



# 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)

## 19<sup>th</sup> November 2017 ~ Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year A *World Day of the Poor*

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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

Today's First Reading from Proverbs gives a description of the perfect wife. It's tempting to imagine a cosy domestic scene with the mistress of the house content in her work, locked away from the worries of the outside world. But if we read more carefully, and consider that spinning was not a past time for the leisured classes, but an essential part of the economic activity of society, a different picture emerges. Far from being removed from the outside world she reaches out to the poor, deserves a share of what

she has earned and her praises are sung at the city gates. In other words, what happens at home does not stay at home, and societies throughout the ages have been built on the work of women inside and outside the home.

Concern for the poor is very much at the heart of our parish liturgies this weekend as we commemorate the first World Day of Prayer of the Poor. An initiative called by Pope Francis who says "It is my wish that, Christian communities will make every effort to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance. "

Such solidarity is witnessed too by our collecting pies and tins of food for our local Food Bank over this coming weekend. I still find it hard to believe that in a country as rich as ours people have to go to food banks in order to be fed. But, this is the reality with which we live.

Such a reality speaks of the injustice of our society. When we come to think about such injustice, about the divisions between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots,' we can either feel overwhelmed and retreat into a mind-set which tells us that we can do nothing and that the odds of changing society for the better are stacked against us.

Or, we can join forces with others who are like minded, who seek to be "game changers." Who say and believe that by standing together, organising our communities and taking appropriate actions, we can begin to hold those in power to account and ferment those changes in our society which promote the dignity of people and pursue the Common Good.

This process is relational, it begins by getting to know each other and by discerning those issues that we want to address. That is why we are starting our listening campaign this week and that is why we are pledged to work with Harrow Citizens.



*Fr Shaun*

## Mass Times & Intentions

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

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (First Mass of Sunday)

18.00 Mary Standon (Anniv)

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> – 33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

08.30 The Holy Souls

10.00 Jose Teixeira RIP

11.30 In Thanksgiving – William & Maria Do Ceu Johns (50<sup>th</sup> Wedd Anniv)

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Feria

09.30 Helen Gallagher (Anniv)

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

09.30 Special Intentions

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – St Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr

19.00 D'Abrebra Family

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Feria

09.30 Goldwin Viegas RIP

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> – St Andrew Dűng-Lac, Priest and Companions, Martyrs

09.30 Mrs. Catherine Mariasoosai 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,** Bridget McSparran, Clive Peter Johnson.

**Pray Also For** Mary Standon, Helen Gallagher, Maura Kugler, John Sinn, Timothy Dineen, Patrick Kiernan, Patricia Mangan, Anita Simoes, Ellen Papworth and Joseph O'Regan whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Our Weekly Newsletter** You can subscribe to receiving our weekly newsletter by following this link <http://eepurl.com/coXHxD>.

**Annual Parish Meeting** To be held on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. You should be prepared to introduce the agenda item you have submitted.

**Advent Penitential Service at St. John Fisher** On Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 8.00pm.

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

**CAFOD Christmas cards & Fairtrade Advent calendars** are on sale in the porch after all masses this weekend. Come and browse or pick up a catalogue to read at home.

**Knitting Group** We are meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm in the Fisher Room.

**SJF Ladies/Knitting Group Meeting** On Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm in the Fisher Room with mulled wine & panettone.

**School Admission** Fr. Shaun will sign school forms for PRIMARY & 6<sup>TH</sup> FORM COLLEGE on **Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am-11.00am** in the Fisher Room. For an appointment, please contact Claudia McHugh [claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk](mailto: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 6<sup>th</sup> FORM should attend – not parents.**

**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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:gailwilliams@rcdow.org.uk) / [www.stjoseph.org.uk](http://www.stjoseph.org.uk).

**Action by Christians Against Torture (Acat) Annual Ecumenical Service** will take place on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> November at 3pm at St Alban's Church, North Harrow. The focus this year will be on modern slavery & human trafficking. All are welcome to this time of prayer and reflection.

**Diocese of Westminster Vacancies** Please visit <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/> where you can view all current vacancies.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Pie and a pint Lunch** As so few people signed up for this event we have had to cancel it. Many thanks to the people who said that they would come and our apologies. We will try to organise another Parish social event in the New Year when the time pressures of getting ready for Christmas will not be an issue.

**Sick & Retired Priests' Fund** You can still return your envelopes. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to fill in your Gift Aid details. Thank you for your support.

Once again this year, we are asking for your help so that children whose parents are in prison will receive a Christmas gift. If you can help please buy a gift priced



between £5 and £10 and label your gift clearly with the gift code, from the list in the porch, on a post-it note or something easily removable. PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFT. The sponsoring organisation, Angel Tree, would like the gifts in by December 4<sup>th</sup>, so that they can be sent in good time for distribution. So when you are doing your shopping over these next days would you buy a gift and bring it along next weekend or the weekend after that. This small gesture will make a child living in the most difficult circumstances very happy. It would be wonderful if we could send 55 gifts to these little ones. *Thank you.*