



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)

9th December 2018 ~ 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year C)

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

week beginning Sat 8th December 2018

8th Sat	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
9.30am	Jack McCormack RIP
- 5.30pm	DAY OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
	(Vigil of Sunday)
6.00pm	Michael Fitzgerald 1 st RIP Anniv
9th Sun	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year C)
8.30am	People of the Parish
10.00am	Luke Lambe 6 th RIP Anniv
11.30am	Patrick Bowles RIP Anniv
10th Mon	Advent feria
9.30am	Mary Glenc RIP Anniv
11th Tue	Advent feria
9.30am	Arthur Judson RIP
12th Wed	Our Lady of Guadalupe - no mass
13th Thu	St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr
12.30pm	Nora Houlihan RIP
14th Fri	St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor
9.30am	Stephanie Roberts RIP
15th Sat	Advent feria
9.30am	Horst Nekut RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday **10.00am – 11.00am**

5.15pm - 5.45pm

and by appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 8.15am - 9.15am

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

Baptisms

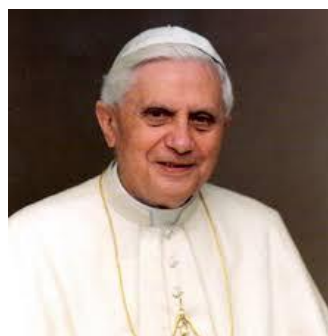
First Saturday at Noon

Next Sunday's Readings:

Zephaniah 3:14-18, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:10-18

ADVENT: "RENEWING THE CERTAINTY THAT GOD IS PRESENT"

A couple of weeks ago I overheard a couple talking on the tube. The response to what the man said was for the lady to ask, 'where is your Christmas spirit?'in mid-November! So now that we are in the second week of December the pressure to be celebrating Christmas is well and truly on. Last week Bishop John Wilson arranged a Day of Recollection for local priests. One of the things the speaker, Bishop Michael Campbell, encouraged us to do was to live Advent as a season in itself. So, drawing on the tradition of the Church, here is some help in that from of Pope Benedict XVI speaking in 2012:



"Advent invites us once again, in the midst of so many difficulties, to renew the certainty that God is present: he entered the world, making himself man, a man like us, to fulfil his plan of love. And God asks that we too become a sign of his action in the world. Through our faith, our hope and our charity, he wants to enter the world ever anew and wants ever anew to make his light shine out in our dark night."

Christmas Offering This week we will give out the Christmas offertory envelope, so please do take one as you enter the church. This is your Christmas gift to Fr Graham. It helps to support him in his ministry. The envelopes will be collected in over the Masses that are celebrated during the Christmas festivities. Thank you for your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity at this time.

Every blessing for the week ahead,

Fr Graham

'Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you'

Luke 1:28

Please keep the sick in your prayers. A list of sick parishioners is displayed on the noticeboard 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. If you would like to be visited by a priest and/or regularly with Holy Communion, please contact the parish office.

Recently deceased John Arthur Renner, Murinho Sashangan Canagasuriam.

Pray also for Michael Fitzgerald, Luke Lambe, Patrick Bowles, Mary Glenc, Barbara Handler, Paddy Ryan, Al Matsumura, Anthony Buhagiar, Edmund St Clare-Burke, Henryk Kosminski, Cynthia Smith, Mario Perdoni, Josephine Stevenson, Deborah Armstrong, Kathleen McDonnell, Anthony Mills, Inge Tichy, Stanislaus Bannis, Theresa Fallon, Josie Tobin, Neurius Jean-Jacques, Rosita Wakelin, Peter Gould, Jeanette Gething whose anniversaries occur at this time.

NOTE THURSDAY MASS IS AT 12.30PM

Advent Penitential Service On **Monday, 17th December 2018 at 7.30pm** with visiting priests to hear confessions. There will also be an additional time for confessions every Saturday in Advent from 10am – 11am. Confessions will be heard by visiting priests at St Luke's in Pinner from 3pm on Sunday, 16th December.

