



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)

10th May 2015 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter



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 history of the church, some issues keep cropping up, money-lending (usury) and slavery for example. A great modern issue is protection of the environment, and we await Pope Francis' forthcoming encyclical on this issue. As Catholic Christians we acknowledge that the Holy Spirit has been at work in Christian women and men down through the centuries, people living and teaching the gospel in their lives, even if not always perfectly!

Jesus in today's gospel passage tells us "What I command you, is to love one another". We, as members of the church, as disciples of Jesus, are chosen to be friends of Jesus, if we do what we are commanded by God. We are not to be called servants, because we know what God wants. But what does God want us to do? To love one another!



The general election campaign has now reached its climax. But before we got to this point there was a great deal of talking, a lot of promising and posturing, and quite a lot of scare-mongering among political opponents. Not a lot of love was shown. Indeed it seems that the country grew more and more weary as insults were traded between those who were seeking our votes. Perhaps that is the nature of political discourse.

As Christians we are asked to engage with the world and the greatest challenge we have is to love one another - but how do we do that? First we must love each other in the church. There can be no room for distinctions of race or caste or gender. Even if people sin or misunderstand the faith somewhat, we are to love them, not despise them as second-rate.

Second, we must love our neighbour as ourselves. When we voted, did we choose self-interest or the best sustainable way of supporting the sick, the unemployed, the desperate refugees or the earthquake victims? How do we value the dignity of other human beings, from conception through to death?

These are fundamental questions. We should not just ask them every five years when we are called to the ballot box. We should constantly seek to ask such questions, even if our questioning makes us feel uncomfortable. It is only then that we will be inspired to protect, help and defend, the weak, the vulnerable and the marginalised.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 9th May (First Mass of Sunday)
18.00 Breda Linnane RIP
Sunday 10th – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
08.30 Mrs. Celeste Robinson
10.00 People of the Parish
11.30 Annapackiam Albert (Anniv)
Monday 11th – Ester feria, Sixth Week of Easter
09.30 Denis Brosnan
Tuesday 12th – Easter feria
09.30 Joe Horgan RIP
Wednesday 13th – Easter feria
19.00 Anne McTernan RIP
Thursday 14th – ST MATTHIAS, Apostle
09.30 Joseph Thiruchelvam RIP
Friday 15th – Easter feria
09.30 Nora Molloy (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, Ascension Herrera, Tony Wolfe.

Pray Also For Annapackiam Albert, Nora Molloy, Elizabeth Tumulty, Mary & Eddy Moriarty, Gerard Taylor, Mary Anne Thambiratnam, Nelly Ougan, Angela Cawley, Brian Tunnacliffe, Germain Tse Kwong Pin, Angela Castagna, Jim (Zdislaw) Morawski, Thomas Durkin, Cathleen Smith and Hilda Rogers whose anniversaries occur at this time.

First Holy Communion Please keep in your prayers the next group of children who are receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this weekend.

Confirmation 2015 Our meeting on Monday, 18th May at 5.30pm will be an opportunity to order and pay for your Cathedral photograph and to collect your certificate. Let Kay know if you can't make it, 020 8429 5682 or kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk.

Applications for First Holy Communion 2016 Can be made on Sunday, 17th May at 9am - 1pm and Monday, 18th 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, 8th 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. Closing date: 22nd May. Please contact Julie Dauncey at our HR department on juliedauncey@rcdow.org.uk.

Proclaim '15 This Sunday's Gospel is a timely reminder of the parish's involvement in the national **PROCLAIM '15** project and commissions us "...**To go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last**" (John 15:16). It is almost three months since the beginning of Lent and the time when many of us met in groups to consider the three resource leaflets. In order to help me formulate a summary of the project in this parish, I ask group leaders/representatives and individuals to provide me with an evaluation of their experiences in using the resource materials. My email address is neilcocking@waitrose.com.

Altar Servers On 16th/17th May Team A will serve.

Traidcraft Stall Open after all masses this weekend.

Church Cleaners and Counters Needed! Several of our very hard working and long serving church cleaners are having to hang up their dusters so if you could spare one hour every 4 or 5 weeks, either on a Thursday, Friday or Saturday morning, please contact Ena Bocarro, ena.bocarro@talktalk.net. We also require more counters for Sunday mornings, if you can help please contact Ena.

Rome Reunion A reunion supper will take place for those people who went on the pilgrimage last year to Rome on Friday, 22nd May at 7.30pm. Please let Teresa Arrigo know if you can attend t.arrigo@virgin.net.

Social Club Quiz Night On Saturday, 16th May at 8pm in the parish hall. Entrance is £3 per person. During the evening teas & coffees will be available & we will also have freshly made ploughman's 'suppers' for sale. All proceeds to parish funds. For further info or to book a team, please email 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, 31st 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, discuss and grow in their faith, as well as socialise. Everyone is welcome. **We meet on the first Sunday of the month after the 11.30am Mass in the Fisher Room.** Contact Johnpromise, promisemagnus@yahoo.com or Sherna Bhadresa, 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 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 or place in the pigeonhole for Barbara Towell. **The deadline for all submissions is 15th May.**

Mass for New Catholics On Saturday, 16th May at 6pm at Westminster Cathedral – Celebrant: Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Those in the parish who were baptised or received into the Church at Easter are warmly invited to attend with their families. Contact Kay, kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk / 8429 5682.

Association of Separated & Divorced Catholics (ASDC) The next meeting is on Monday, 12th May at 8pm in St Gabriel's, South Harrow. All divorced or separated Catholics, whatever their situation, are welcome. For more info please contact Jill 8204 3714.

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 on 27th May - 29th at 7.30pm and 30th May at 2.45pm & 7.45pm. Box Office 07917 324179 or email boxoffice@belmonttheatre.co.uk.

1940-2015 – 3rd 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, 27th September** there will be a Service of Thanksgiving & tea party. Please put the date in your diaries and inform anyone you know who may be interested. For info contact Sue Girvan 01923 826617.