



# St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

## North Harrow



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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: Nuala Rodger, [nualarodger@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:nualarodger@rcdow.org.uk) 020 8429 5681 (office hours Mon - Thu 9.30am-1pm)

Parish Safeguarding Representative : Gerald O'Keefe [harrownorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:harrownorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

7th December 2019 ~ Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

#### MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Week beginning Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019

<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sat</b>	<i>St Ambrose, Bishop &amp; Doctor</i> 9.30am Mary Donnelly RIP
	<i>Vigil of Sunday</i> 6.00pm People of the Parish
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Sun</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 8.30am Yoshiyuki Ai Matsumura RIP 10.00am Luke Lambe RIP Anniversary 11.30am Vocations to the Priesthood
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Mon</b>	<b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b> 9.30am Brian Eyles RIP
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Tue</b>	<i>Advent feria</i> 9.30am Fr A H Vethanayagam
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Wed</b>	<i>St Damasus I, Pope</i> No Mass
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Thurs</b>	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> 12.30pm Amar Tanki RIP
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Fri</b>	<i>Advent feria</i> 9.30am Assain Muttu Gnanam RIP 7.00pm Patrick Joseph Kilbane
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sat</b>	<i>St John of the Cross, Priest &amp; Doctor</i> 9.30am Pat Ward RIP
	<i>Vigil of Sunday</i> 6.00pm Katherine Moore RIP

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10am - 10.30am; 5.15pm - 5.45pm  
and by appointment

#### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 8.15 – 9.30am; Saturday 10 - 10.30am  
First Friday 10am - 11am (concluding with Benediction)

#### Baptisms

First Saturday at Noon

### THE GENERAL ELECTION

The Bishops of England and Wales have issued a statement on the forthcoming General Election. It reminds us that Catholics cannot simply “*watch from the balcony.*” Conscious of the common good of every person and our society as a whole, the bishops ask everyone to engage with the election and to vote.

We are reminded that ‘the test of any policy should be its impact upon human dignity, particularly for the most disadvantaged in our society.’ We are asked to consider how our candidates would uphold these key issues:

- The dignity of every human being; defending both the child in the womb, the good of the mother and an understanding of the immeasurable good of a child not yet born?
- The dignified care for the terminally ill and dying, resisting the false compassion of assisted suicide or euthanasia?
- The needs of those who are neglected or discarded by society such those with disabilities, travellers, the elderly, those who are homeless, in prison or in modern slavery?
- The process of integration of migrants and refugees who have made their homes here?
- The rights of those at home and overseas who are in extreme poverty, providing them with assistance and confronting the injustices that compound their suffering?
- Care for our common home and tackling the climate emergency which threatens the future of our human family and is already impacting the world’s poorest people?
- Freedom of religion and belief, ensuring that everyone can exercise their conscience and practise their creed?
- The cherishing of marriage, recognising the essential place of the family in the service of life and of society?
- The right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their faith and support the work of Catholic schools?

The full version is available at [www.catholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk)

*Have a blessed week*

*Fr Graham*



In this **Year of The Word** why not try to read next Sunday’s Readings?  
Isaiah 35:1-6a,10; James 5:7-10;  
Matthew 11:2-11

**‘O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples’** Psalm 105:1

## REGULAR NOTICES

**Please keep the sick in your prayers.** A list of sick parishioners is displayed on the noticeboard at the back of the Church.

If you or a sick relative could benefit from a visit from the parish **St Vincent de Paul Society** please contact the parish office.

If you would like a visit from the priest and/or to regularly receive **Holy Communion**, please contact the parish office.

**Recently deceased:** Phillip Reville, Philomena Cawley

**Pray also for,** Barbara Handler, Paddy Ryan, Yoshiyuki Matsumura, Anthony Buhagiar, Edmund St Clare-Burke, Henry Kosminski, Cynthia Smith, Mario Perdoni, Josephine Stevenson, Deborah Armstong, Kathleen McDonnell, Anthony Mills, Inge Tichy, Stanislaus Bannis, Theresa Fallon, Josie Tobin, Neurius Jean-Jacques, Rosita Wakelin, Peter Gould, Jeanette Gething and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

## PARISH NOTICES

**Fr Johnpromise** has written to thank us for the support he has received from the parish throughout his journey to priesthood and to thank us for his present and collection last weekend. His full note is on the noticeboard at the back of the church.

