



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)

1st October 2017 ~ Twenty-Sixth 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

Harvest fast day takes place on Friday 6th October. At harvest, we share God's abundance with our neighbours. 'We plant the seeds that one day will grow'. These words are from a prayer that remembers Blessed Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador who was brutally murdered because he tried to help the poorest people in his country In El Salvador where Oscar Romero was archbishop, the words from the prayer mean so much. This is traditionally a country that lives from the land; many families depend on their harvest.

Edelmira, a farmer in El Salvador, literally "plants seeds" trusting that "they will grow"; come harvest time, they bring fruit that she sells to support her family. And, from that harvest, she gathers an abundance of fresh seeds to sow the next spring. This is the natural abundance of God's earth: one seed yields many. One harvest produces the next sowing in the spring; and the next harvest. Any gardener, or farmer, knows this instinctively: that nature is abundant, as God's love is abundant. But in El Salvador in recent years, farmers have bought foreign, hybrid seeds because they were told they will get a much bigger harvest for their hard work. Slowly, these commercial seeds have become widely used, supplanting stronger, native El Salvadoran seeds.

Some farmers say they might get a good first harvest, but the seeds they keep from the crop won't grow a good second or third. So they have to keep buying these commercial seeds, instead of gathering their own seeds from their own harvest. Other farmers tell us that they've watched their crop rot on the stalk because the seed hasn't spent generations adapting to the heavy rains in their region. Imagine watching your crop, the fruit of your hard work, rotting in the fields because of strong rains, a pest, or a crop disease. Imagine the feeling of powerlessness. The anxiety of wondering how you will feed your family now.

But, in communities like Edelmira's, CAFOD's local partners have given farmers native seeds, which are well adapted to the area's climate and threats, and yield strong, fertile seeds at harvest. These strong, local seeds are restoring nature's abundance to these farmers' lives. So now, Edelmira can plant seeds that will grow, and bear fruit, and sustain her and her family.

Please remember to take a Fast Day envelope. We will collect your Fast Day envelopes and offerings after all our Masses next weekend. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to fill in your Gift Aid details. On the Fast Day itself, have a light meal and give the money that you save to CAFOD, where it will be used to help Edelmira and thousands of people like her.

Fr Shaun

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 30th September 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Johanna Liecinieks RIP

Sunday 1st October – 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Frances Rea RIP

10.00 Tony Crick RIP

11.30 People of the Parish

Monday 2nd – The Holy Guardian Angels

09.30 Marie McDonagh RIP

Tuesday 3rd – Feria

09.30 Bernard Barker (Anniv)

Wednesday 4th – St Francis of Assisi

19.00 Chris Caldwell (Anniv)

Thursday 5th – Feria

09.30 Marie McDonagh RIP

Friday 6th – Feria

09.30 Martin McNicholas RIP

10.00 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

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, Elma Mellor.

Pray Also For Bernard Barker, Chris Caldwell, William Rebbitt, Kitty Davis, Stephen Rizkallah, Sarah Hegarty, Christine James, Patricia Dunmore, Helen Williams, Peter Golden and Keith Phaure whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor RIP On Wednesday, 4th October, a Memorial Mass for Cardinal Cormac will be celebrated at Westminster Cathedral at 5.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Faith Sharing Groups The October Faith Sharing resource "Say it with your Life" has arrived and is available for collection from the Sacristy.

Singalong Concert (with a Latino / Italian theme) On Saturday, 7th October at 7.30pm in the Parish hall. Ticket £5 - including tea/coffee & cake. Come & join us for a fun musical evening! Tickets are on sale after all Masses this weekend and will be available on the door. In aid of the Church fund.

Theology on Tap We begin our new season of Theology on Tap on Wednesday, 11th October at 7.30pm in the Parish bar. The subject we shall explore is 'The Sacraments – the glory of the Church or a mechanism to control the faithful?' All are welcome.

Book Club Evening - Thursday, 12th October at 8pm in Parish Centre - small hall, Cost £1 The Parish Women's Group invites you to an evening where we will be discussing the novel 'The Invention of Wings' by Sue Kidd Monk. We will also spend time recommending to one another books we have enjoyed. Small light refreshments or a bottle to share would be most welcome. All women in the parish, plus their friends, will also be made most welcome! For more information contact: Barbara Towell at barbaratowell@sky.com or phone 020 8866 6665.

Traidcraft stall will be open in the porch after all masses next weekend. Come and browse & support our parish Fairtrade shop.

Do you buy Sainsbury's own-brand tea? If so, you may have noticed that the widely recognised and independently assured Fairtrade Mark has been replaced with Sainsbury's own 'Fairly Traded' label. CAFOD, Traidcraft and others have got together to ask Sainsbury's to re-consider. www.dontditchfairtrade.com has

more information, an online petition to sign and other ways to take part in this campaign.

The Pylon - Christmas edition 2017 Please send us your articles, accounts of parish events, reports from your church group, original short stories, poems, book/film reviews, holiday recommendations, recipes, advice, about your pets - anything that you think would be of interest to our readers. (Word limit approx. 1,200.) Photographs accompanying submissions, greatly appreciated. If you have any photographs of the International Day that you would be willing to share, please email them to geraldine2906@gmail.com. We welcome contributions with a Christmas flavour as well as items written by children & younger members of our parish. Thank you. Deadline: **19th November**. Please email items to barbaratowell@sky.com or geraldine2906@gmail.com. Alternatively, place in appropriate pigeonhole in the porch at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Knights of St Columba Our next meeting is on Thursday, 5th October, 2017 at 8pm in the Social Club.

St John Fisher School Harvest Assembly We are delighted to invite senior parishioners to our Harvest Assembly followed by refreshments on Tuesday, 10th October at 10.00am in the school hall. We hope many of our friends will be able to join us.

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School - September 2018 intake

The school is holding an open day for prospective parents on **Saturday, 4th November 2017** with tours at 9.00am and 10.00am. If you are interested in looking at the school please contact the office to book on one of the tours, tel 020 8868 2961.

Salvatorian College - Open Day On Tuesday, 3rd October 2017 from 9.15 - 11am and/or 5.30 - 7.30pm. This is an opportunity to learn about the College's high academic and behavioural standards under new Headteacher Mr Martin Tissot, and for more information on the admissions process for September 2018. Please note: the events will take place at the **Priestmead Campus, off Hartford Avenue, HA3 8SZ**.

St Dominic's Sixth Form College - Open Day On Saturday, 7th October 2017 at 9.30am-3.00pm. See poster in the porch.

School Admission Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for **SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFERS** on *Monday, 9th October at 6.30-7pm* and *Saturday, 14th October 2017 at 9.30am-12.30pm* in the Fisher Room (*forms have to be with the schools by 31st October at the latest*) by APPOINTMENT ONLY so please contact Claudia McHugh on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk / 8429 5681 (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm). When making your appointment please advise the number of schools you are applying for, your child's name & a contact telephone number. If applying for the London Oratory please bring copies of any forms you need to submit.

The Certificate of Catholic Practice must now be completed for all applications to schools that use 'practising Catholic' as a criterion for admission. The Certificate of Catholic Practice is a form approved by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to be given to parents, on request, by the priest at the Church where the family normally worships. The Certificate is available to download at <http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/admissions>. Please note that the current version has the copyright symbol at the bottom.

A Place of Welcome Join Caritas Westminster, West London Mission, and Housing Justice for an evening about homelessness, setting up night shelters, and how you can help. Wednesday 4th of October, Westminster Cathedral Hall, 6:30pm-8:30pm. Please RSVP to caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk.