



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)

15th March 2015 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent B

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

Today, the light of Easter brightens our Lenten purple. We, called to be the new Jerusalem, rejoice with her, bound together in our common purpose. May the Lord fill us with new resolve in the middle of this Lent: as the liturgical penance of these forty days gives way to the joy of the resurrection, may each of us rejoice in a lifetime of penitence before entering into the eternal life promised by the Saviour.

The exile of the Jewish people in the sixth century before Christ lasted for a lifetime: seventy years according to the Prophet Jeremiah from the deportation to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar to the proclamation of Cyrus king of Persia recounted in today's first reading from the end of the Book of Chronicles. Those deported would not have returned; those returning in 538 BC would have been born already in exile.

The Old Testament texts see the exile as a consequence of the "shameful practices" and sins of the kings and the people of Judah. Captivity in Babylon is presented as a well-deserved chastisement of God's people: it is a lifetime of penitence and a lifetime of preparing to return to the Lord. Nebuchadnezzar and Cyrus are simply instruments of divine justice and mercy.

This lifetime of penitence is sandwiched between two historical events: the defilement and destruction of the Temple of Solomon and the construction of the Second Temple. It is a liturgical



exile, not just a geographical one. The sacrificial rites were suspended; but after a lifetime of penitence following the temple's defilement, sacrifice is once again offered in Jerusalem.

This link between penitence and sacrifice is present too in the Christian dispensation. Penitence and exile are brought to an end with sacrifice. The penitence of the Christian life reaches its consummation with the gift of the Son of God, given "so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life." Christ's one sacrifice in Jerusalem makes it possible for those who turn to him in penitence of life to enter the new Jerusalem which is the Kingdom of Heaven; we glimpse the reality of this Kingdom, its life, freshness and hope when we open our hearts to the wonder and significance of Easter.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 14th March (First Mass of Sunday)
18.00 People of the Parish
Sunday 15th March – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
08.30 Patricia & Sylvester Rebbitt (Anniv)
10.00 Bridie Duff (99th Birthday)
11.30 Katherine Hayes RIP
Monday 16th – Lent feria
09.30 Denis Brosnan
Tuesday 17th – ST PATRICK, Bishop, Patron of Ireland
09.30 Ita Leuhy & Deleney Family
Wednesday 18th – Lent feria
19.00 Eileen Kelleher RIP
Thursday 19th – **ST JOSEPH, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Diocese**
09.30 Anton Constantine RIP
Friday 20th – Lent feria
09.30 Tom & Nora Forde (Anniv)
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, Breda Linnane, Diane Luff.

Pray Also For, Patricia & Sylvester Rebbitt, Tom & Nora Forde, Veronica Marzollini, (baby) Melissa Ferreira, Ann Devine, Eric McCarthy, Margaret McKenna, Sophie Swidzinska, Margaret Enright, Michael Wlodarczyk, Ernesto Placencia, Wijdan Marji, Jason Moore-Martin, Ted Finn, Maria Magdolna Braun, Anthony Caden, Lisa Alex, James O'Shea, James Finn, Elizabeth Cahill, Leon Casartelli, Beryl Barltrop, Sergio Carvalho, Stephen Forde, Catherine Maguire, Rose & Jack Fahey, Michael & Bridie Hughes and Tommy Hughes whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Altar Servers Next week **21st/22nd March Team A** will serve.

Confirmation Candidates Reminder that the meeting on Monday 16th March will start at 7.30pm.

Churches Together in North Harrow This Easter our local churches are again working together to deliver Easter greeting cards to all houses in the neighbourhood. Please offer to help by contacting Nicola on 020 8868 2536 or nicola.bowen2@ntlworld.com.

Lent Lunch Churches in North Harrow arrange to serve a light lunch on each Saturday during Lent to raise money for St. Luke's Hospice. Dates: March 21st St Alban's Church, The Ridgeway, Hall entrance and car park Norwood Drive; March 28th Sinai Mar Thoma Church at St George's, Pinner View. There is no charge for the meal, just a box on the table for your donation.

Lent Talks Churches Together have a series of talks at the Methodist Church on Tuesdays during Lent at 8pm. The speaker is The Revd Dr Leslie Griffiths. Further information in the porch.

Parish 100 Club Winners Barbara Taylor 1st prize - £125, Julien Melville 2nd prize - £100, Nicola Bowen 3rd prize - £60, Kathleen Harrison 4th prize - £30.

SJF Ladies Club Meeting on Wednesday, 18th March after 7pm Mass in the Parish hall. St. Patricks quiz night and light supper £4. Bring your own drink. To book please ring Teresa on 020 8427 3063. Everyone welcome.

Bethany Group Next meeting on Thursday, 19th March at 7.30pm.

Traidcraft Stall Open after all masses next weekend. On sale are 'Real Easter Eggs' and other Fairtrade chocolate and sweets.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

8.30am, 9.30am (see note below), 11.30am

Holy Thursday

8.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

9.30am Morning Prayer
1.00pm Children's Stations of the Cross
3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
8.00pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday

9.30am Morning Prayer
8.00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Mass as Normal

Easter Monday Mass at 11am

Palm Sunday – 29th March 10am Mass We will gather at 9.30am outside St. John Fisher Church in order to process to St. Alban's for an ecumenical Liturgy of the Word at 9.45am. Thereafter we will return to St. John Fisher for Mass which will resume at the offertory. Please make every effort to be on time and collect your palm so that we can leave together for this special occasion.

Palm Crosses Please come and help the UCM make crosses from the palm leaves in the small hall on Thursday, 26th March at 2pm. It's good fun and a sociable afternoon. Please bring scissors.

SJF Young Adults Group This is a space for all Young Adults in their 20s and 30s to come together on every first Sunday of the month to get to know one another, get more involved in the life of the parish and the diocese, discuss and grow in their faith, as well as socialise. Everyone is most welcome. **We meet on the first Sunday of the month except April which will be on 12th April in the Fisher Room.**

In line with the Proclaim 15 Project initiated by the bishops of England and Wales, the Young Adults will be meeting on **15th and 22nd March after the 11.30am mass in the Fisher Room** to hold their 2nd and 3rd sessions of Proclaim 15 respectively. All are invited!!! For more info contact Johnpromise at promisemagnus@yahoo.com or Sherna Bhadresa at sherna_bhadresa@msn.com / 07785 615791. Our Facebook page is: 'SJF Young Adults'.

The Pylon - 2015 Summer edition Thank you for the excellent feedback we have received with regard to the new format of The Pylon. The editorial team are always striving to make the magazine better and as interesting as possible, therefore we depend on you to submit such material to share with other readers. So **please do send us:-** the latest news from Parish groups; articles possibly on travel, local interest stories or hobbies; book and film recommendations; poems and short stories for our Creative Writing Pages; recipes and for our new feature - photos and short pieces about your pet(s). Please email to barbaratowell@sky.com or place in the pigeonhole for Barbara Towell. **The deadline for all submissions is 15th May.**

Stations of the Cross – 'Walking with Jesus and Refugees' in Westminster and Whitehall On Friday 27th March 2015 from 3pm. Please see poster in the porch.

Easter Flowers Collection There will be a retiring collection after Mass this weekend towards the cost of the flowers in our Church.



We wish all mothers a very happy and relaxing day.