**Polish evening** – Thank you to Anna and everyone who came together to make the Polish evening such a great success. Over £280 was raised for the parish development fund as well!

**Parish Office** – We are pleased to welcome our new parish administrator, Nuala Rodger, who has started in the parish office. The new office hours are on the front of the newsletter

### **ADVENT 2019**

**Friday evening mass** is celebrated at **7pm** throughout Advent

**Advent Confessions** – Visiting priests will be available for individual confessions **from 7.30pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**. During this time the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed to help focus our prayer and reflection. A similar opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered **from 3pm-4pm on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at St Luke's, Pinner**.

**Future change of mass time** - In **January** the Thursday Mass time will change from 12.30pm to 7pm and thus restore a regular weekday evening mass. Mass intentions for the 12.30pm mass will transfer to the new time on the same day.

**First Holy Communion** – Could parents please see Kay before Saturday evening Mass or after any of the Sunday masses this week concerning dates for First Holy Communion Masses in May.

**Westminster Yearbook 2020** – these are now available priced £4.50 from the sacristy before or after mass.

**Churches Together in North Harrow** will be carol singing outside North Harrow Station on **Friday 20th December** from 6pm to 7pm. All are welcome.

**Knitting Group.** There is a sale of knitwear produced by the group after masses this weekend to raise money for Bakhita House. They are also hosting a 'bring and share' lunch next **Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, from 1pm** for all those who have been involved with the group during the year.

**Christmas Posters** – These can be collected from the papers table in the porch from this weekend.

**Greetings cards to prisoners of conscience** - Addressed cards and information about each person are on the Christmas card stall in the porch. Please add your greeting to the card and it will be posted on your behalf. Postage is up to £1.25 per card so donations of about this amount would be welcome. Why not keep the receiver of your card in your prayers this Advent?

**CAFOD Christmas card stall** will be open in the porch after Mass every weekend until 22nd December but popular cards are likely to be out of stock soon. The last date for orders will be 15th December. Next weekend Fairtrade food will also be on sale.

**Lights of Life Christmas Tree** - Those parishioners who wish to fill in a tag can do so from this weekend and put it into the box near the baptismal font. Your tag 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

**Catholic Papers** – We currently receive a supply of The Tablet, Catholic Universe and Catholic Herald. From January the publishers will no longer supply these on a sale-or-return basis so we must pay for all the copies delivered to the parish whether or not they are sold. Sales are so small that few people should be affected if we discontinue the papers. If you have any comments please contact Fr Graham.

**Baptisms** - We welcome into our community William O'Flaherty and Anna White who are being baptised here this weekend.

## DEANERY & DIOCESAN NOTICES

**St Dominic's Sixth Form College - 40th Anniversary Carol Service** on **Tuesday 17th December** 6pm; for more details please see notice in church porch

**Vocations Events 2020:** If you are discerning the call to serve God there will be a Vocations retreat on **25th January** at SPEC in Pinner and parish events on **8th March** in Bow or **24th May** in St Albans. For more details please see poster in the church porch.

### **Christmas Mass Times**

*Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December*

**9.30am** Mass of 24<sup>th</sup> December

**5.00pm** Family Vigil Mass

**10.30pm** Lessons & Carols then Mass During the Night

*Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup> December*

**08.30am** Mass at Dawn

**10.00am** Family Mass with children's activities

**11.30am** Mass During the Day

*St Stephen's Day 26<sup>th</sup> December*

**11.00am** Mass

*Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> December, St John the Evangelist*

**12.30pm** Mass

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

*Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, Mary Mother of God*

**11.00am** Mass

