



# St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

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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)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2015 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

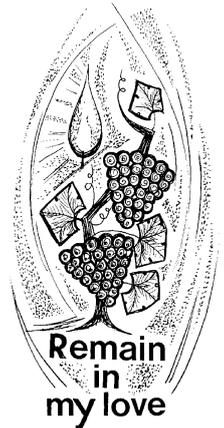
As we approach the holy year of mercy promulgated by pope Francis the second reading which comes from the first letter of St John is very apt, even topical.

### *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

In this letter St John is encouraging us towards the point of conversion, of turning to God. He has told us elsewhere in this letter that anyone who says he doesn't sin is a liar (or fooling themselves, which humans are particularly good at); however, if we do sin, we have as our defender or paraclete Jesus, who will plead for us in God's presence. We should then have confidence in God's forgiveness, which is unconditional and unlimited.

We can understand this as an expression of God's mercy. But mercy does not mean forgetfulness, blotting out the past. If it did, it would not matter what we do – which is decidedly not the point St John is making – since that ignores God's justice, which the earlier, now less popular, reading of these perplexing verses emphasised. When, at the end of our lives, we stand before God we shall see ourselves as God sees us, with all our masks and evasions stripped away – that is God's justice. Then, however, we also will be challenged to love ourselves as God



loves us, also unconditionally, in spite of what we may have done, to accept his healing and enter, through Jesus our advocate, into his peace. However, this again is not necessarily an easy option if during our lives we have become dead to love, escaping its demands and risks by turning into ourselves in our selfishness and fear.

### *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

It is important, always, to remember that we are not on our own in this. St John also assures us that if we ask for God's help we shall receive it, if we are trying – however feebly – to keep his commandments, in the first place by trying to love each other as Jesus, in his life among us, showed us it was possible to do.

### *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

As the vivid parable from today's gospel reminds us we have been spliced, grafted into God's life by the gift of his Spirit; and God lives in us and we in God by virtue of that same Spirit, making holy and bringing the fruits of charity out of such unlikely material as ourselves. If we allow ourselves to be pruned by his word, we shall not wither but can only grow towards God. We should then have the confidence to reach out in love to one another, have the confidence to enter God's presence with a quiet heart.

*Fr Shaun.*

## Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Tim Foley RIP

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

08.30 People of the Parish

10.00 Sinnathamby Joseph Victor (Anniv)

11.30 Dr. Nihal Ranasinghe (Anniv)

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

09.30 Patrick Slattery RIP

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter feria, Fifth Week of Easter

09.30 Cathy Shea RIP

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Easter feria

**13.30 Funeral of Eric Savundranayagam RIP**

19.00 Victor Olufemi Marquis (Anniv)

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – Easter feria

09.30 Mary Connolly (Special Int.)

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> – Easter feria

09.30 Donal Ryan 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**, Ann Ryan, Margaret Brennan, Kathleen Allen, Eric Savundranayagam, Kathleen Lucas, John O'Brien.

**Pray Also For** Sinnathamby Joseph Victor, Dr. Nihal Ranasinghe, Victor Olufemi Marquis, Brigid 'Bidsy' O'Gorman, Mary Fernandes, Joan Hainsby, Elizabeth Simmonds, Annachi Ponnukone, Sr. Veronica Carr, Patrick Hedderman, Tom Ryan, Sheila Watts and Austin Ormson whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Please Remember** Eric Savundranayagam who has died. Requiem Mass on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May at 1.30pm at St John Fisher followed by interment at Northwood Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

**Applications for First Holy Communion 2016** Can be made on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> May at 9am - 1pm and Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> May at 11am - 1pm or 7.30pm - 8.30pm for any child who will be in school year 3 or above from September 2015. If your child was baptised outside of the parish you will need a photocopy of a baptism certificate when you register. The cost of the programme is £20.

**Applications for Confirmation 2016** Can be made on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> June between 5pm and 7pm. The candidates must attend themselves. Applications can be made from anyone who in September 2015 will be in school year 9 or above.

