



St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

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Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Middleton, 020 8429 5684, shaunmiddleton@rcdow.org.uk

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Parish Administrator: Claudia McHugh, 020 8429 5681, claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk (Mon-Wed-Fri 9.30am-1.30pm)

5th November 2017 ~ Thirty-First Sunday of the Year A

Sick & Retired Priests' Fund

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

The annual collection for the sick and retired priests of our diocese will take place next weekend and all the money that is raised will be used to ensure that elderly priests and those who are struggling with ill health receive the care and support that they need. As always, this really is an important collection as the fund is a charity and it depends on donations.

The fund was set up in 1979 and its job now – as it was then – is to ensure that all our sick and elderly priests can live out their lives in comfort and with dignity.

Over the years it has helped literally hundreds of priests. For example, it has ensured

- That all our retired priests have somewhere to live which can be a vital issue as many priests do not have a home of their own.
- That retired priests who are struggling with disability have the equipment needed to live an independent life.
- That retired priests have enough to live on and receive help, if it is needed, to attend Mass and to undertake other activities.
- That retired priests have home help, nursing care or sheltered accommodation if that becomes necessary.
- That retired priests have regular visits to ensure that all is well as they get older.

The Sick & Retired Priests' Fund is finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. There are currently more than 80 retired, ill and frail elderly priests in the Diocese. Priests retire at age 75 but many keep on serving. Most retired priests are dependent in some way upon the Diocese for their care and maintenance, especially those who are ill, disabled, or cope with chronic conditions. The cost of providing some of the most important services, particularly residential and nursing care, rises relentlessly every year.

The "Growing in Faith" campaign that we ran is making a real difference and the support of those who have decided to contribute to this appeal is hugely appreciated. However, the collection we are running next week remains a vital part of the income to the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund's finances. We appeal once again to those of you who are financially able to support this fund, so that all our priests can receive the help and support that they need and deserve in their old age.

Donation envelopes are available from the porch as you leave Church today. Please take one as you leave, and bring it back next week. If you pay tax, please remember to complete the Gift Aid declaration on the back of the donation envelope. This will add 25p to every pound that you give. Thank you on behalf of all sick and retired priests of our diocese.

Fr Shaun

Mass Times & Intentions

DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, THE HOLY SOULS ARE REMEMBERED AT ALL OUR MASSES.

Saturday 4th November 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Julia Rodrigues RIP

Sunday 5th – 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 The Holy Souls

10.00 In Thanksgiving – Stanislaus & Belinda D'Souza (25th Wedd Anniv)

11.30 Wojciech Mlek RIP, Eugenia & Jozef Sulikowski & Family RIP

Monday 6th – Feria

09.30 Goldwin Viegas RIP

Tuesday 7th – Feria

09.30 Teena Connolly RIP

Wednesday 8th – Feria

11.00 Requiem Mass for Bernard Pereira RIP

19.00 Marie Munt (née Collins) RIP

Thursday 9th – THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

09.30 Vincenzo Arrigo (Anniv)

Friday 10th – St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor

09.30 Nora Molloy & Tommy 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, Mary Grogan.

Pray Also For Vincenzo Arrigo, Mary Gleeson, Katherine Hayes, Michael Mullins, Bernard Rooney, Peter O'Brien and Joan Olive whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please Remember Mary Grogan who has died. Reception Service on Tuesday, 14th November at 6.00pm at St John Fisher, Requiem Mass on Wednesday, 15th November at 11.00am followed by burial at Carpenders Park Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

Baptisms We welcome Joshua Romesh Rabindran and Penélope Christodoulou 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. You should be prepared to introduce the agenda item you have submitted.

First Holy Communion Programme All parents should now have received in the post the programme with the dates up to May 2018. If you haven't received your copy, please contact Kay.

Love in Action Pope Francis has declared Sunday, 19th November 2017 to be the first World Day of the Poor. On this World Day we are called to love and share with the poorest amongst us, and bear witness to Jesus' preferential love for the poor.

In our communities, we are invited to offer friendship, solidarity and welcome to the poorest of our sisters and brothers. At St John Fisher over this weekend, we are asking people to bring tinned pies of the Frey Bentos variety or tins of mincemeat or Irish stew. These will be donated to the Harrow Food Bank. This practical help forms part of our Love in Action Campaign. *Thank you.*

Theology on Tap Our next session is taking place on Wednesday, 22nd November at 7.30pm in the Parish bar. The subject we shall explore is 'Art & Theology' All are welcome.

Fairtrade food & CAFOD Christmas cards are on sale in the porch after all masses this weekend. Come and browse or pick up a

catalogue to read at home.

Parish Women's Group Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 9th November at 8pm in the Fisher Room. A parishioner and her husband will be talking about holidaying in Peru, with photos and there will be time to chat over some Peruvian drinks & snacks. All welcome. A donation of £1 is requested.

Knitting Group We are meeting on 10th and 24th November at 2pm in the Fisher Room.

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). *When making your appointment please advise the number of schools you are applying for, your child's name & a contact telephone number.* **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.*

Keep the date for the Christmas Coffee Morning - December 10th after 10am & 11.30am mass We will have on sale home-made savoury and sweet food, hot and cold drinks, and soup as well as the popular Irish Coffee table, a children's corner with lucky dip, and craft & cakes for sale. If anyone would like to join our happy crew, by helping in any small way, please let Claudia know; also donations or promises of craft and cakes would also be most welcome. Our Christmas Hamper, delicious home-made Christmas Cake and wines will be on display in the porch, and the raffle will be drawn at the end of the event, £1 a ticket. Please make a note of the date, come along to meet more people in your parish community, and unwind together before Christmas.

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 Friday, 1st December 2017. If you would like to join in or would like to volunteer, please contact Gail Williams 020 8202 3999 or gailwilliams@rcdow.org.uk / www.stjoseph.org.uk.

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.

'Our Lady of Sorrows' Bereavement Group The mass for all those babies and children, whose names appear on the plaques either side of the stained glass window in their loving memory, will be celebrated on Wednesday, 8th November at 7.00pm, followed by a Reception in the Parish Centre at Our Lady and St Thomas of Canterbury, Harrow-on-the-Hill.

Harrow Support Group for divorced and separated Catholics Next meeting will be on Monday, 6th November in the hall at St Bernard's Church, Northolt. For more info, call Jill 8204 2714.

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 artisan pie with veg and gravy. **Tickets: Adult £10, child (under 12s) £5.** Sign-up sheets in the porch.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day 6th October Thank you for your generous response - £1,652.15 was donated.