



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 October 2017 ~ Twenty-Ninth 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

Today's gospel, in which Jesus's enemies try to entrap him by asking whether they should pay tax to Caesar or not, is often read as making a distinction between politics and religion. There is Caesar's world and that of God. Not to misunderstand what Jesus is saying, every human being is made in the image of God and so belongs to God. For Christians, politics is building the community, in which God's own children can live in dignity and happiness, as we await God's gift of the heavenly city, in which all politics will be finished. Isaiah shows God immersed in the great events



of his time, the rise of Cyrus, the Persian ruler who transformed the political map of the Middle East and enabled the exiled Israelites to go home. Religion cannot be reduced to politics, but it has consequences for how we understand the point of politics.

So what is this clash between Jesus and his enemies about? They give us the clue: 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality.' They contrast two ways of seeing the world: God's true way, and a human way, in which everything is viewed through the prism of wealth and status. Jesus's opponents are caught up in that human way, speedily producing Caesar's coin from their pocket, although that image would have polluted them. The Herodians especially belonged to the world of wealth and power. They are so blinded that they do not see that the man they are trying to trap is himself the very image of God made human.

If one sees the world through the spectacles of status and money, the poor disappear. Etienne Grieu SJ wrote: 'A world dominated by competition engages in a formidable task of classification, not only of performances but also of people. Right at the bottom of the chart are those who are not efficient enough. They thus become invisible to others, as they are unable to demonstrate their usefulness in any of the various exchanges we take part in... They also feel humiliated because they scarcely can have the means to say who they are or to make people notice the unique treasure they bear.'

We are all, in varying degrees, bifocal. Sometimes we are bewitched by the Caesars of our time, the wealthy and the famous, and lose sight of the beauty of those who do not count. Let God's grace cleanse our eyes.

Fr Shaun.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 21st October 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 People of the Parish

Sunday 22nd – 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 Herbert & Celeste Robinson RIP, Alan Forbes RIP

10.00 Gabriel Faria (Anniv)

11.30 Monica O'Sullivan RIP

Monday 23rd – Feria

09.30 Gerald Taylor (Anniv)

Tuesday 24th – Feria

09.30 Delia Goonan RIP

Wednesday 25th – Feria

19.00 David Else (Anniv)

Thursday 26th – Feria

09.30 Marie Munt RIP

Friday 27th – Feria

09.30 Goldwin Viegas 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, Bernard Pereira, Michael Joe O'Sullivan, Fr Norman Brown, Maureen Cusack.

Pray Also For Gabriel Faria, Gerald Taylor, David Else, Patrick Webber, Maureen Nixon, Hannah Shevlin, Harry McKinney, Hannah Barnard, Rose Wright, Martin Flanagan, Donald Haynes, Soad Raie, Maureen Walsh, Michael McCrohan, Kathleen Benad, Alice Taylor, Johanna Evans, Dennis Joiner, Helen Muscillo, Philomena Seymour, Kathleen Kane, Joan Ralfs and Kathleen Foran whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Baptisms We welcome Athanasios Papatzikis and Grace Papatzikis who are being baptised in our church this weekend.

Annual Parish Meeting To be held on Monday, 27th November at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Items for the Agenda should be notified, in writing, to the Chairman c/o the Parish House, by 13th November at the latest.

Eucharistic Ministers & Readers Rotas Please collect your new rotas for 28th October to 10th December 2017 from the relevant pigeonhole in the Church porch.

Welcome Ministry Rota Please collect your new rota from the relevant pigeonhole in the Church porch. We need more volunteers so if you are interested or no longer want to be on the rota, please contact Sue Moriarty at suemoriarty@sky.com.

CAFOD Christmas cards & Fairtrade Advent calendars are on sale in the porch. Traidcraft catalogues are available to browse at home for Fairtrade Christmas gifts. Orders arrive in 1-2 weeks, saving postage costs for you and raising money for CAFOD.

Sainsbury's Tea - Don't Ditch Fairtrade! Please stop in the porch this weekend to find out more and sign an open letter to Pinner Sainsbury's.

Mass for the Bereaved Each year in November we celebrate a Mass for those who have been bereaved. This will be held on the Feast of All Souls, on Thursday, 2nd November at 7.00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Small Hall.

Blessing of the Graves Mass will be celebrated in the Cemetery Chapel at 11am at Pinner New Cemetery on Friday, 17th November. This will be followed by the blessing of the graves.

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.

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.

School Admission Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for PRIMARY & 6TH FORM COLLEGE on **Saturday, 9th December at 9.30am-11.00am** in the Fisher Room. For an appointment, please contact Claudia McHugh claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk / 8429 5681 (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am-1.30pm). **Please note that candidates who apply for 6th FORM should attend – not parents.** *If you have an earlier deadline for 6th form applications in West London, please contact Claudia for an earlier appointment.* **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.

1:1 Club – North Harrow parish This club is a social club where those with intellectual disability and those without come together in friendship and community once a month. Due to changes in structure this club is looking not only for those who would benefit from the club's social aspect but also for volunteers to give as much or as little time as they can. The next event will be a Christmas Party on the 1st December 2017. If you would like to join in or would be interested in volunteering, please contact Gail Williams on 020 8202 3999 or via email gailwilliams@rcdow.org.uk. For more information, please visit www.stjoseph.org.uk.

Parish 100 Club Draw – August 2017 Winners: 1st prize £100 Veronica Too, 2nd prize £50 C&P Ponnukone, 3rd prize £25 Mary Press. **September 2017 Winners:** 1st prize £100 W&M Johns, 2nd prize £50 Jocelyne Phiniefs, 3rd prize £25 Samuel Alexander. Please contact Fiona Moreira at fionamoreira@rcdow.org.uk /020 8429 5683 to arrange payment.

Singalong Concert £701.73 was raised in aid of the Church funds. Thank you so much for your support.

Pie and a pint (or a glass of wine for the ladies) A chance to get together over a simple meal and a drink in the Parish Hall on Sunday, 19th November after the 11.30am Mass. Do come along to enjoy a delicious homemade pie with veg and gravy. **Tickets: Adult £10, child (under 12s) £5.** You will be able to sign up for this from next week.