



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

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

www.stjohnfisheronline.org.uk

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)

20th October 2013 ~ Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year C

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

During the month of November it is traditional for us to remember and to pray for the dead. We believe that all of us who were baptised in Christ form the Body of Christ... and this membership in Christ is eternal. We are forever interconnected. When we celebrate the Eucharist we have a glimpse of this Communion we share with Christ and all the members of His Body. We are present to one another in a unique way. A traditional Byzantine image is that during the liturgy we are transported into heaven at the throne of God and join the Angels and Saints and our deceased brothers and sisters in worship of the one God. It makes sense then, that in times of trial, we would ask these friends of ours, the saints to pray for us. We ask people here on earth to pray for us. Why can't we ask those in heaven to pray for us?

What happens when people die and meet God is a mystery. We do know that we are accountable for the way we have lived our life. We also know that God is Love. God's mercy knows no bounds. When we pray for someone who has died we are accompanying them with our love. We offer our prayers to support them whatever they may be experiencing and however they need our prayer.

One of the notions that we have in relation to this process of coming into God's presence is that of Purgatory. People often think of it as a form of detention centre that people go to before they can be admitted into heaven. In fact it is not a "punitive" concept but rather, true to its name, one of deep cleansing. But, let's try to think of purgatory like this. When we die, we carry with us all of the accomplishments, honours, victories, qualities we feel earn us a place in heaven. We come before the pearly gates our hands full... of ourselves. God patiently looks upon us with love and waits... God waits until we begin to get tired and one by one put down all the things we are carrying. Then, when our hands are empty can God embrace us and welcome us home. That's what purgatory is about.

Today you will find an envelope attached to your newsletters. Please enclose a list of your deceased loved ones in this envelope together with any offering that you may wish to make, (special sheets of paper on which to write your list can be found in the porch). Then return the envelope to Fr. Shaun at the presbytery. Any money collected will be distributed to priests working in poor diocese in England, Wales and Scotland. This is a good way for us to support priests in our own country who don't have much income. Those priests will then offer Masses for the dead as will we during the month of November.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 19th October (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 People of the Parish

Sunday 20th – 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Mrs. Gertrude Harris RIP

10.00 In Thanksgiving – Adrian Arulanantham for his 18th Birthday

11.30 Crispin Saldanha (Anniv)

Monday 21st – Feria, Twenty-Ninth Week of Year 1

09.30 People of the Parish, Family & Friends (In Thanksgiving – Agnes Kelly)

Tuesday 22nd – Feria

09.30 Joseph Kelly RIP

Wednesday 23rd – Feria

19.00 In Thanksgiving – Agnes Kelly

Thursday 24th – Feria

09.30 Gerry Dignan (Sick)

Friday 25th – Feria

09.30 Private Intention of Monica O’Sullivan

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.

Pray Also For, Crispin Saldanha, Vincent Bourke, Winifred Maher, Margaret Sullivan, Victor Crick, Patrick Webber, Maureen Nixon, Hannah Shevlin, Hannah Barnard, Rose Wright, Martin Flanagan, Donald Haynes, Soad Raie, Gerald Taylor, Maureen Walsh, Michael McCrohan, Alice Taylor, Johanna Evans, Dennis Joiner, Helen Muscillo, Philomena Seymour and Kathleen Kane whose anniversaries occur at this time.

School Admission Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for PRIMARY & 6TH FORM COLLEGE on Saturday, 7th December at 10.30am-12.30pm in the Parish Hall. For an appointment please contact Claudia McHugh at claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or on 8429 5681 (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm). Please note that candidates who apply for 6th FORM should attend – not parents. *If you are applying for a 6th FORM in West London with a deadline of 8th December, please contact Claudia for an earlier appointment.*

Annual Parish Meeting To be held on Monday, 25th 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.

All Saints Friday, 1st November is the Feast of All Saints and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass that day will be celebrated at 9.30am and 7pm.

Mass for the Bereaved Each year in November we celebrate a Mass for those who have been bereaved in recent years. This will be held at 6pm on Saturday, 2nd November, the Feast of All Souls. Everyone is welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served in St. John Fisher Parish Hall afterwards.

Blessing of the Graves Mass will be celebrated in the Cemetery Chapel at 11am at Pinner New Cemetery on Tuesday, 12th November. This will be followed by the blessing of the graves.

Parish Women’s Group Evening On Thursday, 14th November. The book to be discussed is "**Gone Girl**" by Gillian Flynn. More details about the evening to follow at a later date. But in the meantime, get reading!

The Pylon All those of you who have promised articles for the forthcoming Christmas edition of the parish magazine, The Pylon,

note that the deadline is **October 31st**. Please e-mail to barbaratowell@sky.com by this date. Many thanks.

The Pylon - Children's Creative Writing Competition Reminder **Deadline for entries is October 31st**. If you are 12 or under, why not to write a poem, short story, description or even a short script for the competition? First prize is a **£10 Smith's token** and the runner up will receive **chocolates**. Both **winning entries will be published** in the Christmas edition of The Pylon. You may choose your own subject to write about. Write your full name and age on your work; and either place it in Barbara Towell's pigeon hole in the porch or email to barbaratowell@sky.com.

Traidcraft Food and CAFOD Christmas Card Stall Open after all Masses this weekend. We still need a few more volunteers so if you can occasionally help after your normal mass for about 15 minutes to sell cards and receive orders, please email siftraidcraft@gmail.com or give your contact details and the mass you usually attend into the stall this weekend.

St John Fisher Preschool Is open five mornings per week (9.15am–12.45pm) and three afternoons (Mon, Tues, Weds at 12.30pm–3.45pm). We are situated in the Parish hall and take children from 2 years & 6 months. All 3 & 4 year olds are funded for 15 hours per week (the term after they are 3). We are also able to accept childcare vouchers and are approved by Harrow to offer a limited amount of funding to 2 year olds (providing you are eligible). Our fees are very reasonable and set at £4.40 per hour. Please ring 07586 345706 or email sif.preschool@gmail.com, we welcome all enquiries.

Parish Curry Night On Saturday, 16th November at 7.30pm. There are sign-up sheets in the porch. Tickets cost £15 for adults and £7 for children which includes a three course meal and entertainment. If you would like to volunteer to help organise, set up, cook or help clear up we will meet on Thursday, 24th October at 7.30pm in the small hall.

Vocations Discernment Group for young adults The next meeting is on Friday, 25th October at 7-9pm in the Hinsley Room next to Westminster Cathedral with Fr Hugh Mackenzie on the Faith movement. For more info contact Fr Richard on richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk.

Support for survivors of abuse The Diocesan Safeguarding Service is hoping to set up a support service for survivors of child abuse. It is intended that a list is retained, confidentially by the safeguarding service, of professional counsellors who have experience of this area of work. When requested by a survivor the safeguarding service can supply a list of counsellors from which the survivor will be able to choose from. There is no guarantee of work emulating from this project and it will be the responsibility of the survivor to negotiate fees with the counsellor concerned. If you are interested in adding your name to the list, please forward your full details, by email, and relevant experience to Peter Turner, the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor at peterturner@rcdow.org.uk.

St Gregory’s Catholic Science College, Kenton Are holding their Sixth Form Information Evening on Tuesday, 7th November at 7pm in the School Hall. Students will have an opportunity to speak to subject staff about the AS, A2 and BTEC courses available and also information on St. Gregory’s comprehensive programme of extra-curricular activities and preparation for University.