



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 (Mon-Wed-Fri 9.30am-1.30pm)

22nd January 2017 ~ Third Sunday of the Year A

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...

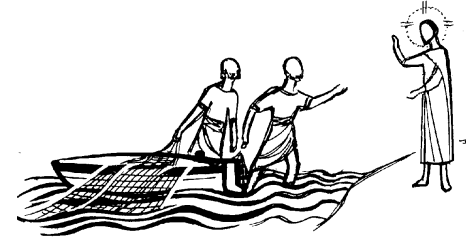
To live the Gospel of Jesus Christ
To Gather the Community and Tell the Story
To Sing and Make Music to the Lord
To Break the Bread and Share the Cup

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

Becoming a disciple of Jesus can be thoroughly unsettling. One has no idea what will be asked and how one will cope. It is a perilous adventure, especially alarming for our timid culture with its fear of risk and obsession with health and

safety. The great preachers of the gospel are those who are not afraid to lose control of their lives.



God's love often propels us into deep waters where we must either sink or trust in him. To love anyone is risky. Who knows what it will involve? The gospel is an invitation to lose control of our lives. This frightening call is the heart of Pope Francis' spirituality: 'There is no greater freedom than that of allowing oneself to be guided by the Holy Spirit, renouncing the attempt to plan and control everything to the last detail, and instead letting him enlighten, guide and direct us, leading us wherever he wills.' 'I have the sense of being in someone else's hands, as though God were taking me by the hand.' So the Christian imagination should defy the timid neuroses of our time.

Christianity is risky and it demands a response from us if we accept that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that he invites us to place our lives in his hands. This was the experience of the disciples at Pentecost when they received the Holy Spirit that propelled them on a mission to the whole world. Initially they were reluctant to go and leave the small and familiar community of the early Church in Jerusalem. Finally, it was persecution that dislodged them. God sometimes resorts to desperate means.

800 years ago, St Dominic reflected on his desire to send his friars out as missionaries. Though he was concerned about their future he came to the conclusion that 'Stored grain rots'. In other words we have to leave the comfort of the familiar in order to encounter the challenges that the gospel throws at us so that we can grow in Christian discipleship. This means that we must dare to grapple with questions and situations to which we have no easy answers and try new ways of living the gospel that may well fail. When the waters of the deep threaten to overwhelm us, then, like Peter further on in the adventure, we shall find a firm hand reaching out to lift us back into the safety of the boat. Let us not be afraid.

Fr Shaun

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 21st January 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Elsa Dias (Anniv)

Sunday 22nd – 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Noel Desouza RIP

10.00 People of the Parish

11.30 Tony Crick RIP

Monday 23rd – Feria

09.30 Mattie Connolly (Sick)

Tuesday 24th – St Frances de Sales, Bishop & Doctor

09.30 Anthony Connolly (Int)

Wednesday 25th – THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE

19.00 Joseph Thiruchelvam RIP

Thursday 26th – Sts Timothy and Titus, Bishops

09.30 Daniel Dhar (Anniv)

Friday 27th – Feria

09.30 Brendan Connolly RIP

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, Pdraig Caulfield, Mike Boland.

Pray Also For Elsa Dias, Daniel Dhar, Ariti Papson, Ida Buhagiar, Edris Morris, Herbert Green, James Horkan, Denise Mitchell, Henry Kobus, Winifred Barnes, Daisy Rolt, Thomas O'Donoghue, Anton Constantine, Maria Lavelle, Geoffrey Flynn, (baby) Lillie Rose Devaney, Morgan Rainsford and Bertha Nicholls whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Our Weekly Newsletter is now sent out by email. If you have not given us your email details then please subscribe by following this link <http://eepurl.com/coXHxD>.

Bishop's Visitation Our area bishop John Sherrington will make a visitation to the parish on the weekend of 25th/26th February 2017. More details to follow.

Mary's Meals Save all your old clothes and bedding (**no duvets or pillows please**) because on 4th/5th February 2017 representatives from Mary's Meals will be here for their annual collection. Put clothing/bedding into tied sacks and bring them to Mass where the charity will be here to pick them up until 11.30am Mass. Please do not bring clothes before this date as we have nowhere to store them. Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

St John Fisher Social Club Membership subscriptions for 2017 are now due and can be renewed during club opening hours. Our AGM is on Sunday, 5th February at 7.30pm in the small hall.

Welcome Ministry Rota Please collect your new rotas from the relevant pigeon hole in the porch and/or see our website. We need more volunteers so if you are interested please contact Sue Moriarty at suemoriarty@sky.com.

Knitting Group will meet on Friday, 27th January at 2pm in the Fisher Room. All donations of wool will be very welcome which can be dropped off in the presbytery.

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 after the 11.30am Mass in the Fisher Room.** There is no meeting in January 2017. Our

next meeting is on **5th February 2017** after the 11.30am in the Fisher Room. Contact Johnpromise at promisemagnus@yahoo.com. Facebook 'SJF Young Adults'.

St. John Fisher Women's Group invites you to a talk by Mary Evans about her trip to India on Thursday, 9th February at 8pm in the small hall/ Fisher Room of the Parish Centre. Cost £1. A voluntary contribution of a bottle or Indian finger food/snacks to share would be gratefully appreciated. We look forward to seeing you, your family and friends at what promises to be a most interesting and enjoyable evening. For further details contact barbaratowell@sky.com.

Parish Pilgrimage to Poland No other Polish city comes close to matching Krakow for its sheer wealth of religious, architectural and artistic treasures. Our tour of Krakow will include a visit to the cathedral where Pope John Paul presided as Archbishop before his election to the papacy. We will see Wawel Castle, the seat of Polish Royalty for over 500 years and we will stroll through the winding streets of Krakow's Old Town, with its soaring Gothic churches and medieval town square - the largest in Europe. We intend to go to the Wieliczka Salt Mine, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where we can wander through labyrinthine tunnels and marvel at an ornamented underground temple built entirely of salt. We will visit Auschwitz, scene of so much suffering and persecution. We will also make our way to Our Lady's shrine at Czestochowa, home of the monastery of Jasna Gora where the famous image of the Black Madonna is kept. Our pilgrimage will take place in the first week of June and the price will be confirmed within the next week by Pax Travel who will organise the pilgrimage and provide a guide. Expressions of interest should be sent to Fr. Shaun, you can do this by email, harrownorth@rcdow.org.uk or by signing the list in the porch. This does not commit you to the pilgrimage but indicates that you might like to come.

Mass with Anointing of the Sick in Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 11th February 2017 at 2.00pm The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass by the bishops and priests. If you or the person you are accompanying will be attending in a wheelchair please contact Claudia on 020 8429 5681 by Friday, 27th January 2017. See poster in the porch.

Diocese of Westminster Job Vacancies For more info please visit <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/>.

New to the Parish? Please make yourself known after Mass to either Fr Shaun or Kay O'Connor so you may be registered and provided with all the relevant information. A welcome pack is available from the wall rack in the Church porch.

Leaving the Parish or Change of Address? Please advise Claudia McHugh on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or 020 8429 5681 so we may amend our records. Thank you.

Sick List If, in the past, you have asked for someone to be put on the sick list it would be very much appreciated if you could let Claudia know whether that person should be taken off – hopefully because they are now better.

Parish 100 Club The 100 club is a wonderful way to support the parish and fundraise so that we can pay for the new sanctuary. Forms are available from the wall rack by the right hand side notice board in the porch. Please could parishioners who pay yearly make their next contribution of £60 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!