



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)

31st May 2015 ~ THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



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...

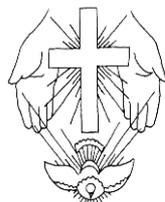
Diversity
 A spirit of hospitality
 The unity that God wills
 Enlightening those who seek God
 Forming small faith communities
 Reaching out to alienated Catholics
 Reverencing the dignity of each person
 Caring for the needs of the less fortunate
 Empowering Christians to realise their call
 Providing a spiritual Oasis
 Honouring an understanding among all faiths
 Nurturing our gifts and sharing them

Today we celebrate the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity, it is the day which every preacher dreads for how can anyone explain the divine nature of God? However, we know that from the very beginning, the earliest disciples had an intuition that in the person of Jesus God was disclosed as somehow Triune. In today's reading, Our Lord commands the disciples to baptise 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'. Paul embeds the person of Jesus in the mystery of the Godhead. In John, Thomas confesses that Jesus is 'My Lord and my God.' It took centuries for the Church to find the best words, but from the very beginning in Jesus, God is glimpsed as Triune. What does this mean for us?

First, in Christ we discover that God is love. It is not just that God loves, but that God is, at the very core of his being, love. When we love, we share in the very life of God. If God were alone from all eternity, then God could not be love. There would have been no one and nothing to love until Creation. Love would be accidental to God and so God could stop loving as he had once begun. But because our God indeed is love, then we are caught up in this mystery and cry out 'Abba, Father'.

But wouldn't it be enough for there to be just two persons of the Godhead? Why three? This is not primarily a mathematical statement, as if we could get to heaven and count the persons of the Trinity. It points towards a love which is utterly mutual but which overflows, as the love of the Father and the Son overflows in the Holy Spirit. When parents have children they too learn that love which overflows beyond the couple. Love becomes Trinitarian as its mutuality is opened towards others. Otherwise our loves might become introverted and narcissistic. So the doctrine of the Trinity is not abstract celestial mathematics. It is the most down to earth practical lesson in the mystery of generous and fruitful love.

But why then do we insist that God is one? Couldn't we settle for three gods, happily loving each other from all eternity, like an everlasting happy family? What's wrong with polygamy? It would be easier to grasp! Again, the assertion that God is one is not primarily a mathematical statement. It is not like saying that there just happens to be one God though there might have been two or twenty. It points to the utter unity of God, who gathers us into the concord of his being. God is a love which is completely one.



Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 30th May (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Mick McBreen (2nd Anniv)

Sunday 31st – **THE MOST HOLY TRINITY**

08.30 Queenie Lee (Anniv)

10.00 People of the Parish

11.30 Regina Emmanuel (Anniv)

Monday 1st June – St Justin, Martyr

09.30 Christopher & Anachi Ponnukone (Anniv)

Tuesday 2nd – Feria, Ninth Week of Year 1

09.30 Mary Heffernan (Anniv)

Wednesday 3rd – St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

19.00 Ita O'Connor RIP

Thursday 4th – Feria

09.30 Mrs. Kathleen Prendeville RIP

Friday 5th – St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr

09.30 Margaret Brennan RIP

11.00 Requiem Mass for Patrick Moloney

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.

(SVP If you or your sick relative could benefit from a visit from the St Vincent de Paul Society, please inform the presbytery.)

Recently Deceased,

Pray Also For Mick McBreen, Queenie Lee, Regina Emmanuel, Christopher & Anachi Ponnukone, Mary Heffernan, Kay McGrath, Jack Keane, Walter Hickey, Magda Gordon, Nora McManamon, Grace Schifano and Aoife Conroy whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Applications for Confirmation 2016 Can be made on Monday, 8th June between 5pm and 7pm in the Parish Centre. The candidates must attend themselves and will need to stay for about 15 minutes. Applications can be made from anyone who in September 2015 will be in school year 9 or above.

Altar Servers On 6th/7th June **Team B** will serve.

International Day Once again our parish will take responsibility of a number of stalls at the International Day, which will be held at St John Fisher school in Melrose Road on Saturday, July 11th at 11am–3pm. Last year we used our share of the proceeds to install the new lighting system. This year we would like to use whatever money we make to help with the parish debt. **So we would ask everyone to attend the International Day, to buy raffle tickets and to contribute to the International Kitchen**, you will find sign-up sheets for this in the porch. Please do get involved - this is our main fundraiser in the year and it brings together old friends and new.

Could you also please help with the following donations: teddies, toys (in good condition), books, posh bags, bottles (unopened) for the tombola and Jolly Jars – these are jars (any type, jam, sauce, etc) filled with all sorts of treats that you think children would like, i.e. sweets/chocolates (wrapped or in packets), balloons, bouncy balls, hair clips, stickers, crayons, lollies and anything fun. You can drop all the above items off in the Church porch at the weekend or the sacristy during the week.

Do you work in a company that operates a £4£ giving scheme? If you do and your company would like to support the school and parish, which are both registered charities, then please contact Fr Shaun at shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk / 020 8429 5684.

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. Next Meeting on Sunday, 7th June.** Contact Johnpromise, promisemagnus@yahoo.com or Sherna Bhadresa, sherna_bhadresa@msn.com / 07785 615791 for more info. Our Facebook page is: 'SJF Young Adults'.

Knights of St. Columba Any Catholic men interested in finding out more about the Knights and would like to join, please contact Peter Quinton on p.quinton398@btinternet.com / 020 8866 5066 or Marcel Martins on mko0312@aol.co.uk / 07737 388164. We meet on the first Thursday of the month. Our next meeting is on 4th June, 2015 in the Social Club.

100 Club May Draw Many congratulations to this month's winners. 1. John Cunningham £125, 2 Anna Gawn £100, 3. The Barrett Family £60, 4 Keith Bayross £30. The 100 club is a wonderful way to support the parish and fundraise so that we can pay for the new sanctuary. If you would like to join please contact Antoinette Moriarty, antoinettemoriarty@rcdow.org.uk.

How to be a "Missionary Disciple" retreat day For young adults (20s/30s), Saturday 13th June, 12.30pm to 5pm in the Hinsley Room next to Westminster Cathedral

Vocations pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday 20th June An all-day pilgrimage by coach for those discerning their vocation and for those praying for them. Cost £15 to cover coach travel. Limited spaces available - for more info and to book a place contact Fr Richard at richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk.

Patrick Moloney Please remember Patrick in your prayers. His Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 5th June at 11am and will be followed by interment at Carpenders Park Cemetery. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family.

The LGBT Catholics Younger Adults Group (LGBT YAG) aims to provide support and fellowship for Catholics in their 20s, 30s and 40s who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, and their families. We meet regularly for Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, as well as organising monthly spiritual and social events. If you would like to know more, please contact us at lgbtcatholicisyag@gmail.com or see www.lgbtcatholicisyag.org.uk.

SJF Ladies A film Night will take place in the small hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 3rd June. They will be showing "The Hundred Foot Journey" all are welcome to join them for what will be a wonderful evening's entertainment.

SJF Flower Festival will take place in the church from Saturday 5th September to Tuesday 8th September. Many local churches and organisations will provide beautiful displays of flowers which will illustrate the theme of the Festival, which is, "All things bright and Beautiful." The floral displays will be placed around the church and will exemplify thirty hymns that have been chosen which speak to us in various ways of God's creation. On Sunday 6th September there will be a parish lunch to which all are invited and for which a small charge will be made. All proceeds from the festival will go towards our parish debt.

Scampagnata Thank you to all those who are coming to the Parish BBQ this weekend; if the weather is wet we will use the hall, otherwise we will be in the garden.