30th June & 7th July 2019 ~ Ss Peter and Paul and 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr C)

There are some things that each of us knows, deep in our bones, things that others may not understand, but which we understand, and which are crucial for our lives. They direct and filter our attention and our responses. What do you know, that others for the moment don’t know or understand, but that gives you strength for your journey? What is deep in your heart’s core, critical to your well-being? For many, it’s their Catholic Christianity. It is a pilgrim Church, this Catholic Church, on its way back to the Father. At times it disappoints and grieves us, but we should never be surprised or shocked that it’s a Church tired and stained and dusty by the journey. As a Church it is tempted, it falls, it repents in an endless cycle. Even if the gates of hell were to swallow the Church, they would soon spit it up again, struggling and maybe even barely alive, but also wiser and hopefully more dedicated to Christ. We should never expect too much of its members and never expect too little of the Spirit who dwells deep within it. The Church puts our lives back together and holds them together. And in the very opening moments of this journeying Church stand the extraordinary figures of St Peter and St Paul.

At the end of his life, Paul writes a final letter. It’s addressed to a young bishop called Timothy, who’s in charge of the Church in Ephesus. Under enormous pressure, some of the Christian community around Paul has collapsed. People have stopped going to church or just given up their faith. But Paul has a strange peace that floats alongside his hurt and disappointment. He says to Timothy:

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I have fought the good fight, I have run the race to the end, I have kept the faith. These are the keys of the kingdom. Because life isn’t just convenient and when it’s inconvenient.
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We are invited to keep faith with God in every season: in good times as well as in bad, in sickness and in health, when it’s convenient and when it’s inconvenient. It would be sad if our Christianity was nothing but a list of things God didn’t approve of. There is only one list we should want and doctrines handed on by St Peter and St Paul are defined by what faith looks like, by the sort of life our beliefs produce. Every blessing for the weeks ahead.

Fr Christopher Clohessy
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. If you would like to be visited by a priest and/or regularly with Holy Communion, please contact the parish office.

Recently deceased:
Pray also for Philip Mendonça, Gerard Taylor, Anton Regis, John Dellaruma, Gavin Bissett, Veridiana D’Silva, William Wright, John Dellaruma, Kevin Nolan, Annie Fernandes, Bernard Harris, Julie Goulding, Sean Rynne, Maria Kowalewicz, Robin Shortland, Antonipillai Saverimuttu, Mary McWilliams, Mary Malone, Muriel O’Connor, John Rossington, Martin Mahon, Apondak Dut, Margaret Burton, Constance Donnelly, Johanna Liecinieks, Agnes Cunningham, Cyril Fernandes, Mavis Furnell, Bernice Leonard, Louisa Di Martino, Angela Salvi, Edna & Oswald McCarthy, Catherine Gallagher, Anne Hickey, Jacqui Kubus, Bartholomew Hourihan, Richard Rossington, Ann Atwood, David Kennedy, Margaret Bladun, Mary Ann Brady, Douglas Wilton, Michael Mulvaney, Alison Smith, Bridie Fitzgerald, Mary McKenna, Nancy Martin, John Hughes, Bruno Zanelli whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Ordination to Sacred Priesthood of Rev. Johnpromise Umeezuru will take place on Saturday, 20th July 2019 at 11am at St John’s Catholic Cathedral Portsmouth, Bishop Crispian Way, PO1 3HQ. The cost for the coach is £20 and booking forms are now available from the porch – deadline 7th July. Please note the departure time from St John Fisher has changed to 8am and from Portsmouth to 4.30pm.

Confirmation 2020 Application for Confirmation is now available for anyone currently in School year 8 or above. If you would like to be considered for Confirmation you will need to download the Initial Application form from our website and return the completed form to Kay by Sunday, 21st July 2019.

‘Across the Years 1939 - 2019: St John Fisher Parish Remembers’ event on 12th October 2019 Do you have any early photos of St. John Fisher Parish building or events? John and Barbara Towell would appreciate a loan of these for possible inclusion in a presentation. If you can help, please phone John & Barbara (020 8866 6665) or leave your photos in the Parish Office.

St Edmund Campion Relic The Relic of St Edmund Campion, the London Saint, will be brought back to St John Fisher Church by the Knights of Saint Columba to be present in our Sanctuary for the 9.30am Masses on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th July, 2019. There will be an opportunity to venerate the Relic after Mass while we recite the Litany of the English Martyrs.

Bethany Group The next meeting for members will be on Thursday, 4th July at 7.30pm.

Knights of St. Columba Next meeting on Thursday, 4th July at 8pm in the Social Club.

Knitting Group will meet for a bring and share lunch on Thursday, 11th July after the 12.30pm mass in the Fisher Room.

Fairtrade food stall will be open after all masses on 13th & 14th July and will reopen again in Autumn after the Summer break. If you are still well-stocked with chocolate come and browse the range of dried fruit, nuts etc on sale.

St John Fisher Social Club Pool Competition The Social Club are holding an open pool competition on Saturday, 6th July starting at 8pm sharp. Each singles game will be best of 3 frames knockout. Entrants must be 16 years or older. It is a fun and social event so no entrance fee or prizes, just the glory of holding the title of “St John Fisher Pool Champion 2019”. If you would like to take part, please email Stephen.pal121@virginmedia.com before 2nd July.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham On Saturday 21st September we will be joining the Cardinal on the Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham, the National Shrine to Our Lady. The cost of the day incl. return coach travel from St John Fisher is £20. More details & booking forms are available from the Church porch. Deadline for returning the form & payment is 7th September, 2019.

Holy See ‘Peter’s Pence’ Collection – This is the support we offer to the Holy Father as a sign of our sharing in the concern of the Successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church and for the relief of those most in need. There will be a second collection for the Holy See Peter’s Pence this weekend.

Sea Sunday is on 14th July, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be a second collection for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It provides practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. As it is dependent on voluntary donations, please give generously. There will be gift aid envelopes and prayer cards available from the Church porch. For more info visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk.

The Christian/Muslim Interfaith group, on which we are now represented, has arranged a joint outing to the Islamic art exhibition at the British Museum on Saturday, 6th July. This is a great opportunity to meet and find out about each other. We shall meet at 9.30am at Rayners Lane station and travel together to the museum. If you would like to join us, please let us know by signing the sheet at the back of church.

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School – Welfare Officer Vacancy Required September 2019, Full time, term time only post, Hours: 08:30 – 03:30 (6.5 hrs), Salary: G4 13 – G4 16 (actual £16,802 - £17,724). St. John Fisher is a Catholic primary school within the voluntary academy of the Blessed Holy Family Catholic Academy Trust. We are seeking a capable Welfare Assistant to join our ‘outstanding’ school. Please see the website or contact the school for the application pack www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk. Visits to the school are welcomed. Please ring the office to make an appointment. Closing Date: noon Wed 3rd July, Interviews: Wed 10th July.

JOB OPPORTUNITY IN THE PARISH OFFICE - BOOKKEEPER
We have a vacancy in the parish office for an experienced Bookkeeper. S/he will be responsible for entering accounts onto the database system, preparing weekly cash for banking and ensuring invoices are paid on time. 10 hours per week (preferably 2 weekday mornings but flexible) Salary: £13 per hour. Closing date: 12 July 2019. For more details and to apply visit http://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/ or speak to Fr Graham.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 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 Two Sundays’ Readings:

Saturday 9.30am Mass on 29th June, 6th, 13th and 20th July.