



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)

11th October 2015 ~ Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year 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

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 10th October (First Mass of Sunday)
18.00 People of the Parish
Sunday 11th – 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
08.30 Frances Rea RIP
10.00 William & Bridget Kelly (Anniv)
11.30 Rita Halsey (Private Int)
Monday 12th – Feria, Twenty-Eighth Week of Year 1
09.30 Bredin Family
Tuesday 13th – ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR
09.30 David Rimmer (Anniv)
Wednesday 14th – Feria
19.00 Nealie O'Shea RIP
Thursday 15th – St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor
09.30 Gallagher Family
Friday 16th – Feria
09.30 Intention of Donor
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, Ken Richells, Eugenia Pinilla.

Pray Also For William & Bridget Kelly, David Rimmer, George Mahon, Louisa Taylor, Bryan Cross, Gwladys Smith, Phyllis Berry, Brigitte Ryan, Pauline Roa, Mary Smith, Marguerite Atkinson, Ivor Pereira, Eric Barker, Connie O'Donoghue and Katrina Phillips whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Altar Servers Next week 17th/18th Oct Team A will serve.

Children in non-catholic Primary School Year 2-6 Are invited to attend class on Saturday, 17th October from 9am-10.30am in the Fisher Room.

Confirmation Candidates Meeting On Monday, 2nd November at 5.30pm in the Parish Hall. This meeting will last for 1 hour.

Annual Parish Meeting To be held on Monday, 23rd 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. At this meeting we will be submitting a re-draft of the Parish Constitution for your approval.

Altar Servers Anyone who wishes to become an altar server is invited to attend a training session on 21st October 2015 at 6pm in the Church. Please make sure you have given your details to Kay beforehand, kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk / 020 8429 5682.

Welcome Ministry Rota Please collect your new rota from the pigeon hole in the porch and/or see our website.

Counting Rota Please collect your new rota from the pigeon hole in the porch and/or see our website.

Church Cleaners Needed! Several of our very hard working and long serving church cleaners have had 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 the presbytery on 020 8868 7531 or harrownorth@rcdow.org.uk. Many thanks!

Italian Evening On Saturday, 7th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Sign-up sheets in the Church porch. Tickets cost £20 for adults and £8 for children (under 12 yrs) which includes a three course Italian meal with wine and entertainment. All funds raised will go towards the parish debt.

CAFOD Christmas cards launch Next weekend the 2015 range of CAFOD cards will be on display in the porch. This is the only time we will have all the designs on display so come and browse the cards, and borrow a Traidcraft catalogue to take home. We will be taking orders from next weekend onwards for cards & Traidcraft gifts. CAFOD receive a share of the card sale price and, in 2014, we also donated the £293 discount we received on cards and gifts to CAFOD. Help us to match that in 2015 by buying from the stall. We hope to open every weekend until Christmas but need more volunteers. Please sign up at the stall in the porch or email sjftraidcraft@gmail.com if you can stay and help occasionally for about 15 minutes after mass.

Coffee Morning You are warmly welcomed into the Parish Centre on Sunday, 18th October after 10am and 11.30am Mass, to enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners and some home-made cakes and drinks. These mornings are an opportunity for you to meet new people and spend time with your friends from your community. Raffle tickets will be on sale after each Mass (£1 a strip of 5), and the raffle will be drawn at the end of the second coffee morning.

Bethany Group Next meeting on Thursday, 15th October at 7.30pm.

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 most welcome. **We meet on the first Sunday of the month after the 11.30am Mass in the Fisher Room. The next meeting is on Sunday, 1st November.** Contact Johnpromise promisemagnus@yahoo.com or Sherna Bhadresa sherna_bhadresa@msn.com. Facebook 'SJF Young Adults'.

The Pylon - Christmas edition 2015 Please send us your articles, original short stories, poems, book/film reviews, accounts of parish events, holiday recommendations, recipes, advice, about your pets - in fact, anything that you think would be of interest to our readers. (Word limit approx. 1,200.) We would welcome contributions with a Christmas flavour as well as items written by children and the younger members of our parish. We look forward to receiving these. Thank you. **Deadline is Saturday, November 7th.** Please email items to barbaratowell@sky.com or place in pigeonhole in the porch at the back of the church.

St John Fisher School Harvest Festival We are delighted to invite senior parishioners to our Harvest Assembly followed by refreshments on Tuesday, 13th October at 9.30am in the school hall. We hope many of you will be able to join us.

Charity 'Vintage Tea Party' - In aid of Michael Sobell Hospice & The Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre On Friday, 16th October 2015 at 2-5pm at the North Harrow Home Guard Club, Car Park, North Harrow. Tea, cakes, tombola, raffle & book stall.

International Day Thank you all so much for all the effort that was made for the International Day. After expenses were deducted the profit for the day was £6,958.60 and the parish share of this is £3,479.30 which is a fantastic result. It is so wonderful to see the parish and school working together. Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the day so successful. Here's to next year.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day 2nd October You can still return your envelopes. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to fill in your Gift Aid details. Thank you for your support.