



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. Graham Stokes, 020 8429 5684, [grahamstokes@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:grahamstokes@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Catechist: Kay O'Connor, 020 8429 5682, [kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:kayoconnor@rcdow.org.uk)

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

18<sup>th</sup> March 2018 ~ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

## THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR

### MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

week beginning Sat 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018

<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sat</b>	<b>St Patrick</b> , Bishop, Patron of Ireland
10.00am	Bella D'Souza RIP
	<b>(Vigil of Sunday)</b>
6.00pm	Michael Fitzgerald RIP
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sun</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT</b>
8.30am	People of the Parish
10.00am	Mary McBride RIP
11.30am	Wojciech Mlek RIP Anniv, Eugenia & Jozef Sulikowski and Family RIP
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Mon</b>	<b>ST JOSEPH</b> , Spouse of Mary
9.30am	Sheila Callinan RIP
<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Lenten Reconciliation Service</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Tue</b>	<b>Lent feria</b>
9.30am	Patrick Callinan RIP
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Wed</b>	<b>Lent feria – no mass</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Thu</b>	<b>Lent feria</b>
9.30am	Anton Ratnarajah RIP
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Fri</b>	<b>Lent feria</b>
9.30am	Noel O'Neill RIP Anniv <i>followed by Stations of the Cross</i>
7.00pm	<b>Mass of Induction of Fr Graham celebrated by Bp John Sherrington</b> People of the Parish

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Tuesday in Lent 8:15am – 9:15am**

Saturday 5.15pm - 5.45pm  
*and by appointment*

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Monday in Lent 8:15am – 9:15am**

First Friday 10am - 11am (concluding with Benediction)

### Baptisms

First Saturday at Noon

### Next Sunday's Readings:

Procession: Mark 11:1-10

Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47

**"Harden not your hearts today but listen to the voice of the Lord"** *Psalm 94:8*

## FIVE YEARS SINCE ELECTION OF POPE FRANCIS



Last Tuesday marked five years since the momentous events that saw Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Buenos Aires elected Pope in succession to Pope Benedict XVI.

There has been much discussion in the religious media about these last five years yet there can be no doubt that Pope Francis' unique style of ministry has brought fresh air to the Church. Its essence can, I believe, be well summarised in three words:

- **nearness** to the peripheries, both geographically and human, relating to the whole of society as well as to the Church itself. He shows particular concern for the poor, the marginalised, the rejected, the impoverished, migrants and the divorced amongst others.
- **humility** lived out in both his words and deeds. He regularly refers to himself as a sinner and consistently acknowledges the sins of the Church; his constant petition is for us to pray for him. Even his choice of papal residence and the car in which he travels reveal humility;
- his papacy is **merciful**: he constantly proclaims the need to demonstrate God's Loving mercy in both his gestures and his preaching. Mercy is so characteristic of his life and work that, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council, he called on the Church to celebrate a Year of Mercy.

Pope Francis has his critics just like his predecessor. Yet, to quote Pope Emeritus Benedict XIV, we should not hold to "the foolish prejudice by which Pope Francis is only a practical man deprived of particular theological or philosophical formation, whereas I was only a theoretician of theology who understood little of the concrete life of a Christian today."

God bless the Pope!

*Fr Graham*

**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**, Patricia Roach, Bridie Moriarty, Nuala Rafter, Anthony Heffernan, Julio Vargas, Kamini Rajaratnam.

**Pray Also For** Wojciech Mlek, Noel O'Neill, Ernesto Placencia, Wijdan Marji, Jason Moore-Martin, Ted Finn, Maria Magdolna Braun, Anthony Caden, Lisa Alex, James O'Shea, Margaret Locascio, James Finn, Elizabeth Cahill, Nora Forde, Leon Casartelli, Beryl Bartrop, Sergio Carvalho, Stephen Forde, Catherine Maguire, Ellen Kiernan, Bertie Pillai, Paul Esler, Alfred Hill, Stephen D'Cruz whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Anthony Heffernan RIP** Requiem Mass on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am at St John Fisher followed by burial at Pinner New Cemetery. We offer our deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

**Mass of Induction** Bishop John Sherrington will be coming to the parish to celebrate mass at **7pm on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March** during which Fr Graham will make the profession of faith and oath of fidelity to formally install him as our parish priest. Do come to this celebration of our parish community and bring a dish for a 'bring and share' reception in the parish centre afterwards.

