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> June we will have Forty Hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Please see the poster in the porch for details. Exposition at St. John Fisher that week will take place on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June beginning with mass at 2.30pm and concluding with benediction at 8.30pm.

**Parish Council** Will meet in the Upper Room at 7pm on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm.

**Growing in Faith** Team meeting will take place on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the Small Hall.

**Harrow Food Bank** Thank you for all your donations of food which can be left on the designated Food Bank table in the porch.

**Please remember** In your prayers Jéan Constantin who passed away last week. He was a member of the Parish for many years. Many thanks. The Constantin Family

**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 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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.

Would parishioners be willing to sell raffle tickets for the International Day after Mass on the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> June?

Again, please contact Fr Shaun, [shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk) or Monica, at the address given above if you are able to help.

**International Kitchen** In the porch you will find sign-up sheets for the International Kitchen. This is very popular and only works with your help, so please 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.

**Growing in Faith** Team meeting will take place on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the Small Hall.

**The Knights of St. Columba and the Sanctity of Life - Annual Provincial Walk** The Knights of Saint Columba have long placed the Sanctity of Life at the centre of their Action programs and will on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July hold a sponsored walk along the towpath of the Grand Union Canal at Hanwell to raise money for the Hounslow Life Centre. The Centre is staffed by 12 Volunteer Counsellors who in an average month help some 30 young women who have suddenly discovered that they are pregnant and are unsure what to do. Most of those seen are students from outside the European Union with no access to Public Funds. Life supplies its clients with whatever they need e.g. baby clothes, nappies, pushchairs and money if necessary. With no State assistance, Life seeks to make possible life-giving, positive alternatives to what might otherwise be seen as the single deadly option of abortion. The Knights will be at all the Masses this weekend inviting you to sponsor one of their walkers to support this important life-saving work. If you have no spare cash on you, please consider signing up and paying later.

**Zumbatomic Classes for Children age 4-7 at St. John Fisher Church** Will be available from Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2013 and thereafter every Monday at 4.30-5.30pm in the Parish Hall. Cost £4.50 per child, with sibling £7 (i.e. £3.50 each). Please contact Meg at [zumba\\_megsclasses313@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:zumba_megsclasses313@yahoo.co.uk).

**St John Bosco Children’s Camp** A full programme of supervised summer activities at the SVP John Bosco Centre in Essex is offered to boys (8-13) and girls (9-12) during July & August - please see poster on notice board. For more information please contact Tony McWilliams of the SVP on 8868 3205. Two places can be provided by our parish SVP for families suffering financial hardship.

**Interested in Playing Squash regularly?** I have a small group of friends, sadly down to 4 people now, that play squash on a Monday evening from 8.15pm-9.45pm at Vale Farm Sports Centre, Sudbury and we are looking for some more players to join our group. All ages and abilities welcome. Please email [Stephen.pal121@virginmedia.com](mailto:Stephen.pal121@virginmedia.com) or call 07836 701317 for more details.

**Keyboard lessons** If there is anybody in the Parish who is willing to give lessons to someone who already knows the basics, please contact Hilda at [hrioseph@btinternet.com](mailto:hrioseph@btinternet.com) or call 07866 506788.

**Monica Flanagan – London Marathon** With your help Monica raised £400 for Maya Outreach. Many thanks for your support.