



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

2nd October 2016 ~ Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year C

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



As we approach harvest time, and rejoice in the abundance that God provides for us, we are invited to join 32 year old Nicanora, from Bolivia, on her journey from poverty to abundance. We can stand alongside Nicanora as she learns news skills and receives materials and seeds that will enable her to grow enough food to feed her family.

The Altiplano is a vast, inhospitable plain almost 12,000 feet above sea level. The conditions here are tough and the burning sun, unpredictable rains and devastating hailstorms make growing food a daily struggle. Despite working long hard days on her farm, Nicanora cannot grow enough food to feed her four young children: "On a normal day when we don't have much food, we eat barley soup. We grind the barley and mix it with water. When we eat just this soup all day, we get tired very quickly."

Nicanora and her neighbours are about to start a two-year journey, working with our partner organization in Bolivia. Nicanora will work with our partners to build a vegetable garden, greenhouse, wormery and install irrigation on her land, all of which will help her grow enough good, nutritious food to feed her family. Your support and donations to CAFOD this Harvest Fast Day will ensure our brothers and sisters have food to eat.

In today's gospel, we heard that if we had faith like a mustard seed we could command a mulberry tree to uproot itself and it would obey us. This teaches us how important faith is – with even the tiniest amount of faith we can achieve something which seems impossible at the outset. It sometimes seems like the problems of the world such as hunger, poverty and climate change are insurmountable. How can we possibly make a difference? But today let us have faith that with God's help, we, as a community of believers in Christ, can do something extraordinary. Let's stand alongside Nicanora, confident that with faith everything is possible.

Friday, 7th October is Harvest Fast Day. Attached to this week's newsletter is your Fast Day envelope. We will collect your Fast Day envelopes and offerings after all our Masses next weekend. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to fill in your Gift Aid details.

Fr Shaun

*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.*

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 1st October 2016 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Noreen Simpson RIP

Sunday 2nd – 27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Frances Rea RIP

10.00 People of the Parish

11.30 Phebe Martins (Anniv)

Monday 3rd – Feria, Twenty-Seventh Week of Year 2

09.30 Alice Standon (Anniv)

Tuesday 4th – St Francis of Assisi

09.30 Bernard Barker RIP

Wednesday 5th – Feria

19.00 Vincent Fernandes (Sick)

Thursday 6th – Feria

09.30 Fergus Hanna (Sick)

Friday 7th – Our Lady of the Rosary

09.30 Joseph Thiruchelvam RIP

10.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

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.

Recently Deceased, Mgr Peter Anglim, Kathleen Corcoran, Catherine Bowker.

Pray Also For Phebe Martins, Alice Standon, Kitty Davis, Stephen Rizkallah, Sarah Hegarty, Christine James, Bernard Barker, Patricia Dunmore, Helen Williams, Thomas "Chris" Caldwell, Peter Golden, Keith Phaire and Dennis O'Connor.

Catherine Bowker RIP Catherine, eldest daughter of Wynn Bowker and ex member of Imperial Players, has died suddenly whilst on holiday. Funeral arrangements to be advised. For more details contact Helen Sherwood 020 8427 9387.

Baptisms We welcome William Carson Hurst, Noreen Patterson and Noah Zain who are being baptised in our church this weekend.

Confirmation Meeting On Monday, 3rd October at 5.30pm in the Church Hall.

Altar Servers The rota has been discontinued so please just turn up to serve but make sure you arrive at least 10 minutes before mass starts. Thank you.

Theology on Tap I wanted to tell you of an initiative that I am starting here in North Harrow. It's called Theology on Tap. We will meet in the parish bar on the third Wednesday of each month. There will be some input and then there will be a discussion on a given topic over a drink and sarnies. The idea is to provide a forum for adults who just want to explore the faith and do a bit of theology in an informal and relaxed atmosphere. We intend to have our first meeting on Wednesday, 19th Oct at 7.30pm. Then we will try to meet on the third Wednesday of each month. A full list of discussion topics for this year can be found on the noticeboard in the porch. **Fr. Shaun**

Family Mass From now on, on the first Sunday of each month, children from St John Fisher School will take a more prominent role in the liturgy. The children will sing and play musical instruments, they will read and will perform lots of other ministries at mass. We have introduced this new initiative to encourage participation and practice of the faith. Obviously, we need parents to encourage such participation and we look forward to the contribution the children will make over the coming months. If your child is approached by the school to take part in the Sunday liturgy, please encourage them. "It's the mass

that matters" as someone wisely said.

School Admission Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for **SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFERS** on Saturday, 8th October 2016 at 9.30am-11.30am in the Fisher Room (*forms have to be with the schools by 31st October at the latest*) by APPOINTMENT ONLY so please contact Claudia McHugh on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or 8429 5681 (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm). When making your appointment please advise the number of schools you are applying for, your child's name & a contact telephone number. If applying for the London Oratory please bring copies of any forms you need to submit.

The Pylon - Christmas edition 2016 It is that time again! The Pylon is your magazine, so please would you let us have: information/news from your parish group, articles, holiday or book recommendations, original poems or short stories, Christmas recipes, articles - indeed anything you think would be of interest to other parishioners. We welcome items from children and the youth of the parish. **Please send via email to barbaratowell@sky.com or place in the appropriate pigeonhole.** **Deadline for submissions: Sunday, November 20th.**

From now on The Pylon will be an online magazine; however, hard/paper copies will be available on request.

Fairtrade Food stall will be open in the porch after all masses next weekend.

CAFOD Christmas cards & Traidcraft catalogues Last year the parish raised over £350 for CAFOD from the sale of Christmas cards & Fairtrade gifts ordered from the Traidcraft catalogue. Could you help us raise as much again this year by supporting the stall or helping occasionally after mass? If you would like to volunteer, please leave your name & contact details at the stall in the porch next weekend (or email sjfracraft@gmail.com).

Knights of St. Columba Next meeting on Thursday, 6th October 2016 at 8pm in the Social Club.

Singalong Concert On Saturday, 8th October at 7.30pm in the Church hall. Ticket £5 - including tea/coffee & cake. Come & join us for a fun musical evening! Tickets are on sale after all Masses this weekend and will be available on the door. In aid of the Church fund.

Book Evening - Thursday, 13th October at 8pm in the St John Fisher Parish Centre's small hall, cost £1. The Parish Women's Group invites you to this evening when the novel '**The Watercress Girls**' by Kay Seeley will be discussed. The author will be joining us and will read from her book as well as answering questions about the novel and her successful writing career. In addition, we will be recommending other books to be enjoyed and sharing light refreshments. Voluntary contributions of a bottle to share or a small portion of snacks would be most welcome. Do come along even if you have not read the book as it will be an interesting evening anyway. Look forward to seeing you there. For further information contact Barbara Towell at barbaratowell@sky.com or 020 8866 6665.

Flower Arranging For ladies who attend these classes we are meeting at St Thomas More Church, Eastcote on Saturday, 8th October at 10am, for a pedestal demonstration and to construct a small design yourselves. Any queries, please contact Ann on 020 8868 5163.

St John Fisher School Harvest Festival We are delighted to invite senior parishioners to our Harvest Assembly followed by refreshments on Tuesday, 11th October at 10.00am in the school hall. We hope many of you will be able to join us.