



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)

7th September 2014 ~ Twenty-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

In general, British society believes it's good to be nice. And indeed, this does enable a remarkably diverse population to coexist peacefully and, what's more, form friendships across what might elsewhere be considered insurmountable cultural barriers. So two of today's readings can be hard for us to hear. We're not accustomed to calling people wicked to their faces, whatever God may tell Ezekiel to do; and we prefer to avoid the sort of face-to-face confrontation as Jesus seems to be advocating. In view of this, "Owe no one anything, except to love one another," from the second reading is a lot more welcome.

A lot of factors can be at work in our aversion to confrontation. Leaving aside obvious cultural conditioning, there can be a healthy wish to avoid judging others (cf Matthew 7:1, Luke 6:37). We can also fear rejection – if we have a difference with a friend, isn't it better to say nothing for the sake of the friendship? Or even with someone who's not a friend, just to "keep the peace"?

The trouble, of course, is that papering over the cracks like this seldom works. It usually leads to misunderstanding and, at some point, an explosion. The other person may be genuinely unaware that he or she had done anything wrong, and feel aggrieved that the matter wasn't raised earlier.

Jesus's teaching regarding conflict is about trying to discover the truth in charity. This attitude is actually about keeping the community of the Church united, living in true peace. Not just in the absence of conflict. Indeed, superficial niceness can too easily become a cover for indifference, dishonesty and downright cruelty.

In fact, as Christians we should be prepared to have it out with others where we feel sinned against, precisely because we love them, and would want them to do the same for us. Sin is anything which breaks the bonds of love, which divides us within ourselves as well as divides us from God and from others. Salvation is God's gift of healing and raising up, of making whole again what was broken. So if I am at odds with someone I need to speak to them in charity, with the aim of acknowledging that something has gone wrong and with the purpose of trying to rebuild the trust that once existed between us.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 6th September (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 John Prendeville (Anniv)

Sunday 7th – 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Patrick Cunningham (Anniv)

10.00 People of the Parish

11.30 Paddy Gallagher RIP

Monday 8th – THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

09.30 Pat McGriskin RIP

Tuesday 9th – Feria, Twenty-Third Week of Year 2

09.30 Nicol, Frank & Edouard Siou RIP

Wednesday 10th – Feria

19.00 Eileen Carey (1st Anniv)

Thursday 11th – Feria

09.30 Rose & Ted Harrington (Int)

Friday 12th – Feria

09.30 Kathleen Brennan 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, Gerry Furnell, Rosarie Moylan, Marie Chandra.

Pray Also For John Prendeville, Patrick Cunningham, Eileen Carey, Romanus Nworo, David Miller, Declan Hurley, Clara Mars-Harris, Mary Clenc, Josephine & Reginald Benjamin, Joan Salisbury, Bridie Lagrue, Pearl Bryant, Dennis McHugh, John Furlong and Betty Trundle whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Baptisms We welcome Thomas Flannery, Amayah Lee and Damian Thevasothy who are being baptised in our church this weekend.

First Holy Communion 2015 This is the very last weekend to return or apply for your Child to make their First Holy Communion in 2015. After this weekend, dates will be finalised and you will need to wait until 2016. Make sure you speak with Kay this weekend.

School Admission Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for **SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFERS** on Saturday, 20th September and Saturday, 25th October at 10.30am-12.30pm. Both days are by APPOINTMENT ONLY so please contact Claudia McHugh on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or 8429 5681 (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm). When making your appointment please advise if you are applying for more than one school. Parents should come to the Parish Centre on both days.

Parish Women's Group Autumn Social - Thursday 11th September at 8pm, St. John Fisher Parish Centre, Cost £1. The PWG welcomes all women and their female friends to an evening with an opportunity to socialise and enjoy light refreshments. New members will be made most welcome. Please bring a bottle to share or small contribution of finger food. Look forward to seeing you. For more details contact Barbara Towell at barbaratowell@sky.com or call 020 8866 6665.

Tai Chi at St. John Fisher Parish Centre Resumes on Thursday, 11th September beginning promptly at 1.30pm until 3pm. Open to both men and women of any age. For details contact Barbara Towell at barbaratowell@sky.com or call 020 8866 6665.

Week of Accompanied Prayer Churches Together in North Harrow are inviting you to take part in a week of accompanied prayer this November. This will be an opportunity to explore ways of praying and to enrich our relationship with God wherever

we are at. All that is required is a commitment from each participant to spend half an hour a day to pray /reflect on a suggested text. Then to meet with a prayer companion each day for up to half an hour, in total confidence, to explore the journey together. **Dates for Diary:** Saturday 27th September 3-5pm Taster Session at N. Harrow Methodist Church; Sunday 2nd November 3-4.30pm Opening Session at N. Harrow Methodist Church and Sunday 8th November 11am-12.30pm Closing Session at Elmfield Church a time to celebrate followed by a bring and share lunch.

Credit Union There will be a meeting at 19.30 on Wednesday, 10th September in the Hut behind the presbytery at St Joseph's Church, Wealdstone for anyone interested in helping set up a Credit Union for the locality. This will be of great benefit to the people of the area enabling them to save money and take out occasional loans at reasonable rates of interest. We will need people with experience in the legal, accountancy and banking professions as well as other interested parishioners.

Annual Walsingham Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life Led by Bishop Mark Davies, Fr Jeremy Davies & Franciscan Friars of the Renewal on 21st September 2014. All welcome, make your own way or get coach ticket - info from <http://www.prolifepilgrimage.org/coaches/> or tel 01858 571242.

Open Evenings at The Sacred Heart Language College (Wealdstone) for full details of admission arrangements for September 2015 On Thursday, 11th September 2014, 6.30–8.30pm & Wednesday, 17th September 2014, 4.00–6.00pm.

Gunnersbury Catholic School Open Days On Wednesday 24th September (2-3.30pm & 6-8pm), Wednesday 1st October (2-3.30pm) and Wednesday 8th October (9.30-10.30am Tour only - by appointment). Please phone the school office for more info on 020 8568 7281 or visit www.gunnersbury.com.

Diocese of Westminster Vacancies – Personal Assistant, St. Patrick's Church, Soho Square and PA to the Chief Accountant, Central London For more info please see notice board in porch.

Available Cleaner – Ironing and Cooking Please call Maria asap on 07586 138884.

Buy a Brick - Certificate of Thanks Please collect your certificate from the pigeonhole in the porch. Thank you for your support.



Would you please consider buying a brick or two in order to support re-furbishing the Sanctuary? Bricks cost £10 each and we will issue a Certificate of Thanks for every brick that you buy. Please fill out the form below and return it to Fr Shaun at the presbytery. Cheques should be made payable to St John Fisher Church.

PLEASE PRINT

Name.....

Address.....

Tel.....

Email.....

Number of bricks @ £10 each.....

Total Amount £.....

Name of Person you wish to appear on the certificate

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