



# St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

80 Imperial Close, North Harrow, HA2 7LW, 020 8868 7531

[www.stjohnfisheronline.org.uk](http://www.stjohnfisheronline.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Middleton, 020 8429 5684, [shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Catechist: Kay O'Connor, 020 8429 5682, [kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Claudia McHugh, 020 8429 5681, [claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk)

## 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016 ~ Fourth 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

*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,  
Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope.*

*To thee do we cry,  
poor banished children of Eve.  
To thee do we send up our sighs,  
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.*

*Turn then, most gracious Advocate,  
thine eyes of mercy towards us,  
and after this our exile,  
show unto us the Blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.*

*Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,  
that we may be made worthy  
of the promises of Christ.*

Pope Francis, with the publication of *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love), has offered a broad and deep reflection on the myriad (and often messy) issues concerning marriage, the family and human sexuality.

And in doing so, the 79-year-old pope has also put forth a clear vision of Christian discipleship. It is one based more on personal responsibility and prayerful discernment than on the mere following of church rules.

Furthermore, in this same document he has sketched out a profile of the ordained minister. Both priests and bishops are to be servant-leaders who, with mercy and patience, humbly accompany, dialogue and collaborate with their people as fellow disciples. The pope doesn't want pastors who harangue Catholics who fall short of the mark with rules and moral laws "as if they were stones to throw at people's lives."

In essence, he is re-proposing the model of discipleship and servant-leadership that emerged from the Second Vatican Council (1962-65). He is attempting to pick up the journey that the church had embarked upon in the first decade or so following Vatican II, but one that up until recently has suffered because of an emerging neo-conservatism, especially among some young priests and seminarians.

Pope Francis' re-joining of that earlier journey should be greatly encouraging for the many so-called Vatican II Catholics who have remained actively involved in the church. Francis' vision offers new hope to those many former Catholics who feel that the church abandoned them, making judgements about their lives without acknowledging the reality of their lived situations.

As we take up our collection for the Priest Training Fund on this Good Shepherd Sunday, we can be assured that the programme of formation that our young men go through here in Westminster tries to introduce them to the reality of pastoral life. The year that they spend on parishes, the opportunities that they have to look at different models of pastoral ministry and the deep reflection that they are called to make on their own lives as well as the life of the communities that they have come into contact with will, we hope, enable them to embrace the model of servant leadership which has recognisable authenticity to it and which enables a true relationship between a priest and his community to evolve.



*Fr Shaun*

## Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Gloria David RIP

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

08.30 Sylvester, Phyllis & Patricia Rebbitt (Anniv)

10.00 James Pettifer (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv)

11.30 People of the Parish

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Easter feria, Fourth Week of Easter

09.30 Special Intentions

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> – St Alphege, Bishop & Martyr

09.30 Ursula Pushpam Alfred RIP

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Easter feria

19.00 Tommy Clifford RIP

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> – Easter feria

09.30 Patricia O'Leary

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Easter feria

09.30 Joseph Thiruchelvam (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.)*

**Pray Also For** Sylvester, Phyllis & Patricia Rebbitt, James Pettifer, Joseph Thiruchelvam, Irene Hurst, Michael Hughes, Bridget Byrne, Trenton "Lloyd" Henry, Helen McNamara, Kathleen Forde, Alice Tobin, Nellie Connolly, William O'Riordan, Tom McCann, John Manners, Andrew Blyth, Karl Smol, Mary Chute, Pauline Egan, Mary Parker, Charles Contaminard, Molly Hurley, Brendon Lyons, Christopher Dent and John Maher.

