



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)

26th May 2013 ~ Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

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 Trinity is at the heart of Christian faith: it is not something to be glossed over. For the *limited human intellect, aspects of God in this life will always be opaque, but we should keep* the mysterious as limited as possible. We should always be at pains to know the knowable. What is not a mystery should not be made mysterious by us.

Trinitarian theology is complicated, there is a tendency to say 'the Trinity is a mystery' and then move on. It must be so for a reason. Hopefully, its very complications bring us closer to God. Other monotheistic

faiths look at the Trinity and think Christianity seems suspiciously polytheistic. To explain otherwise is not straightforward. Hopefully, we have given ourselves this cross to bear for good reason.

A first good reason is that Scripture is full of references to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with today's gospel reading being as good an example as any. If Scripture talks of Father, Son and Holy Spirit then so do we. That is not to say a defined doctrine of the Trinity is found Scripture, but certainly the divine vocabulary of the Trinity is.

Today we are told that Jesus still has many things to say but they are too much for the disciples at this point. The crucifixion is still in the future. The Holy Spirit is still to come. The Spirit will complete the truth that Jesus began. The truth to be learned is that the crucifixion is not a tragedy but a victory that opens for us a way to salvation.

If we had no knowledge of Jesus and possessed no bible, would we come up with anything like the doctrine of the Trinity? I doubt it. It looks overly convoluted when taken out of context. Then, when we look at today's gospel reading, it is difficult to think how things could be otherwise.

God does not want to leave us where we are. God wants us to find our way to Him. God gives His Son for that purpose. Jesus has a lot to tell us, but we are not capable of possessing that much knowledge of the divine. We need a Holy Spirit to bring us to a full knowledge of God. Just as the disciples saw the crucifixion as a defeat rather than a victory, so we don't really understand how we are saved. We need the Holy Spirit to bring us to full knowledge.

Looked at this way, it seems obvious that we do need a Father, Son and Holy Spirit to bring us to our salvation. The Trinity is the heart of our faith insofar as we believe that the one God is truly present to us for our salvation in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. The Trinity lies behind the conviction that was manifest in Jesus: a creative, responsive love is the basic reality of the universe.

It is through encountering the Trinity that we come to the knowledge of God, and through the Trinity, God achieves his purpose of our Salvation. In talk of the Trinity, we recognise in history and in our own lives the God we meet in the Bible.



Fr. Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 25th May (First Mass of Sunday)
18.00 May Dineen (Anniv)
Sunday 26th – **THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**
08.30 Queenie Lee (Anniv)
10.00 People of the Parish
11.30 Regina Emmanuel (Anniv)
Monday 27th – ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, Bishop
09.30 In Thanksgiving – Agnes Kelly
Tuesday 28th – Feria, Eighth Week of Year 1
09.30 Sacred Heart & Our Lady of Perpetual Succour for good results in blood test - Mary Breen
Wednesday 29th – Feria
19.00 Maureen Gaffney (Sick)
Thursday 30th – Feria
09.30 Mr. Brendan Connolly (Anniv)
Friday 31st – THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
09.30 Peggy Murphy (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, Peter Digby, Donal Walsh.

Pray Also For, May Dineen, Queenie Lee, Regina Emmanuel, Brendan Connolly, Sarah Madden, Ronald Martin, Jean McSweeney, Ciara Carvell, Patrick Morley, Vincent Breen, Bob Howard, Kathy Casey, Kay McGrath, Jack Keane and Walter Hickey whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Year of Faith Throughout Harrow Deanery from the 2nd to the 8th 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, 6th June beginning with mass at 2.30pm and concluding with benediction at 8.30pm.

Growing in Faith By now many people will have heard about Growing in Faith, but you may still not know what it is, what the aims of Growing in Faith are and how as a parish and a diocese we are responding to Growing in Faith and planning for our future. Therefore, 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.

Parish GiF Team Meeting Because of the Bank Holiday the Parish GiF Team will not meet this Monday. However, Fr Shaun will be available in the Small Hall 7.30-8pm to meet with any members of the team who would like to speak with him.

Confirmation Photos Are ready for collection – see Kay after Mass.

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.

Would parishioners be willing to sell raffle tickets for the International Day after Mass on the weekend of 8th/9th June? Please contact Fr Shaun, shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk or Monica at monica.gaffney@btinternet.com if you can 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.

Parish Women's Group walk On Thursday, 13th June - meet at 8pm near the booking office, Harrow-on-the-Hill Station. We will walk up Harrow hill, stopping at places of interest, and end the evening with a drink at the Castle pub. Newcomers are welcome to this last event before the summer break. For more information contact Elspeth on 07779 392244.

Children's Writing Competition – The Pylon Summer Edition **Calling all budding young writers! 1st Prize £10 Smith's Token Prize for runner up. Work to be published in summer edition of The Pylon. LAST CHANCE TO ENTER. FINAL DATE TO SUBMIT ENTRY - MAY 31ST.** If you are aged 12 or under and enjoy creative writing: poetry, short stories, flash fiction or simply an autobiographical piece or description, why not enter the competition? **Send your entry** with your name and age clearly written on the piece(s) and e-mail to barbaratowell@sky.com or place in my pigeon hole in the porch at the back of the church. Thank you to those who have already sent me their entries and look forward to reading more work. *Barbara Towell*

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. **The Programme for 8th June is:** 11.30 - Ecumenical Service at Westminster Central Hall with Archbishop Vincent Nichols speaking; 1pm - Walk of Witness from Westminster Central Hall to Hyde Park; 2pm - Rally in Hyde Park. See www.cafod.org.uk/Events/IF-campagain-event for more information. If you would like to travel to the Service as a group meet at 9.30am at North Harrow station (a packed lunch and drink recommended if you are going on to the rally). For more info visit CAFOD website, email siftraidcraft@gmail.com or contact Elspeth Everitt (07779 392244).

3rd Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land On 18th-26th November, 2013, led by Bishop Alan Hopes, guided by Fr. John Farrell OP. For details please see poster on notice board.

Zumbatomic Classes for Children age 4-7 at St. John Fisher Church Available from Monday, 3rd 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.