



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)

26th January 2014 ~ Third Sunday of the Year A

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

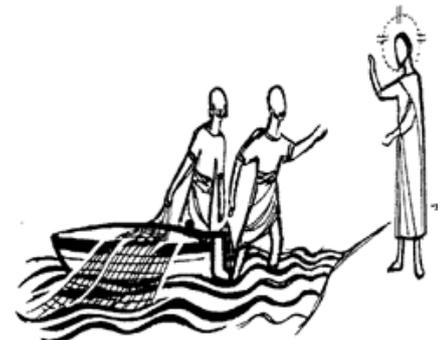
We Celebrate...

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

If you look at an old atlas you will see that Britain is located at the centre of the world. Then there's the West, the South, the Middle East, the East and the Far East. It takes a long time to realise how odd that language is. But it demonstrates that people either place themselves at the centre of things and see others as more or less marginal; or they actually feel themselves to be marginal and profoundly unimportant, even worthless.

Isaiah of Jerusalem speaks for those who are and feel marginal, and Jesus comes among such people with a startling message: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand." Now we usually think of repenting as being sorry for our bad ways and trying to do better; but it can also mean changing your way of thinking, and if the people to whom Jesus came thought of themselves as worthless, surely Jesus wouldn't have been rubbing it in, but encouraging them to think differently. He invites them to turn round and see a new reality called the kingdom of heaven, which is Matthew's reverent way of saying the kingdom of God. This kingdom, as the Gospels will show us in many readings in the weeks ahead, is accessible to children, to people with fierce desire in their hearts, people who know their need of healing, and people who dare to hope. Even "Sinners" – which often means those who don't observe the generally accepted etiquette – are welcome.

Matthew then tells us about Jesus calling two sets of brothers to follow him; is this linked with what has gone before, or is it just the next thing that happens, without any connection? Well, it would make sense to assume that there is some connection, and in the gospel the followers of Jesus become connected with the announcing of the kingdom. Although after the double call story Matthew says Jesus went round teaching, proclaiming the kingdom and curing, it doesn't make sense to exclude the recently reconstituted fishermen from that activity. In the future he will send out many of his followers to do what he has been doing, and in these 'call stories' Matthew is introducing us to the idea of the Church. The God who is utterly self-sufficient creates companions for himself: the Son of God who has all power to transform the world chooses to use companions for his work, and he gathers a community of gatherers to continue to draw more and more companions into the kingdom; and that community of gatherers is the Church which simply is the presence of Christ acting as he acted all round Galilee, acting now round all places, and especially the no-places of our world, to bring the good news of the kingdom of heaven to those for whom there seems to be nothing but bad news.



Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 25th January (First Mass of Sunday)
18.00 Daniel Dhar (1st Anniv)
Sunday 26th – 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
08.30 Dino Cappuccini (Anniv)
10.00 William Enwright (Anniv)
11.30 Rasiah Albert (Anniv)
Monday 27th – Feria, Third Week of Year 2
09.30 Mrs. McClelland RIP
Tuesday 28th – St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor
09.30 John Carroll RIP
Wednesday 29th – Feria
19.00 David Else RIP
Thursday 30th – Feria
09.30 David Hooper (III)
Friday 31st – St John Bosco, Priest
09.30 Mr. Noel Jayasingam 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, Mary Murray, Kathleen Feeney, Don Weeks, Mrs Keogh.

Pray Also For, Daniel Dhar, Dino Cappuccini, William Enwright, Rasiah Albert, Winifred Barnes, Daisy Rolt, Thomas O'Donoghue, Maria Lavelle, Geoffrey Flynn, Morgan Rainsford, Bertha Nicholls, Jim Gallagher, Tony Daly, Winifred Bushell, Kathleen O'Malley, Kitty Edwards, Hazel Wight, Tess O'Reilly, Thelma Renner, Wyn O'Hagen, May Connick, Kathleen Coyle, Marian Wrzyszc, Barbara Riseley and Eileen Reilly whose anniversaries occur at this time.