**Congratulations & Best Wishes** to Richard Hubbard and Emma Zymaczyk who were married in our church this weekend.

**Wojciech Mlek RIP** Stefania and family wish to extend their gratitude to Fr Shaun and everyone for their kind prayers, Mass cards, sympathy and attending the funeral of Wojciech. Your support was greatly appreciated. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

**Priest Training Fund** This weekend marks Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. Coincidentally, we will also take up a second collection for the formation of priests – the Priest Training Fund, which helps the Diocese recruit, educate, train and form men into the priesthood. If you took an envelope last weekend, be sure to place it in the basket. If you do not have an envelope, there are some available in the porch. Don't forget to tick off and complete the claim for Gift Aid – that adds 25 pence onto every pound you give at no cost to you. Our diocese has 29 men in formation this year – this group will be our future parish priests who will lead our parishes, and most of all, nourish our sacramental life as Catholics. We ask that you pray a special prayer for vocations on a daily basis. Please take home a prayer card for vocations, which can be found in the porch. Thank you for both your prayers and generosity in support of the priests, and the Catholic Church, of tomorrow.

**Love in Action Training Meeting** on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Fisher Room. All parish group leaders or their representatives to attend.

**Altar Servers** 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> April **Team B** will serve.

**Traidcraft Stall** will be open after all masses this weekend. Come and browse the range of Fairtrade food on sale incl. teas, coffees, spreads, nuts and fruit pots as well as sweets & chocolate.

**Parish 100 Club Draw – March 2016 Winners are:** 1<sup>st</sup> prize – £125 Dorothy Mariampillai, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – £70 Esther Lathan, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – £50 Margaret Townsend.

**Applications for Confirmation 2017** A meeting will be held on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 5.30pm in the Parish Centre. The candidates must attend themselves and need to be in school year 8 or above. The meeting will last for 1 hour where information will be given for the coming year. Anyone wishing to be confirmed in 2017 will need to attend this meeting.

**St John Fisher Social Club Concert** with an Irish theme in the church hall beginning at 8.00pm on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April with all proceeds to parish funds. It promises to be great fun so please come along and support us. Tickets are £8 each (£6 concessions) and will be available after most masses.

**The Pylon - Summer 2016 edition** Please send us your articles, original short stories, poems, book/film reviews, accounts of parish events, holiday recommendations, recipes, advice, about your pets - with photo - in fact anything you think would be of interest to our readers. Contributions written by children and younger members of our parish will be most welcome. We look forward to receiving these and aim to publish as many as possible. Thank you. **Deadline: Sunday, 1st May.** Please email to [barbaratowell@sky.com](mailto:barbaratowell@sky.com) or place in appropriate pigeonhole in the porch for the attention of Barbara Towell.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham** Join Cardinal Vincent on the pilgrimage to Walsingham, England's Nazareth, on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2016. With the theme of 'Mary, the Mother of Mercy', the day will include an outdoor Mass, procession with the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and banners along the Holy Mile, prayers and Benediction in the Priory grounds, and free time to visit the Basilica, the Slipper Chapel and the Holy Door. The cost is £35 per person, cheques payable to St John Fisher Church. If you would like to book a place on a coach departing from St John Fisher Church, you will find a sign-up sheet and timetable in the porch.

**Vocations Discernment Group for adults (18-30s) – 2 special meetings for the Year of Mercy** On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, the Medical Missionary Sisters on the Spiritual Works of Mercy and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May, the Missionaries of Charity on the Corporal Works of Mercy. 7-9pm in the Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace next to Westminster Cathedral. For more info contact Fr Richard at [richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk).

**Marriage Care** Do you believe in supporting Marriages? Are you looking to volunteer in a friendly and supportive environment? Our London centre is looking for volunteers for the following roles: **Head of Centre** to lead and support the team; **Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators** to present and facilitate marriage preparation courses to small groups of couples (training provided); **A Publicity Officer** to promote relationship support services and volunteering in the local area; **Qualified Counsellors** to provide relationship counselling for couples and individuals. For more info or to apply visit [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk).

**Save 'The Bridge'** Please sign our petition in the porch to help stop the closure of 'The Bridge', a mental health service in Harrow. The Bridge day centre provides activities and fellowship for people with mental illness and their carers (a second home where love and care gives them a sense of belonging and hope of recovery).

**Congratulations** To Her Majesty the Queen who this week celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.