



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)

18th October 2015 ~ Twenty-Ninth 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

A common reading of today's Gospel is that James and John have heard all three of Jesus's predictions of his own passion and yet still they fail to understand. They still see Jesus in nationalistic terms, as a military leader who will overthrow the Romans; they seek earthly glory, not heavenly. This is a story of their failure to grasp that Jesus is the Suffering Messiah.

However, it is not they but the other ten disciples who are rebuked, and that's for getting angry with the sons of Zebedee. Yes, they have heard all three passion predictions ... but they (unlike most of the other disciples) have also seen the transfiguration. They have beheld Jesus in the glory of his divinity, the transformation of his human flesh into a clear image of the glory of God.

We know the reaction of Peter to this extraordinary revelation: 'Lord, it is good for us to be here... let me make three tents... but he did not know what he was saying, for they were terrified'. But today's passage from the next chapter of Mark's Gospel tells us James and John's reaction: they have seen Jesus in his glory, and they want what he's having.

They have good instincts because, the Word of God humbled himself, stooped down to us in mercy, shared in our weakness and neediness, just for this: that we might be wrapped in light as in a robe, transferred from the kingdom of darkness into his marvellous light. This is Jesus' gift to us as our great High Priest he has, through his flesh and blood, opened for us the way into the heavenly court, then let us indeed approach with full confidence.

That doesn't mean, of course, that James and John don't have a lesson to learn about how we enter into glory. After all, it is at the moment of Christ's death that the veil is torn in two and the blood and water are poured out: the blood that fills the chalice we must drink, the water in which we must be baptised, so that we too can make our journey to the glory of heaven.

This is what gives us our lesson in the meaning of service and Lordship. It is when Christ completes his journey into our humanity by making a perfect offering of his life that he shows himself to be Lord of Glory. By the service of his perfect sacrifice on the cross, the true servant gives us the power to be ourselves, to have what is ours and to be what we are. In this death, Jesus shows that true service doesn't deprive people of anything—not the servant, not the served—but sets them free. Jesus's life and death of perfect service are simply a life and death of perfect humanity, and in them we are all perfected, transfigured and glorified. And it is right for us to want that.



Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 17th October (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Dennis & Veronica Joiner (Anniv)

Sunday 18th – 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 People of the Parish

10.00 Gabriel Faria (Anniv)

11.30 Nora May Hayes RIP

Monday 19th – Feria, Twenty-Ninth Week of Year 1

09.30 Matilda Anthonisz (Anniv)

Tuesday 20th – Feria

09.30 Intention of Donor

11.30 Funeral of William Crick RIP

Wednesday 21st – Feria

19.00 David Else (Anniv)

Thursday 22nd – Feria

09.30 Fr Norman Wrigley RIP

Friday 23rd – Feria

09.30 Gerald Taylor (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.

(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, Josh Hanson, William Crick, Ana Francisca Texeira, Noreen Conway.

Pray Also For Dennis & Veronica Joiner, Gabriel Faria, Matilda Anthonisz, David Else, Gerald Taylor, Vincent Bourke, Bo Claeson, Angela Doctrove, Winifred Maher, Margaret Sullivan, Victor Crick, Patrick Webber, Maureen Nixon, Hannah Shevlin, Hannah Barnard, Rose Wright, Martin Flanagan, Donald Haynes, Soad Raie, Maureen Walsh and Michael McCrohan whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please Remember William Crick who has died. Requiem Mass on Tuesday, 20th October at 11.30am at St John Fisher followed by committal at Northwood Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

Baptism We welcome Natalia Lima who is being baptised in our church this week.

Altar Servers Next week 24th/25th Oct Team B will serve.

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.

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 This 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 this weekend onwards for cards & Traidcraft gifts. We hope to open every weekend until Christmas but need more volunteers. Please sign up at the stall in the porch or email sjfracraft@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 today after 10am and 11.30am Mass for some home-made cakes and drinks. 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.

SJF Ladies Club Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 21st October at 7.30pm in the small hall. The evening will be a social with a fun quiz.

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.

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 Facebook 'SJF Young Adults'.

Autumn Faith Sharing Groups The Booklets 'Love Divine' have arrived and are available in the porch (£2) or from group leaders. One group will start after Mass on Thursday 22nd October and will continue for the following six Thursdays (contact: Tony McWilliams 8868 3205). The other group will be led by Neville Bayross (8863 8876).

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. 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.

Mass for the Bereaved Each year in November we celebrate a Mass for those who have been bereaved in recent years. This will be held at 7pm on Monday, 2nd November, the Feast of All Souls. Everyone is welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Fisher Room.

Blessing of the Graves Mass will be celebrated in the Cemetery Chapel at 11am at Pinner New Cemetery on Monday, 16th November. This will be followed by the blessing of the graves.

Adult Faith Formation Events At The Niland Centre, 93 Elstree Rd, Bushey, Hertfordshire WD23 4EE. Please book your place at livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk. For more details please see poster on notice board in the Church porch.

Vocation Discernment Group for adults (18-30's) On Friday, 23rd October, 7-9pm in the Hinsley Room next to Westminster Cathedral. Sr Kasia Kowalska of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion: Reading the story of our lives through Scripture. For more info contact Fr Richard at richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk.

"Ministering Mercy" – Come and See Retreat Day On Saturday, 24th October at Allen Hall seminary for men (aged 18+) who are discerning a calling to the priesthood. It is essential to register in advance. Contact Fr Graham at GrahamStokes@rcdow.org.uk.

Tamil Mindful Money Project aims to support members of the Tamil Community who live with mental health issues. For more information, please contact Ted Jacob on 020 8426 0929.