



St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

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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)

Christmas Double Edition: 22nd December & 29th December 2013



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

My word, Advent seems to have flown by this year. It seems like yesterday when I was lighting the first candle on the Advent wreath and now we are about to celebrate the loveliest feast of the church's year. The feast of the



Incarnation, when we recall the birth of our Lord and Saviour in that small hill town in Judea, Bethlehem - a name that is now known throughout the world. It was here in an animal shelter that our God divested himself of his divine glory so that he might be born as one of us. Fragile, defenceless and vulnerable. Every time I think of that my heart is filled with wonder and awe at the generosity of the God whom we call Father.

What a year it has been. The retirement of Pope Benedict and the election of Pope Francis seems to have ushered in a new sense of optimism. After some pretty dark times it feels as if a new spring is about to come to the Church, a time of renewal and hope. It's a great time to be a catholic - but then again, I always think it's a great time to be a catholic, because our faith speaks of hope and the pilgrimage each one of us is called to make as we try to deepen our relationship with the Lord and each other.

This is also a time of renewal and development for the parish. Early in the new year we will start work on the church and we will create a beautiful place in which we can honour the Lord and celebrate the liturgy. We must remember that everything that we do as a faith community grows out of our worship. I am also looking forward to the proposed expansion of our school. This will bring wonderful opportunities for the school community, both staff and children and it will ensure that we can offer a catholic education to all our children.

So there is much to be grateful for and much to look forward to. 2014 will doubtless bring its own set of challenges but we will meet them together and in doing so we will grow stronger in the bonds of friendship and faith that unite us all. Thank you so much for your support and kindness. I wish you and all your families the blessing and the hope of Bethlehem. Happy Christmas.

Shaun Middleton

Fr Shaun Middleton, Parish Priest



Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 21st December (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 People of the Parish

Sunday 22nd – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08.30 Brendan Connolly RIP

10.00 Bryan & Mary Cross RIP

11.30 Rita Maria Coutinho (Anniv)

Monday 23rd – Advent feria

09.30 Bernard Lynch RIP

Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve

17.00 Bridget Ryan (Anniv) & Victor Crick (Anniv)

22.30 People of the Parish

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

08.30 Peter Keane (Int)

10.00 Jim Devine (Anniv) & John Hynes (Anniv)

11.30 Mick McBreen RIP

Thursday 26th December St Stephen's Day

11.00 Anthony Sweeney (Anniv) & Margaret Sweeney (Anniv)

Friday 27th – ST JOHN, Apostle & Evangelist

19.00 Saverimutti James (Anniv) et al

Saturday 28th December (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Peg Ryan RIP

Sunday 29th – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

08.30 Shaun McGillicuddy RIP

10.00 People of the Parish

11.30 Ladislaus Albert (Anniv)

Monday 30th – 6th DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

09.30 Nicholas James Jennings RIP

Tuesday 31st December New Year's Eve

09.30 Mary Ryan (Anniv)

Wednesday 1st January 2014 New Year's Day

11.00 Nora Sweeney (Anniv)

Thursday 2nd – Sts Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops & Doctors

09.30 All Deceased Members of Ryan, Crick & Moore Families RIP

Friday 3rd – Christmas feria

09.30 Mr. Laval Chow Chin Sung RIP

10.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 17.15-17.45

Please note some Mass times are different over the Christmas period.

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, Sue Gunovsky, Frank Donagy, Utamchaad Dodiah, Gail Feeney, Betty Williams, Ruby Sharp.

Pray Also For, Rita Maria Coutinho, Bridget Ryan, Victor Crick, Jim Devine, John Hynes, Anthony & Margaret Sweeney, Saverimutti James, Ladislaus Albert, Mary Ryan, Nora Sweeney, Geoffrey Cheeseman, James McKenna, Patricia Ross, Isabelle Collins, Diana Morris, Bridget Devlin, Jim Walsh, Annie Mahon, (baby) Charlie Pollock, Wyn Bowker, Pat Bolwell, Frances Greenfield, Matthew Jackson, Tom Forde, Thomas Buckley, Mary Mills, John Morris, Clare Hynes, Danny Duffy, Tony Jordan, Raneé Emmanuel, Bridie Murphy, Frank Morawski, Maierread Trigg, Denis O'Shea, Sr. Mary Innocentia, Kevin Cronin, James Tully, Anna Quigley, John Halvey and Michael Arulanantham whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Baptisms We welcome Ricardo Sangiorgi and Aadanya Franklin who are being baptised in our church.

Car Parking Arrangements whilst building works are in progress

The Car Park will be closed from **6th January 2014** to facilitate major building works to the Church. On Sundays, Saturdays and on special occasions every endeavour will be made to open the Car Park for genuine visitors to the Church, but the area available for car parking will be reduced on grounds of safety. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the closure of the car park.

Knights of St. Columba Next meeting on Thursday, 2nd January 2014 at 8pm in the Social Club. Any Catholic men interested in finding out more about the Knights are most welcome to attend our meetings.

Need to top up your Christmas card supply? The last few packs of CAFOD cards (& some single cards at 20p) are on sale in the porch this weekend. You can also buy some Fairtrade chocolate & sweets for last minute Christmas gifts.

Christmas Coffee Morning Thank you so much to everyone who helped organise and attended our coffee morning making it such a great success. £766 was raised which is being put towards the cost of the server albs and you will see our servers in them during the Christmas period. We look forward to welcoming you back on Sunday, 26th January 2014 after the 10am and 11.30am Mass.

Wood Do you have an open fire? We have just emptied a shed that contained quite a lot of wood from the sets the old Drama group used to have. If you would like it before it goes to the skip then please help yourself. It is to be found behind the parish centre. Just follow the path around the small hall and keep going until you can go no further. You may need to bring a saw with you.

Christmas Posters Please collect your poster from the Church porch.

Google Groups We are setting up an electronic email which will contain the Parish Newsletter. This will be sent to all who are registered and who have given us an email address. If you wish to opt out, please let us know and remember to make sure to release it from the spam report if it should end up there.

Getting Married Please remember that it is a requirement of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales that at least six months notice be given if you intend to get married. We need this time to process the paperwork and to ensure that you can have access to Marriage Preparation.

St. John Fisher Social Club The Club bar will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Catholic Children's Society (Westminster) Crib Appeal 2013

With your support CCS is helping more children & families than ever before to break free from the poverty trap. Please place your donation in the crib basket or visit www.cathchild.org.uk or text CCSW12 (plus the amount) £2/£5/£10 to 70070. Please see poster on notice board and flyers in the Church porch. Many thanks for your support.

Christmas Collection Is traditionally taken for the support of the Parish Priest to help him in his ministry. Fr Shaun would like to thank everyone for their generosity.