



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)

19th October 2014 ~ Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year A

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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 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, however, 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 18th October (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Intention of Donor

Sunday 19th – 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 People of the Parish

10.00 Gabriel Faria (Anniv)

11.30 Crispin Saldanha (Anniv)

Monday 20th – Feria, Twenty-Ninth Week of Year 2

09.30 Sr Frances Lowe – Get Well

Tuesday 21st – Feria

09.30 John Spear RIP

Wednesday 22nd – St John Paul II, Pope

19.00 David Else (Anniv)

Thursday 23rd – Feria

09.30 Kathleen Clarke RIP

Friday 24th – Feria

09.30 Bernard O'Toole 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, Peter Golden, Kathleen Clarke, Bernard O'Toole.

Pray Also Gabriel Faria, Crispin Saldanha, David Else, Winifred Maher, Peggie Sullivan, Victor Crick, Patrick Webber, Maureen Nixon, Hannah Shevlin, Hannah Barnard, Martin Flanagan, Donald Haynes, Soad Raie, Gerald Taylor, Maureen Walsh, Michael McCrohan, Alice Taylor, Johanna Evans, Dennis Joiner and Helen Muscillo whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Consecration of the Church Cardinal Vincent will come to our parish to consecrate the church and altar on Friday, 14th November at 7pm. It will be a wonderful and moving liturgy and will complete, in a sacred way, our church building, which was started in 1938, extended in 1982 and finished in 2014. This is a chance to celebrate all that we have achieved and to look forward to all that will come. We would like to host a reception afterwards and would ask parishioners to provide finger food for a buffet in the hall following the liturgy. Teresa Arrigo has kindly offered to co-ordinate the catering, so please contact her at t.arrigo@virgin.net, 020 8427 3063 and let her know if you can help out on the day or what you will bring along. Wine and soft drinks will be provided. This will be a truly memorable occasion and we hope that as many people as possible will attend.

Parish 100 Club As you can see the major structural work to the church has now been completed and we hope that you like it. Over the next seven years, we will need to pay the diocese back the loan that it has given to our parish to make this work possible. One fund raising initiative is for parishioners to join the Parish 100 Club. We would ask parishioners to buy a monthly ticket which costs £5; if 100 people join and pay £5 a month, the amount raised each month is £500... and £250 is given away in prizes as follows: £100 £75 £50 £25. This leaves £250 which goes to the parish. If 200 people join, the prizes go up to £200, £150, £100 and £50. So the more people that join, the greater the monthly prize money will be. It would be fantastic if we could have a parish 200 club so we could raise £6000 a year which would be enormously helpful. **A Registration form is available from the porch or our website.** Thank you for your support.

Fairtrade food & CAFOD Christmas cards On sale after all masses this weekend.

Annual Parish Meeting To be held on Monday, 24th 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.

School Admission Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for PRIMARY & 6TH FORM COLLEGE on Saturday, 15th November at 10.30am-12.30pm in the Parish Hall. For an appointment please contact Claudia McHugh on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or 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 7th November, please contact Claudia for an earlier appointment.*

Coffee Morning We look forward to welcoming you back to our regular coffee morning on Sunday, 26th October after the 10am and 11.30am Masses.

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 7pm on Monday, 3rd November, the Feast of All Souls. Everyone is welcome to attend. Because of the re-ordering of our church since January, no funerals have taken place and letters of invitation to the Mass have only been sent out to those families where we have been given details of funerals taking place in other parishes. Therefore, we especially extend an invitation to those whose loved ones have died within the last year. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the new Sacristy Room.

Small Faith Sharing Groups We will soon be starting our regular autumn groups. Please contact: Neville Bayross 8863 8876, Tony McWilliams 8868 3205 or the presbytery to get hold of the excellent illustrated booklets. There are also **children's sections** for each week. **Parents: Investigate!**

'The Pylon', Christmas Edition Reminder. Please note that the **deadline** for receiving articles and items is **November 2nd**. Send to barbaratowell@sky.com asap. Many thanks.

Widower's Group If you would like to join please feel free to come on Thursday, 30th October at 8pm to the small hall at St John Fisher Church. I look forward to meeting you. *Maria*

Union of Catholic Mothers – 5th November Important meeting to decide whether the UCM should continue. Light supper will be provided (cost to be divided by members). Members please attend.

Church Cleaning For the past 9 months, a small team of dedicated workers have cleaned the church every Saturday morning. With the completion of the church in sight, a new rota of cleaners will be set up to start beginning November. Teams clean on a Thurs, Fri or Sat morning, once every 5 or 6 weeks. If you have an hour to spare on one of these days, please contact Ann on annanderson589@btinternet.com or 8427 1363.

Churches Together in North Harrow Are working together to deliver Christmas cards to all houses in the neighbourhood. If you can help call Eddie 82484997/Nicola 88682536 or better e-mail mariedwin99@yahoo.co.uk. Distribution would be easier if we could make more use of the internet.

Bethany Group Next meeting on Tuesday, 21st October 7.30pm.

Credit Union The next meeting for those interested in setting up a Credit Union will be in the Hut behind St Joseph's Presbytery, 191 High Road, Harrow Weald on 22nd Oct at 19.30. All welcome.

Harrow Council 'Take Part' Consultation At St Alban's church hall on Friday, 31st October at 5-6pm. This consultation exercise with council officers is seeking views on how Harrow can save money and reduce service levels.