



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)

8th November 2015 ~ Thirty-Second 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



We will remember them...

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

by John McCrae (1872-1918)

Over 90 years ago, on May 2nd, 1915 a young Canadian Lieutenant was killed by a shell burst just north of Ypres (Ieper) in Belgium. The news of the death of Alexis Helmer would have brought great grief to his widowed mother back in Ottawa but at the time a more personal loss was felt by his friend John McCrae, who had, in the absence of the chaplain, the melancholy task of performing the funeral ceremony.

On May 3rd, 1915 John McCrae was seated in the back of an ambulance at his dressing station not far from the Essex Farm Cemetery where his friend lay. The dressing station was just a series of holes dug into the canal bank. It was not until after McCrae was there in the spring of 1915 that the concrete bunkers were built. The wild poppies that grew in the ditches of that part of Europe caught his attention and he took twenty minutes to scribble fifteen lines of verse. At the time, a young soldier, Cyril Allinson, was delivering mail. Allinson later recalled "*His face was very tired but calm as he wrote. He looked around him from time to time, his eyes straying to Helmer's grave.*"

When he had finished writing McCrae, without a word, handed his note pad to Allinson "*The poem was exactly an exact description of the scene in front of us both. He used the word blow in that line because the poppies actually were being blown that morning by a gentle east wind. It never occurred to me at the time that it would ever be published. It seemed to me just an exact description of the scene.*" Fortunately, the poem was published on December 8th, 1915.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, THE HOLY SOULS ARE REMEMBERED AT ALL OUR MASSES.

Saturday 7th November (First Mass of Sunday)
18.00 Bernard Lynch (2nd Anniv)

Sunday 8th – 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Trofimena Arpino RIP

10.00 People of the Parish

11.30 For the Fallen

Monday 9th – THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

09.30 Fr Norman Wrigley RIP

Tuesday 10th – St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor

09.30 Dr. Nihal Ranasinghe RIP

Wednesday 11th – St Martin of Tours, Bishop

11.00 Requiem Mass for Henry “Harry” McKinney RIP

19.00 Intention of Donor

Thursday 12th – St Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

09.30 Mary Standon RIP

Friday 13th – Feria, Thirty-Second Week of Year 1

09.30 Josef Schuster (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,

Pray Also For Bernard Lynch, Josef Schuster, Bernard Rooney, Alexander Buhagiari, Frederick Goddard, Vincent Arrigo, Joan Olive, Mrs. Ofulue, Charles Harris, Bill Smith, Patrick Webber, John White, Jean Wise, Patrick Lawrence Webber and Daniel Jesuthasan whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please Remember Joan Ralfs who has died. Her funeral will take place on Thursday, 12th November at 1.30pm at Breakspear Crematorium. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

Baptisms We welcome Kenith Suthakar who is being baptised in our church this weekend.

Altar Servers Next week 14th/15th Nov Team A will serve.

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, by 9th November at the latest. At this meeting we will be submitting a re-draft of the Parish Constitution for your approval.

CAFOD Christmas Cards & Fairtrade Advent Calendars Are on sale after mass in the porch this weekend.

Parish 100 Club Winners - October Draw 1st prize - £125 June Collins, 2nd prize - £100 Marina Gordon, 3rd prize - £60 Alister Albuquerque, 4th prize - £30 John & Margaret Filan. Many Congratulations to this month's winners. Please could parishioners who pay yearly make their next contribution in order to be included in any future lottery draws. Cheques payable to "St John Fisher RC Church". You've got to be in it to win it!

Sale of Spiritual Books On Saturday, 14th November and Sunday, 15th November after each Mass. Very reduced price, could make ideal Christmas presents. Proceeds go towards our sanctuary.

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 6th December.

Contact Johnpromise promisemagnus@yahoo.com. Facebook 'SJF Young Adults'.

School Admission Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for PRIMARY & 6TH FORM COLLEGE on Saturday, 28th November at 10.30am-12.30pm in the Parish Hall. For an appointment please contact Claudia McHugh on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or 8429 5681 (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm). **Please note that candidates who apply for 6th FORM should attend – not parents.** *If you have an earlier deadline for 6th form applications in West London, please contact Claudia for an earlier appointment.*

SJF Ladies Club Our next meeting is on 18th November after 7pm Mass.

Parish Women's Group At our next meeting on Thursday, 12th November at 8pm in the small hall we will be decorating candles for Christmas. There will be a £3.50 charge for materials. If you would like to join us, please contact Elena on 07599 931149. The PWG is a friendly group, open to all women in the parish.

Parish Quiz The Social Club are holding an Autumn Quiz on Saturday, 28th November @8pm in the parish hall. Entrance is £3 per person. All proceeds to parish funds. For further info or to book a team, please email: durcanjohn@aol.com.

Action by Christians Against Torture (ACAT) in Harrow are holding their annual service here in St John Fisher Church on Sunday, 22nd November at 3pm. The ecumenical service will include readings, music, silence and prayer for those suffering torture or who are at risk. This year the focus is on those facing persecution for their faith.

Mass for the Bereaved On Wednesday, 11th November at 7.15pm, you are invited to the Parish Annual Mass at St Joseph's, High Road, Harrow Weald. All who have been bereaved at any time are encouraged to attend. After Mass, refreshments will be provided at the back of the church. Enquiries 020 8863 3165.

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.

'Our Lady of Sorrows' Bereavement Group The Mass for all those babies and children, whose names appear on the plaques either side of the stained glass window in their loving memory, will be celebrated at Our Lady & St Thomas of Canterbury, Harrow-on-the-Hill on Wednesday, 25th November at 7.00pm.

Towards Advent Festival On Saturday, 28th November at Westminster Cathedral Hall. Opening ceremony 10.30am with Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Admission free. Stalls and displays from a variety of Catholic groups and organisations plus talks and workshops. Please see poster on noticeboard.

'Into 6th Form' Open Evening, Gumley House Convent School FCJ, Isleworth Warmly invite girls and boys, currently in yr11 and their parents to attend our OPEN EVENING on Tuesday, 10th November from 6.30pm – 8.15pm. There will be a presentation by the 6th form team, in our main assembly hall, at 6.30pm. All are welcome. For more info, please visit www.gumley.hounslow.sch.uk.

Diocese of Westminster Vacancies Please visit <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/> where you can view all current vacancies.

Sick & Retired Priests' Fund You can still return your envelopes. Thank you for your support. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to fill in your Gift Aid details.