



# 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

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)

## 5th February 2017 ~ Fifth 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

Two weeks ago, Pope Francis contrasted Christian living which he thought of as salt and light, with what he called 'the carnival of human curiosity', a 'pseudo-festive superficiality', a 'culture of the ephemeral'. This is the world of purely human oracles and their mantra. As the song says, 'Baby I was born this way', the inference is why should I bother or care about you?

Jesus does not call us Christians *to become* salt and light to the world. He says we are that already. But through infidelity to Christ we, as salt, lose our savour and are fit for nothing, or as hidden light put under a cover we will presumably be extinguished.

Immediately before these verses come the Beatitudes, addressed in general terms: to the poor, to those who mourn, etc. Right at the end of the Beatitudes Jesus shifts His language to the second person: blessed are *you* when *you* are cast out, when *you* are persecuted, when *you* are calumniated. He says that to be a Christian is to be persecuted. Thus we are conformed to Christ, the Persecuted One, the Saviour of salt itself, the True Light who came into the world.

The Truth that is Christ is a hard truth, but it is the only Truth. The Love that is the Spirit is a hard love to accept, but it is the only Love that makes all loves possible. Our savour, our light is from fidelity to Christ. Only such Love and Truth can be recognized as coming from the Father, that *men may see your good works and give glory to the Father in Heaven!*

Today through Mary's Meals, we have a chance to be salt and light. We are bringing our old clothes which will be sold so that hungry children may be fed. Through this simple work of mercy we enable the vision of Mary's Meals which states that, "*every child receives one daily meal in their place of*



*education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things. What's important to us is the hungry child. When there are hungry children in front of us, we're going to feed them, and at the same time we're going to work on the solution to getting them fed in the long term, creating a global movement of people who believe in this vision."*

*Fr Shaun.*

## Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 People of the Parish

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Anne McDowell RIP

10.00 Alan Forbes RIP

11.30 Ladislaus Albert RIP

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

09.30 Families of Prisoners

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> – Feria

09.30 Helen Wiggins RIP

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> – Feria

19.00 Gallagher Family

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> – Feria

09.30 Helen Wiggins RIP

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – St Scholastica, Virgin

09.30 Mr & Mrs Hussey & Family (Int)

**11.00 Requiem Mass for June Smith 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.**

**Recently Deceased**, Nancy Murphy, Joe Roarke, Brenda Hargreaves, Jim Breen.

**Pray Also For** Guy Verrier, Emily Jukes, David Lavelle, Martina Mulvaney, Peter Sullivan, Daya Rajakarier, Daisy Rowland, Robert O'Beirne, Neil Browne, Joe Donoghue, Patricia Martin, Florence Else, Donald Bayross, Martha Dyball, Tessa Corrigan and Bernard Hickin whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Please Remember** June Smith who has died. Requiem Mass on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> February at 11.00am at St John Fisher followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

**Please Remember** Zygfryd Wypchol who has died. Requiem Mass on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> February at 11.00am at St John Fisher followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

**Baptisms** We welcome Grace Flannery and Dillon O'Rourke who are being baptised in our church this weekend.

**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>.

**Theology on Tap – “The Imitation Game”: A Movie about Morality?** How do we decide what morality is and how do we make “moral decisions”? What informs our consciences and indeed what is conscience? We will think about all these issues at our next Theology on Tap which will take place on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Social Club.

**Bishop's Visitation** Our area bishop John Sherrington will make a visitation to the parish on the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> February 2017. If you would like a private meeting with Bishop John, please contact Fr Shaun.

**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, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm** in the small hall.

**St. John Fisher Women's Group** invites you to a talk by Mary Evans about her trip to India on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> 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. For further details contact [barbaratowell@sky.com](mailto:barbaratowell@sky.com).

**Traidcraft Fairtrade food stall** will be open after all masses next weekend. 'Real' Easter Eggs, made from Fairtrade chocolate with an Easter story booklet for children & Easter cards will be on sale. Orders from Traidcraft ([traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://traidcraftshop.co.uk)) can be handed into the stall or emailed to [sjftraidcraft@gmail.com](mailto:sjftraidcraft@gmail.com).

**Parish Pilgrimage to Poland** No other Polish city comes close to matching Krakow for its sheer wealth of religious, architectural and artistic treasures. We will visit Krakow between Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Our tour will include a visit to Wadowice the birth place of Pope John Paul, Krakow 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 cost £799 for a half board stay at the centrally located Hotel Classic and all our guided trips. Pax Travel will organise the pilgrimage. Expressions of interest should be sent to Fr. Shaun by emailing [harrownorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:harrownorth@rcdow.org.uk). This does not commit you to the pilgrimage but indicates that you might like to come. **If you signed the sheet asking for more information, please collect the envelope with your name on it, which is on the table in the porch. This contains all the information that you need plus a booking form.**

**Harrow Citizens Community Organising Training** On Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March (2-5pm) in the Parish Hall of St John Fisher RC Church, North Harrow. Paul Amuzie (Brent Community Organiser) will be delivering some bespoke training for us over two weeks in March. The training is exceptional. It is incredibly stimulating and inspiring and I'd really encourage you to come if at all possible. It's a great way to understand Community Organising from the inside and prepare ourselves for the work to come. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Shaun [shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk).

**St John Fisher Catholic Primary School Vacancy - Finance Officer Required immediately** 30/36 Hours per week – term time only plus two weeks, Salary: G09 - 23,966/28,761 (dependent on hours and negotiable on experience), Closing date: noon Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017. For further information please contact Marion Bowles on 020 8868 2961, visit [www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk/vacancies/](http://www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk/vacancies/). This is an exciting post for an ambitious applicant looking to work in an expanding school, with the opportunity to develop a strategic role.

**Knitting Group** will meet on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm in the Fisher Room. All donations of wool will be very welcome which can be dropped off in the presbytery.

**Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2017** If you have any vouchers for St. John Fisher School then please either put them in the collection or post them through the presbytery door. *Thank you.*