



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)

9th April 2017 ~ Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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

Jerusalem is a city where a remarkable awareness of the presence of the holy has regularly intertwined with violence. As Jesus and the disciples made their puzzling entry into Jerusalem, a festive and agitated crowd gathered. Some people threw down their clothes, while others hacked down branches to spread in Jesus's path. Religious acclamations were shouted out. Not long after, Jesus's life would end in bloodshed.

Passover time was volatile and fraught, the Romans needing to increase security. Crowds are a jumble of people and expectations, and not always predictable in their reactions. For those with more revolutionary messianic hopes, the use of branches would recall the Maccabean triumphs. The spread-out garments could be seen as a royal acclamation.

Jesus's entry into the Holy City would turn out to be unique and momentous. We see Jesus, humble, riding on a beast of burden, with the shouting crowds gathered in front and behind him. For some this might have been a parody or reversal of the triumphal entry of kings and emperors, for some it could have announced that the restoration of the Davidic kingdom was at hand, for others a symbolic statement was being made that here indeed was a ruler but with a new, redefined kind of authority.



Today at Mass, the Lord's entrance will be commemorated, whatever its form may be: with a procession or a solemn entrance or a simple entrance. Then the Passion will be read. The liturgy indicates that it is 'Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord'. As well as recording the variety of reactions to and beliefs about Jesus, the Scriptures as understood by the Church will unfold the real and saving meaning of what is being said and done by Christ himself.

There was indeed an entry into Jerusalem, there were very significant events in that city, and then came the Passion and resurrection. We need, however, to go step by step in Holy Week and not neglect to meditate at some depth as we go. We Christian believers need constantly to deepen our own faith, and help those who in different ways still ask about Jesus Christ: who is this? The answer is shattering in its power. Jerusalem quaked when Jesus entered it, the earth would quake as Jesus died, and there was a strong earthquake as the angel descended onto the empty tomb. The impact of Christ's life, death and resurrection is without precedent. The good news of salvation must not be tamed. Jesus Christ has a sovereign authority not known before on earth, he reigns with the kind of power that is a unique love. He makes a difference to everyone and to everything.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 8th April 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Kathleen Raisbeck RIP

Sunday 9th – **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

08.30 Leucadia D'Souza (25th Anniv)

09.30 Marco Reyneire RIP

11.30 Rasiah Albert (Anniv)

Monday 10th – MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

09.30 Pam Manton RIP

20.00 Lenten Penance Service

Tuesday 11th – TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

09.30 Mr & Mrs Pascal Mcaul

Wednesday 12th – WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

19.00 Victor Manuel Loja (Anniv)

MAUNDY THURSDAY - Mass of the Lord's Supper

20.00 Sick & Recently Deceased of the Parish

GOOD FRIDAY

09.30 Morning Prayer

13.00 Children's Stations of the Cross

15.00 Celebration of the Lord's Passion

20.00 Stations of the Cross

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, Len Smith, Ranjan Cooray, Marco Reyneire, Gill Rigali.

Pray Also For Leucadia D'Souza, Rasiah Albert, Victor Manuel Loja, Maisie Rainsford, Eileen Jordan, Kathleen Bacon, Catherine Fearon, Michael Broderick, Bridget Maher, Florence Keane, D. Larry Fisch, Barbara Ryan, Maura Haygreen, Brian Walton, Frank Baldock, Joanne Flannery, Margaret Monahan, Phyllis Healy, Una Graydon, Bernard Devine and Patrick Kennedy whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please Remember Margaret Locascio who has died. Requiem Mass on Tuesday, 25th April at 11.00am at St John Fisher followed by committal at Carpenders Park Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

Chrism Mass Takes place at Westminster Cathedral at 12 Noon on Tuesday, 11th April. Please keep the priests of the Diocese in your prayers on this day.

Walk of Witness on Good Friday We start at St Alban's at 11.30am with a reading and finish at St George's at 1.25pm for a short "service". For a detailed route, please see the noticeboard in the Church porch. All are welcome to walk either the whole or part of the route as a witness for the community to our Christian faith.

Collection Please remember that on Good Friday we will be taking a collection for the charities that we are asked to support throughout the year.

Planned Giving Envelopes 2017/2018 Envelopes are available in the church porch for collection. If you cannot find your box or if you would like to start using one then please write your details on the sheet provided.

Gift Aid Please notify Antoinette Moriarty if you no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains antoinettemoriarty@rcdow.org.uk.

Social Club Quiz Night The Social Club are holding a quiz night on Saturday, 22nd April at 8pm in the parish hall. Entrance is £3 per person. During the evening teas & coffees will be available & if you're feeling a bit peckish we will also have freshly made ploughman's 'suppers' for sale. Do come along and support us, we'd love to be able to repeat the success of our last one. All proceeds to parish funds. For further information or to book a team, please email durcanjohn@aol.com.

Concert at St John Fisher Please give a very warm welcome and support to those who suffer from mental illness. "More than just a choir" will give a concert to that effect on Saturday, 6th May at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Proceeds shared between the choir and parish funds. Ticket £5.00, tea and coffee provided.

The Pylon Summer edition 2017 Please send news items/photos from your church groups, articles, short stories, poems, recipes, holiday/theatre/book recommendations - anything you feel would be of interest. We are looking for contributions from all age groups. Deadline: Sunday, May 28th 2017. Please email barbaratowell@sky.com or place in pigeonhole for Barbara Towell or Geraldine Kennedy. Thank you in advance.

Knitting Group will meet on Friday, 28th April at 2pm in the Fisher Room. All donations of wool will be very welcome which can be dropped off in the presbytery.

Welcome Me as I Am, with support from local MIND groups and Caritas Westminster, will be holding four workshops across the diocese this spring. They will cover a number of topics including: spirituality and mental health, working with common mental health issues, and how to signpost to local support. Each day will be tailored to the needs of the local area. There will also be time to explore how your parish can become a welcoming community. The workshops will be held at 10am-3pm at the following: 29th April Our Lady and St Joseph's, Kingsland; 13th May Vaughan House; **17th June St John Fisher, North Harrow**; 1st July Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City. For more information and to RSVP please email caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk.

Easter Flower Collection £461.27 was raised. Thank you very much.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day Thank you for your generous response - £2,330.52 was donated.

Spring Coffee Morning £465.00 was raised. Thank you for your support and we look forward to welcoming you next time.

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

Carer (Part-time) Required 9am-1pm or 10am-2pm Monday to Friday. Some light household duties. Some previous experience necessary. £10 per hour. Contact Eddie Collins on 07803 150222.

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.

Easter Offering In the porch you will find Easter Offering envelopes for Fr. Shaun. These offerings support him in his ministry here in the Parish and they will be collected over the Masses of Easter. Thank you for your kindness and generosity at this time.

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.