**Cardinal's Lenten Appeal** Please take a donation leaflet from the back of the church should you wish to contribute to this appeal as part of your Lenten almsgiving. The appeal supports the work of Catholic parishes, schools and charities in London and Hertfordshire contributing to three fundamental mission areas of the Church: marriage and family life; youth and evangelisation and the Church's social outreach within civil society.

**Lenten Reconciliation Service** will take place here on **Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm** consisting of a welcome, Gospel reading and brief homily followed by individual confession with one of a number of visiting priests. If you are unable to make this a Holy Hour, including individual Confessions, will take place at St Luke's, Pinner from 3pm on Palm Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> March.

**Theology on Tap** Due to sickness this week's session has had to be **CANCELLED**. We will reschedule the session with the speaker.

**Palm Crosses** Please come and help make crosses from the palm leaves on **Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March** at 1.30pm in the Fisher Room. **Please bring scissors.** Tea/coffee provided.

**Lent Lunch** Churches in North Harrow arrange to serve a light lunch at 12 noon on Saturdays during Lent to raise money for St. Luke's Hospice who rely on voluntary contributions. On March 17<sup>th</sup> Elmfield Church, Imperial Drive; March 24<sup>th</sup> St Alban's Church, The Ridgeway, Hall entrance and car park Norwood Drive. There is no charge for the meal, just a donation. All welcome.

**Confirmation 2018** The next meeting is Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm at the Parish Penitential Service.

**Footsteps to the Cross** Children's Sticker Books are on sale in the porch at £1.50 each. These are to help young children to follow the Easter services.

**Eucharistic Ministers & Readers Rotas** Please **collect** your new rotas for 17<sup>th</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018 from the relevant pigeonhole in the Church porch.

**Parish Fairtrade stall** is open in the porch after all Masses this weekend.

**Knitting Group** We are meeting on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm in the Fisher Room.

## Holy Week

### Palm Sunday

8.30am, **9.45am** (see note below), 11.30am

### Holy Thursday

8.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

### Good Friday

9.30am Morning Prayer  
1.00pm Children's Stations of the Cross  
3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
8.00pm Stations of the Cross

### Holy Saturday

9.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00pm Easter Vigil

### Easter Sunday

Mass as Normal

### Easter Monday

Mass at 11.00am

**Palm Sunday – 25<sup>th</sup> March '10am' Mass**, will start this year at **9:45am in the Parish Centre** with the blessing of palms and opening Gospel before processing into church. We hope to be able to join St Alban's again next year.

**Harrow Citizens** Please put in your diaries the **founding assembly** to launch the initiative on local leaders including our MP and mayor, which will take place on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm**, St John's Church, Greenhill, 276 Station Rd, Harrow HA1 2EA.

**The Pylon - Summer edition 2018** Please send us your articles, accounts & photos of parish events, reports from parish groups, original short stories, holiday or book recommendations, about your pets, recipes, advice - in fact, anything you think would be of interest to our readers. (Word limit approx. 1,200.) Either email [barbaratowell@sky.com](mailto:barbaratowell@sky.com) or place in appropriate pigeonhole in the Church porch. Once again The Pylon is holding a Creative Writing Competition for younger readers: 1st Prize of £10 and a prize for runners up in each of the age groups a) Ages 16 – 12; b) Below 11 years. All winning pieces will be published in our Christmas edition. We are asking for either short stories, flash fiction or poetry on *any topic*. This must be your own original work. Please ask parent/guardian/teacher to verify. Make sure you include this; plus your full name, age and contact details on the work or email. **Deadline for all submissions is Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**Harrow Foodbank Warehouse and Distribution Centres** are in desperate need of repair and/or to modernise. This will create a better working environment for all their valuable volunteers. To this end, they have created a Crowdfunding page. [https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/harrow-foodbank/?utm\\_source=crowdfunder&utm\\_medium=dashboardfacebookblock&utm\\_content=shareonfacebook&utm\\_campaign=marketing](https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/harrow-foodbank/?utm_source=crowdfunder&utm_medium=dashboardfacebookblock&utm_content=shareonfacebook&utm_campaign=marketing)

**St John Fisher Catholic Primary School, Pinner - Deputy Headteacher Vacancy** For details please see the noticeboard in the porch. Application pack available from the school website [www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk](http://www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk) under community/vacancies. Closing date: 12noon Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018, Interview dates: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

**Easter Offering** In the porch you will find Easter Offering envelopes for Fr. Graham. These offerings support him in his ministry here in the Parish and they will be collected over the Masses of Easter. Thank you for your kindness and generosity at this time.