Eucharistic Ministers & Readers Rotas The new rotas for **8th December 2018 to 20th January 2019** are available from our website. If you require a hard copy please contact the parish office. If you can't make any of the Christmas eve or Christmas day times that are allocated then please let Kay know.

CAFOD Christmas cards and Fairtrade food will be on sale in the porch after all masses this weekend.

Greetings cards to prisoners This weekend there will be an opportunity to send a greetings card to a prisoner of conscience. Addressed cards & information about each person will be on the Christmas card stall in the porch. Please add your greeting to the card and it will be posted for you then include the person in your prayers during Advent. Postage is up to £1.25 per card so donations of about this amount would be welcome.

Parish Women's Group (PWG) - Thursday 13th December at 8pm Our next meeting in the small hall will be our Christmas Party with a variety of fun team party games. If you wish to join us please **bring a wrapped Secret Santa gift up to the value of £5** and some festive food or drink to share. Open to all women in the parish. For further info contact Elena on 07599 931149.

What do we do well as a parish? What could we do better? Fr Graham continues to invite parishioners to meet with him to get to know you and to hear your thoughts on these questions. If you would like to host an event for a small group or for your family, please contact him.

St John Fisher Catholic Diaries 2019 Now available in the porch. Cost £1. Please put money in 'Papers' box at the back of Church.

Parish 100 Club Draw Winners – October 2018 - 1st prize £100 Peter Snell, 2nd prize £50 George Standon, 3rd prize £25 Mary Else; **November 2018** – 1st prize £100 Noreen Halvey, 2nd prize £50 Maura Dillon, 3rd prize £25 Jocelyne Phiniefs; **December 2018** – 1st prize £100 Margaret Townsend, 2nd prize £50 Riely & Toor, 3rd prize £25 Jean Annis. Please contact fionamoreira@rcdow.org.uk or 8429 5683 to arrange payment.

Christmas Posters Please collect your poster from the porch.

'Lights of Life' Christmas Tree Those parishioners who wish to fill

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve 24th December

5.00pm Family Vigil Mass

10.30pm Lessons & Carols then Mass During the Night

Christmas Day 25th December

08.30am Mass at Dawn

10.00am Family Mass

11.30am Mass During the Day

St Stephen's Day 26th December

12.30pm Mass

Thursday, 27th December

12.30pm Mass

For the rest of Christmastime the usual Mass schedule will take place except for

Tuesday, 1st January 2019, Mary Mother of God

12.30pm Mass



in a card can do so from this weekend and put the card into the box near the baptismal font. Your card will be put on the tree from next weekend. A memory book is also available for you to write the names of those you wish to remember.

Churches Together in North Harrow Carol Singing on Saturday, **22nd December 2018** at 11am-12pm at North Harrow Library in support of St Luke's Hospice.

Garden of Awe and Wonder Following the completion of the lower school playground, development of the new prayer garden at St. John Fisher School is moving off at a pace! With a robust plan in place, installation of fencing, a shed, a water cascade and pruning has been completed. Volunteers presently comprise members of staff and former pupils completing their Duke of Edinburgh Award. We will be in touch with how you can be involved over the coming weeks, whether with donations, offers of help on-site or just to pop along to see and offer support!

Angel Tree Unfortunately we will not be able to have a collection of presents for prisoners' children this year as the charity we used last year have scaled down their operation.

Application to St John Fisher School, Reception September 2019

For children born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015. Application should be made before the closing date of 15 January 2019. Supplementary Information Forms are available from <http://www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk/admissions/>.

St John Fisher Primary School - Deputy Head Vacancy Closing date: 12.00 noon Wednesday, 9th January 2019. Further information and Application Form on school website <http://www.stjohnfisher.harrow.sch.uk>.

Senior Parishioners Christmas Lunch Please sign up if you would like to come. It is a great chance to get together over a good meal and to meet some of our young people who will be delighted to help out on that day. On **Sunday, 27th January 2019 at 12.30pm** in the Parish Hall. RSVP to the presbytery by Sunday, 13th January.

NAME..... TEL NO.....

ADDRESS.....

Please state clearly if you require transport or have special dietary requirements.

TRANSPORT REQUIRED YES/NO