



# 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)

## 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017 ~ Twelfth Sunday of the Year A

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### *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

Non catholics are often fascinated by the secrecy of the confessional, with the idea that a priest will hold secrets which he would never tell, even in the direst of circumstances. But scripture tells us that "everything that is now covered will be uncovered"? I'm sure most of us have things in our lives that we would rather were not public knowledge, that should remain secret.

Jesus, however, is talking about a telling of a secret that we Christians know. He tells us to shout it from the rooftops. What can he mean? Surely Christianity isn't a religion of secret knowledge, where the initiated know things which are kept from outsiders? I think Jesus is talking about the things of faith. He is speaking about faith as a sort of secret. And that seems odd. I mean, you can go into practically any bookshop and they will sell you a Bible. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is similarly widely available. The Christian faith is preached in churches around the world. But it is still the case that the Gospel is in a certain way hidden. St John says, "The light came into the darkness, and the darkness has not understood it." The world of darkness is, as it were, blind to the light of Truth.

That's because the world is full of secrets, of pretences, of lies. Human culture is something glorious at times, but it also conceals the fact that so much of what goes on around us, and sometimes in our own lives, is shabby and shallow and distorted. The world, and we ourselves sometimes, resist the Gospel because it shines a bright light in places we would rather keep hidden. It makes clear that the things we expend so much of our energy pursuing are empty, perhaps we might come to recognise that our lives will have been based on the kinds of things which will blow away like smoke only to reveal a terrible void.

But the open secret is that God offers another alternative, a life built on the enduring foundations of faith, hope and love, one which looks forward to that day of revelation with joy, because on that day, the person who lives like that will be shouting about it from the rooftops. Even if we have wasted our lives in stupidity, all is not lost. We can and should turn to God, confident that he will forgive us, and fill us with his love. But, what about all those mistakes of our past, things we've confessed, but still feel a certain shame or embarrassment for? They will be like battle scars which have healed, not a source of



shame anymore, but each one a mark of the graciousness of God's forgiveness. In truth, they have been secret ways in which God has shown us his love, and their becoming known will be a cause for celebration, not shame.

*Fr Shaun.*

## Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Sadie Horan (Anniv)

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 John & Virginia Dellamura RIP

10.00 Xavier Texeira (Anniv)

11.30 Kevin O'Shea RIP

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Feria

09.30 People of the Parish

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> – St John Southworth, Priest & Martyr

09.30 Kitty Madigan Meade RIP

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> – **Vigil Mass of STS Peter & Paul**

19.00 Regina Willie RIP

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> – **STS PETER AND PAUL, Apostles; St Peter, Prince of Apostles, Patron of the Diocese**

09.30 Madeleine Quigley

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> – Feria

09.30 Johanna Simon 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 a sick relative could benefit from a visit from the St Vincent de Paul Society, please ring Katherine on 020 8868 8512 or Tony on 020 8868 3205.)*

**Recently Deceased**, Julie Rodrigues.

**Pray Also For** Sadie Horan, Xavier Texeira, Mary Antonypillai, Peter Lavin, Patrick Keane, Jack Lynch, William Harries, Marie Carr, Janeka Parkinson, Michael Healy, Milan McCann, Alex Joseph, Rita Brennan, Ferdinand Monteiro, Kathleen Carroll, John Kennedy, Flory d'Souza, Veridiana D'Silva, William Wright, Kevin Nolan, Annie Fernandes and Bernard Harries whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Congratulations & Best Wishes** to Basil Yacoub and Sarah Hickin who were married in our church this weekend.

**Congratulations** to Ryan Murphy who is receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist this weekend.

**Eucharistic Ministers & Readers Rotas** Please **collect** your new rotas for 8<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2017 from the relevant pigeonhole in the porch.

**SJF Young Adults Group** This is a space for all Young Adults in their 20s and 30s to come together, get more involved in the life of the parish and the diocese, discuss and grow in their faith. 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 **2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017**. Contact Johnpromise at [promisemagnus@yahoo.com](mailto:promisemagnus@yahoo.com). Facebook 'SJF Young Adults'.

**Summer Coffee & Cocktail Morning – Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> July** Two weeks before the schools break up, you can have a taste of the holidays at your "Spanish flavoured" event, after 10am and 11.30am mass. Please join us in the Parish Centre for refreshments, spend some time with your parish friends, and make some new ones, in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Tea, coffee, soft drinks, scones and cakes will be available as usual, but this time we will also have Sangria and some savoury snacks (tapas), to help us get in the holiday mood, whether we are staying at home, or travelling further afield. Please also support the raffle which will be on display in the porch after all masses that weekend, whether you can attend the event or not (£1 a ticket) as all proceeds go to parish funds. The draw takes place at the event after 11.30am mass.

**Summer Literary Evening – Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> July** in St. John Fisher Parish Centre, Cost £4 (Licensed Bar), doors open 7pm. Hosted by The Parish Women's Group with Pinner Writers Group. We would like to invite all members of the Parish, their friends and family to what promises to be an enjoyable evening of readings from original creative writing, music, an exhibition of work and book sale of the authors' published works. Special guests: *Judy Karbritz*, our Harrow Community Poet plus local author *Kay Seeley*. Tickets from Barbara Towell: 020 8866 6665 - or on the door.

**Catholic Singles** is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit [www.catholicssingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicssingles.org.uk) or tel. 0161 941 3498.

**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.

**In case you are admitted to hospital** In light of data protection, please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain. Also, state that you would like the RC Chaplain to visit you.

**Mass Intentions** Thank you for your mass intentions which are greatly appreciated. We have Mass cards in the Church porch: for the living and for the dead. The cards are 50p each (please put money in 'papers' box at the back of the Church) and the offering suggested by the Diocese for a Mass is £10. If, however, you cannot afford this, £5 will suffice. If you would like to have a Mass offered, please contact Claudia on 020 8429 5681 or [claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk).

**Alumni of The Sacred Heart Language College, High Street, Wealdstone** On July 6<sup>th</sup> 2017 The Sacred Heart Language College will celebrate Mrs Graham/Miss Shea's 40 years of dedicated service to Catholic education. Past pupils are cordially invited to share this special dedication with a celebration of Mass at 5.45pm for 6.00pm followed by refreshments. There will be tours of the school from 4.45pm and an opportunity to meet and catch up before Mass. Please confirm attendance by phone on 020 8863 9922 or email [enquiries@tshlc.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@tshlc.harrow.sch.uk).

**St John Fisher Catholic Primary School, Pinner – Assistant Caretaker Vacancy** Required September 2017, Part time, permanent post; **Hours:** 25 hours/week term-time plus 3 weeks during holidays; **Salary:** G4.13 £12,738. St. John Fisher is a Catholic, voluntary-aided school which is increasing to three-form entry, with a strong emphasis on inclusion. We are seeking a capable assistant to work and support our Site Supervisor. You will be joining this 'outstanding' school (Ofsted 2009/Section 48 2014) at a time of expansion from two to three form entry. Please see website or contact the school for further information and/or the application pack [www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk](http://www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk). Visits to the school are welcomed. Please ring the office to make an appointment. **Closing Date: noon Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July; Interviews: w/c Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July.**

**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](mailto:claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk) or 020 8429 5681 so we may amend our records. Thank you.