



# St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

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## 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016 ~ Twenty-Ninth 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

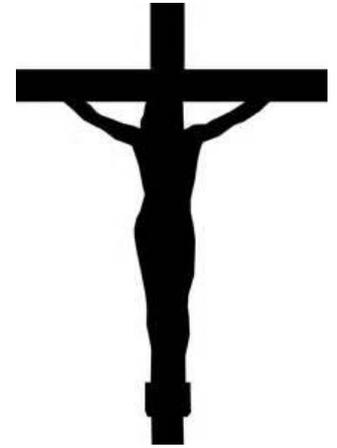
*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,  
Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope.*

*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.*

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. Some Byzantine art illustrates that during the liturgy we are transported into heaven to the throne of God and there we 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 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 People of the Parish

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 The Jennings Family & Bea (Ints)

10.00 Ana Francisca Texeira (Anniv)

11.30 Special Intentions

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr

09.30 O'Connor Sisters

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – ST LUKE, Evangelist

09.30 Mary Kavanagh RIP

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Feria, Twenty-Ninth Week of Year 2

19.00 David Else (Anniv)

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – Feria

09.30 Special Intentions

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> – Feria

09.30 Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life on behalf of the Wembley Circle of the Catenian Association

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 ring either Katherine on 020 8868 8512 or Tony on 020 8868 3205.)*

**Recently Deceased**, Bishop David Konstant, Rose Flynn.

**Pray Also For** Ana Francisca Texeira, David Else, Ivor Pereira, Eric Barker, Connie O'Donoghue, Katrina Phillips, Vincent Bourke, Bo Claeson, Angela Doctrove, Monica O'Sullivan, Winifred Maher, Margaret Sullivan, Victor Crick, Patrick Webber, Maureen Nixon, Hannah Shevlin and Harry McKinney.

**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, 19<sup>th</sup> 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

**Annual Parish Meeting** To be held on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> November at the latest.

**St John Fisher Catholic Primary School - Admission to Reception September 2017** The application process is now open for children born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013. We are holding two Saturday morning talks/tours on 22nd October and 19th November at 10:00. There are also tours available on Wednesday mornings, 19th October and 16th November at 09:30. Please contact the school office to book your tour (020 8868 2961). Further info at <http://www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk>.

**Bethany Group** The next meeting for members will be on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm.

**Church Cleaning Rota** The 2017 Cleaning Rota is being prepared. If you are a current cleaner but no longer able to be part of the team or if you would like to join the cleaning team, anyone

welcome, (a couple of hours every four weeks) then please contact Alison Jackson 020 8427 2910.

**Making a Will** Having your Will written professionally can give you great peace of mind. Each November, you can use a local solicitor who has signed up to Will Aid. Instead of paying your solicitor's fee, you will be invited to make a donation to charity. The suggested voluntary donation is £95 for a basic Will or £150 for a pair of basic mirror Wills. The campaign is now live and you can make a Will Aid appointment today go to [www.willaid.org.uk](http://www.willaid.org.uk). Perhaps you might think about remembering the parish in your will and enable us to continue the work that we do as part of your legacy. Please see the leaflets that are available this weekend for more information about this.

**SJF Young Adults Group** This is a space for all Young Adults in their 20s and 30s to come together. Everyone is welcome. **We meet on the first Sunday of the month in the Fisher Room after the 11.30am Mass.** Our next meeting is on **6<sup>th</sup> November**. Contact Johnpromise at [promisemagnus@yahoo.com](mailto:promisemagnus@yahoo.com). Facebook 'SJF Young Adults'.

**The Pylon - Christmas edition 2016** 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. We welcome items from children and the youth of the parish. **Please email to [barbaratowell@sky.com](mailto: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.

**Closure of Holy Door of Mercy at St. William of York, Stanmore** The Holy Door will be closing on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 4pm with a Liturgy of the Word and a catechesis. All are welcome.

**Mass for the Bereaved** Each year in November we celebrate a Mass for those who have been bereaved. This will be held on the Feast of All Souls, on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Fisher Room.

**CAFOD Christmas cards** The 2016 range of cards is on display in the porch after masses this weekend. Nothing is for sale this week but orders can be placed & cards will be on sale every week from 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Traidcraft catalogues will be available to take away and browse at home for Fair Trade Christmas food and gifts. By ordering from the stall you are helping small scale producers in some of the world's poorest communities, supporting the work of CAFOD & Traidcraft and saving postage costs.

**Knitting Group** Next meeting on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> October at 2pm in the Fisher Room - knitting crochet and sewing - come for a social get together and help Bakita House.

**Getting Married** Please remember that it is a requirement of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales that at least six months notice be given if you intend to get married. We need this time to process the paperwork and to ensure that you can have access to Marriage Preparation.

**Singalong Concert** £700 was raised in aid of the Church funds. Thank you so much for your support.

**CAFOD Harvest Fast Day 7<sup>th</sup> 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.