**Job Vacancy** We have two cleaning positions within the Parish. The first is for a cleaner for our Parish centre, Mon to Fri 6.30am-8.30am. The second is for a cleaner/ironer for the presbytery, 6 hours a week. For further details, please contact Julie Dauncey at our HR department on [juliedauncey@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:juliedauncey@rcdow.org.uk).

**Altar Servers** On 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> May Team B will serve.

**Welcome Ministry Rota** Ready for collection in the Church porch.

**Rome Reunion** A reunion supper will take place for those people who went on the pilgrimage last year to Rome on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.30pm. Hopefully in the presbytery garden. Please let Teresa Arrigo know if you can attend [t.arrigo@virgin.net](mailto:t.arrigo@virgin.net).

**SJF Ladies Club May 6<sup>th</sup>** Our next meeting after 7pm Mass is a bring and buy sale. Everyone welcome.

**Knights of St. Columba** Next meeting on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 8pm in the **small hall**.

**Sacrament of Confirmation** We pray for, and congratulate, our 45 young parishioners who will be conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May by Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

**First Holy Communion** Please keep in your prayers the first group of children who are receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion today.

**Traidcraft Stall** Open after all masses next weekend.

**Social Club Quiz Night** On Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm in the parish hall. Entrance is £3 per person. During the evening teas & coffees will be available & if you're feeling a bit peckish we will also have freshly made ploughman's 'suppers' for sale. Do come along and support us, we'd love to be able to repeat the success of our last one. All proceeds to parish funds. For further info or to book a team, please email [durcanjohn@aol.com](mailto:durcanjohn@aol.com).

**Scampagnata** Why not come along to our first ever Parish 'Scampagnata'? This is a BBQ Italian style. Lots of fresh produce, pasta, sausages, gelato, etc. Tickets are £10 for adults, £5 for children. Please come along and support this event which is a fundraiser to help us pay for the new sanctuary. You can order tickets by signing the sheets in the porch. The Scampagnata will be held on the lawn in front of the presbytery on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May at 12.30pm.

**SJF Young Adults Group** This is a space for all Young Adults in their 20s and 30s to come together, to get to know one another and get more involved in the life of the parish and the diocese, and discuss and grow in their faith. Everyone is welcome. **We meet on the first Sunday of the month after the 11.30am Mass in the Fisher Room. The next meeting is today.** Contact Johnpromise at [promisemagnus@yahoo.com](mailto:promisemagnus@yahoo.com) or Sherna Bhadresa at [sherna\\_bhadresa@msn.com](mailto:sherna_bhadresa@msn.com) / 07785 615791 for more info. Our Facebook page is: 'SJF Young Adults'.

**The Pylon - 2015 Summer edition** Please 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 [barbaratowell@sky.com](mailto:barbaratowell@sky.com) or place in the pigeonhole for Barbara Towell. **The deadline for all submissions is 15<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Hurrah** We are now fully cast and can invite you to see our next Production 'Relative Values' by Noel Coward at the Pump House in Watford at 7.45pm on Wed 27<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> and Sat 30<sup>th</sup> May at 2.45pm & 7.45pm. Box Office 07917 324179 or email [boxoffice@belmonttheatre.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@belmonttheatre.co.uk). A Satire of snobbery in all its guises which deals with the clash of cultures between Hollywood stars and the English aristocracy.

**1940-2015 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Pinner (St Luke's) Scout Group** This year we celebrate 75 years since the group was started at St. Luke's by Sheleigh Hennessey. On **Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> September** there will be a Service of Thanksgiving & tea party for all present members and all who have been connected with the Group. Please put the date in your diaries and inform anyone you know who may be interested. For info contact Sue Girvan 01923 826617.

**Carer (Part-time)** Required 9am-1pm or 10am-2pm Monday to Friday. Some light household duties. £9 per hour. Contact Eddie Collins on 07803 150222 for more details.

**Can you help?** A parishioner is looking for an age 8/9 Communion Dress. If you can help, please see Kay.

**Priest Training Fund** You can still return your envelopes. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to fill in your Gift Aid details.