



St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church
80 Imperial Close, North Harrow, HA2 7LW, 020 8868 7531
www.stjohnfisheronline.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Graham Stokes, 020 8429 5684, grahamstokes@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)

25th March 2018 ~ Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS week beginning Sat 24th March 2018

24th Sat	(Vigil of Sunday) 6.00pm People of the Parish
25th Sun	PALM SUNDAY 8.30am Dominic Mesquita RIP 9.45am Sean Kelly RIP Anniv 11.30am Pascal D'Souza RIP
26th Mon	MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 9.00am Patrick O'Malley RIP <i>(please note change of time)</i>
27th Tue	TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 9.30am Bridie Neary RIP
28th Wed	WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 9.30am St John Fisher School end of term mass
29th Thu	MAUNDY THURSDAY – Mass of the Lord's Supper 8.00pm Sick & Recently Deceased of the Parish Watching at the Altar of repose until 11.50pm
30th Fri	GOOD FRIDAY (Fast & Abstinence) 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
31st Sat	HOLY SATURDAY 9.30am Morning Prayer 8.00pm EASTER VIGIL

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

(except 26th March 8.15-8.45am)

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

Baptisms

First Saturday at Noon

Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 10:34,37-43; Colossians 3:1-4, Luke 24:13-35

ARE YOU READY FOR HOLY WEEK?



What does it mean to be “ready for Holy Week”? With this being my first Holy Week as a parish priest I'm spending a lot of time thinking about the practical, focusing on things like liturgies, servers, music, vestments, etc. Yet I think we should all try and answer that question about Holy Week in a more profound and spiritual sense.

We might consider what has happened in our life over the last year to change us? Every one of us is in a different place to last year; who knows where we will be this time next year? We should avail of every opportunity to live this Holy Week to the full through the Scriptures and the Liturgies of the Church. You might want to choose who you will identify with in the week's drama. Will it be boastful Peter, swearing fidelity but denying the Lord three times? Or despairing Judas, who, rather than repenting, dies by his own hand? The self-righteous Pharisees, who should have known better? Pilate, sneering “What is truth?” Herod, disappointed because Jesus was not entertaining? One of the mob, waving palms on Sunday and screaming for blood on Friday? One of the brutally dutiful Roman soldiers? Or the Beloved Disciple who finally finds his way to the foot of the cross and takes the mother of Jesus into his home? This ancient practice of placing ourselves in the Scriptures can really bring them alive and offer us new insights into a familiar narrative.

There is so much more we can do this week than simply “keep watch” with Him. Let us ask for the grace to live this one Holy Week as the week that changed us, for the better, and forever.

Every blessing,

Fr Graham

“He had always loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect his love was” John 13:2

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 Katherine on 020 8868 8512 or Tony on 020 8868 3205.)

Recently Deceased, Anna & Jeyaraj Joseph, Owen Keane, John Chambers, Lillian Weldon, Mrs. Mulkerns, Tommy McMahon.

Pray also For Sean Kelly, Margaret Rogers, Josephine Doyle, Grace Selvarajah, Sabina Walsh, Charles Brown, Walter Jackson, Antonio Cacchioli, José Duran Carballo, Michael Lee, Ned O'Neill, Ann Castell, Kathleen Truscott, Bernard Letchet, Barbara Dyt, Lucy "Lucille" Goulding, Marian Blazek, Michael Stiffle, Quentin Gill, May McDonagh, Rose Cunningham, Charles Merritt, Clifford Perera, Phebe Martins whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Mass on Monday, 26th March Please note this will take place at 9.00am as Fr Graham is attending the funeral of Canon Digby Samuels RIP.

Palm Sunday – 25th 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.

Chrism Mass Takes place at Westminster Cathedral at 12 Noon on Tuesday, 27th March. Please keep the priests of the Diocese in your prayers on this day.

Walk of Witness on Good Friday We start at St Alban's at 11.30am with a reading and finish at St George's at 1.25pm for a short "service". For a detailed route, please see the noticeboard in the Church porch. All are welcome to walk either the whole or part of the route as a witness for the community to our Christian faith.

Collection - 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. There will be a retiring collection after the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper when you can return your envelope and support this cause.

Holy Places Collection During the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday there will be a collection taken to support the Holy Places. The collection ensures not only that the buildings associated with the life of Christ remain accessible, but that local Christians are able to stay in their homeland. Funds gathered support young families, parishes, seminaries, schools, hospitals and clinics, refugees and small businesses.

Faith sharing group that usually meets in the Fisher room will meet for the final time at 10.00am next (Maundy) Thursday.

Lent Lunch Churches Together 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. The last lunch is on March 24th at 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.

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 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 13th.**

Harrow Citizens Housing Action group will be meeting in the small hall from 7.30pm to 9pm on Thursday, 5th April 2018. If you are concerned about the local housing situation, come along to share your experience & knowledge. All welcome.

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 24th April at 6.30pm**, St John's Church, Greenhill, 276 Station Rd, Harrow HA1 2EA.

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 under community/vacancies. Closing date: 12noon Friday, 6th April 2018, Interview dates: Monday 23rd April and Tuesday 24th April, 2018.

Parish 100 Club Draw Winners - January 2018 2nd prize Julien Melville – yet to claim. **February 2018** 1st prize £100 Teresa Arrigo, 2nd prize £50 Maria & Josie Conlon, 3rd prize £25 Margaret Billiet. **March 2018** 1st prize £100 Barbara Mather, 2nd prize £50 Bridie Flanagan, 3rd prize £25 Bernie Bell. Please contact fionamoreira@rcdow.org.uk or 8429 5683 to arrange payment.

Easter Flowers Collection £63.94 was raised. Thank you. Any more offerings will be gratefully received.

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.

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.

Leaving the Parish or Change of Address? Please advise Claudia McHugh on claudiamchugh@rcdow.org.uk or 020 8429 5681 so we may amend our records. Thank you.

New to the Parish? Please make yourself known after Mass to either Fr Graham 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.

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.