The Parish Project Thanks to the mild weather and the hard work of our builders the project is still on schedule. You can keep up to date with what is happening by following us on Twitter @SJFHarrow where you will find a photographic diary.

Parish Council and Finance Committee Members Please collect an envelope marked for your attention from the pigeon hole in the Church porch.

Church Cleaning Takes place on Saturday morning between 8-11am. If you can spare an hour during that time please let Ann Anderson know and she will tell you when you will be needed.

Planned Giving Envelopes This is not an appeal! However, I know there was a mix up over envelopes in 2013 and I would like to get it sorted for 2014. So, if you requested envelopes but did not receive them, or have any queries over envelopes, standing orders, or Gift Aid, I will be in the porch after all Masses this weekend. *Ann Anderson*

Parish Coffee Morning We look forward to welcoming you all to our regular coffee morning today after 10am and 11.30am Masses. Raffle tickets will be on sale and all proceeds go to the restoration of our church.

Fairtrade Stall In the porch after all Masses this weekend.

St. John Fisher Recipe Book The idea is that people give us their recipes and write a paragraph or two about where the recipe came from. This might be something about the person who gave you the recipe or it could be a cultural reference such as food that is cooked to celebrate a particular event in your home country. You might submit a recipe as an individual or as a family. As we have parishioners from all around the world this could be

an exciting project so please send your recipes in and include cooking times, cooking temperature and the method of how to make the dish. We would have the book professionally printed and then sell it in order to raise funds for the re-ordering. If all goes well we would like to have the book ready for this year's International Day. Please send your recipes to harrownorth@rcdow.org.uk.

St John Fisher Social Club AGM On Sunday, 9th February at 7.30pm in the small hall.

St. John Fisher Church Theatre Group – Spring Programme 2014 Please see programme on notice board in Church porch for latest information on future Theatre events incl. Twelve Angry Men on Tuesday, 28th January, The Bodyguard on 25th February and To God & the Bridge on 28th May.

Mary's Meals "Rags to riches" collection will take place the weekend of 15th/16th February, so please collect together unwanted clothing, towels, sheets, belts, handbags, shoes, curtains (the condition does not matter) to bring to the church that weekend. Please do not bring before then and only textiles.

Westminster Cathedral Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes Will take place at 2pm on Saturday, 8th February. Archbishop Vincent Nichols will preside and the Mass will include the Sacrament of the Sick. All are welcome, no seat reservations or tickets. If you are bringing a wheelchair, please tell your parish priest so that he can reserve space for wheelchairs and carers.

Archbishop's Mass for Altar Servers – Change of Date The annual Mass will be celebrated by Cardinal Elect, Archbishop Vincent Nichols in Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday, 15th March 2014 at 2.30pm**. For further details please see flyer on notice board in the Church porch.

Archbishop's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony - Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 7th June 2014 at 3pm The Archbishop will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2014. If you qualify, please contact Claudia on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or 8429 5681 by **Friday, 28th February** with the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and e-mail (or telephone number if no e-mail).

Diocese of Westminster Vacancies - Centre Manager, St Joseph's Pastoral Centre St Joseph's Pastoral Centre wishes to appoint a Centre Manager to oversee the management and development of St Joseph's Activities Centre which as part of a project for Caritas DOW, provides support to people with learning disabilities and their family and friends. **Salary:** £35-38k pa (neg) **Hours of work:** 35 hours per week (Mon-Fri incl. evening and weekend work as required) **Closing date:** 7 February 2014.

Administrative Archivist A qualified Archivist is required to assist in the diocesan archives department at the Diocesan Archives, Kensington. The successful applicant will ideally have experience in a similar role and must possess good ICT skills and knowledge of data protection legislation is essential, as is the ability to work alone and use initiative. **Salary:** £25,500-27,000 pa (neg) **Hours of work:** 21 hours per week (9am-5pm Mon to Wed) **Closing date:** 21 February 2014 **Interview date:** 10 March 2014. For more info on both vacancies please visit www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/.

Pilgrims Progress The February edition is available in the Church porch.