



St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

North Harrow



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

Parish Safeguarding Representative : Gerald O'Keefe harrownorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

14/15th December 2019 ~ Third Sunday of Advent (Year A); Gaudete Sunday

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Week beginning Saturday 14th December 2019

14th Sat	
9.30am	Pat Ward RIP
	<i>Vigil of Sunday</i>
6.00pm	Katherine Moore RIP
15th Sun	<i>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>
8.30am	Katherine Moore RIP
10.00am	People of the Parish
11.30am	Mary & Tony Miles RIP
16th Mon	<i>Advent feria</i>
9.30am	Anne Griffin RIP
7.30pm	Confessions with Holy Hour
17th Tue	<i>Advent feria</i>
9.30am	Dawn Whelan-Smith RIP
18th Wed	No Mass
19th Thurs	<i>Advent Feria</i>
9.30am	Peter Flanagan RIP Anniversary with St John Fisher School
20th Fri	<i>Advent feria</i>
9.30am	Colin Harley RIP with St John Fisher School
7.00pm	Helen Coleman
21st Sat	<i>Advent feria</i>
9.30am	Rose Farrell RIP
	<i>Vigil of Sunday</i>
6.00pm	Seamus & Maisie Browne RIP Anniv

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 8.15 – 9.15am; Saturday 10 - 10.30am
First Friday 10am - 11am (concluding with Benediction)

Baptisms

First Saturday at Noon

Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico Gaudete

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice

KEEPING INFORMED



Since arriving in North Harrow I have realised, to my surprise, that I have never bought a newspaper! I sometimes pick up the Metro or Evening Standard if I am on the 'tube' and a kind parishioner often drops off recent papers. But, like many people, I have got used to finding out what is happening in the world in different ways; through television, radio and of course the internet.

Newspaper sales have fallen dramatically over the last 20 years and so too for our Catholic newspapers. We sell so few newspapers that, having received no comments on my suggestion to cancel them in the last two weeks' newsletters I now plan to discontinue the Catholic Universe in the New Year when we will no longer be able to purchase it on a 'sale or return basis.'

There are many ways we can keep informed about what's happening in the Church. There is a new tab on our website, 'Keeping informed', which tells you how to keep in touch with Church news and how you can subscribe to Catholic newspapers yourself and receive them to your door at a lower price!

Have a blessed week

Fr Graham



In this **Year of The Word** why not try to read next Sunday's Readings?
Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7;
Matthew 1:18-24
and the Wednesday Word may help you:
www.wednesdayword.com

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: Remy Martins, Hilda De Souza

Pray also for, Kåre Bjørnerud, Virginia Cabral Francisco, Waclaw Kowalewicz, Frank Beesley, Virginia Dellamura, James Campbell, Bridie Haynes, Nora Egan, Ying-Eng Kit, Manuel Rodrigues, Brendan Connolly, Christopher Hilton, Peter Flanagan, Geoffrey Cheeseman, James Mckenna, Salvatrice Guagliardo and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Mass this Thursday – will be at **9.30am** with half the classes of St John Fisher Primary School for their end of term. The rest will join us on Friday morning!

ADVENT 2019

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

Advent Confessions – Visiting priests will be available for individual confessions **from 7.30pm this Monday, 16th 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 this Sunday, 15th December, at St Luke's, Pinner.**

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

The Pylon for our 80th Anniversary edition is now on sale in the porch priced at £2. This special edition includes articles about the parish's history plus memories from parishioners from decades ago and this year's anniversary celebrations. It makes an excellent read and a perfect small Christmas gift. Do buy one!

Caritas Westminster is recruiting a **Representative for Social Outreach** from each parish to help communication between the parish and Caritas to support and grow charitable activities. The representative will help to display posters, flyers, speak in Masses, learn about new tools and models for social action and share best practice between parishes. If you are interested please speak to Fr Graham or contact the parish office.

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

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.

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

Church Christmas tree and crib – these are being put up in the church after the 11.30am mass on **Sunday 22nd December;** we welcome volunteers to come and help.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve 24th December

9.30am Mass of 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 with children's participation

11.30am Mass During the Day

St Stephen's Day 26th December

11.00am Mass

Friday, 27th December, St John the Evangelist

12.30pm Mass

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

Wednesday, 1st January 2019, Mary Mother of God

11.00am Mass

Readers and Ministers for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day – the rota is available on the website; it can be found as 'Christmas 2019' under the Readers and Eucharistic Ministers heading

Lights of Life Christmas Tree is now in the Church. Please fill in a tag and attach it to the tree. 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 the Universe on a 'sale-or-return' basis so we must pay for all the copies delivered to the parish. Sales are so small that few should be affected if it is cancelled but if you have any comments please contact Fr Graham.

Parish 100 club draw winners – The winners of the October draw are 1st Prize £100.00 – Peter Snell; 2nd Prize £50.00 – Barbara Mather, 3rd Prize £25.00 – R Cardona. Congratulations! Please contact the parish office to let us know who cheques should be made payable to.

Lectio Divina prayer group – at the end of our recent School of Ignatian Spirituality the course leaders suggested how we can pray each week with the Word of God by looking at material produced by the Jesuits in Britain called 'Prego' which is available at www.stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/prego/. If you would like to continue or start to pray with these resources as a group in the parish, weekly, fortnightly or monthly, then speak to Fr Graham or contact the parish office and we can set up a Lectio Divina prayer group in the parish in the new year.

Senior Parishioners New Year Lunch. Please sign up if you would like to come. It is a great get together over a good meal and a chance to meet some of our young people who will be delighted to help out on the day. This year's lunch will take place on **Sunday 26th January 2020 in the parish hall.**

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SENIOR PARISHIONER'S LUNCH RETURN SLIP

I would like to come to the lunch.

NAME.....Tel No.....

ADDRESS

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RSVP to the presbytery by Sunday 12th January.