



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-1 pm)

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

23rd February 2020 ~ 7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Week beginning Saturday 22nd February 2020

22nd Sat THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE
 9.30 am Lee Wallace RIP

Vigil of Sunday

6.00 pm Phillip Reville RIP

23rd Sun 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30 am Harry Gallagher RIP

10.00 am Timothy, Nora Bernard & John O'Connell

11.30 am People of the Parish

24th Mon *Lent Feria*

9.30 am Eddie Papworth RIP

25th Tue *Lent Feria*

9.30 am Bredin Family RIP

26th Wed **ASH WEDNESDAY**

9.30 am Sean Callaghan Sick

11.00am Christine Hession

7.00pm Mary Feenick

27th Thu *Lent Feria*

7.00pm Elma Waters Sick

28st Fri *Lent feria*

9.30 am Patrick Sloan RIP anniv

Followed by Stations of the Cross

7.00pm Mark Ransley RIP

Followed by Stations of the Cross

29th Sat **DAY OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Lent Feria

9.30 am Clifford Family RIP

Vigil of Sunday

6.00 pm Philip Reville RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10am - 10.30am ; 4.30pm - 5.15pm

and by appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 8.15 - 9.15am; Saturday 10 - 10.30am

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

ASH WEDNESDAY



This Wednesday we begin our Lenten journey. But can you explain to people you meet elsewhere why you have a smudge of ash on your forehead? Here are the scriptural reasons behind our practice:

- ashes make us appreciate our **mortality**. Since the Fall we are reminded that 'you are dust and to dust you shall return' (Gen 3:19)
- ashes are associated with **repentance** as Job 'repents in dust and ashes' (Job 42:6)
- when the people of God were entering into an **intense time of prayer** in the Book of Maccabees 'they fasted that day, put on sackcloth and sprinkled ashes on their heads and tore their clothes' (1 Maccabees 3:47)

On **Ash Wednesday** there will be **Masses at 9.30am** (with three classes from St John Fisher Primary School); **11am** (with seven classes from St John Fisher Primary School) **and at 7pm**. *There will not be a 2pm Service of the Word this year*

There are still copies of the **Walk with Me Lenten booklets** of prayers and reflections available for just £1 and details of other Lenten activities in this newsletter including the **Day of Adoration next Saturday beginning with 9.30am Mass and concluding with Benediction at 5.30pm**.

Every blessing for the week ahead.

Fr Graham

"Repent and believe in the Gospel"

(Ash Wednesday Liturgy)

In the **Year of The Word** why not read next Sunday's Readings?

Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

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 or Noreen O'Boyle on 07935776298. If you would like a visit from the priest and/or to regularly receive **Holy Communion**, please contact the parish office.

Recently deceased: Kay Thomson, Frank O'Neil

Pray also for: Joe Reilly, Aristides Cordoba, Kitty Tully, John Noble, Patrick Kilcoyne, Eileen Steinitz, Leon St Hill, Michael Anderson, Nanette Burke, Catherine Lissemore, Joanna Roberts, Dina Frate, Trevor Dunkley, Patrick Savage, Eugenia Chellotti, George Niznik, Maidie Wilson, James Small, Thomas Lee, Francis Roberts, Joan Barry, Jack O'Gorman Istvan Papp, Katherine Obi, Margaret Caden, Patrick Sloane, Joana De Souza Sylvester Rebbitt and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Coronavirus – We are advised that the risk is low and that the best way of protecting us from spread is for everyone to use **universal good hygiene**: to wash our hands before Mass; sneeze or cough into tissues and to refrain from the chalice if we have flu-like symptoms. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion may wish to use the hand gel in the kitchen before mass.**

Social Club AGM – This will take place in the parish centre small hall on **Sunday 1st March** at 7.30 pm.

St John Fisher School Tea & Coffee Morning – After 10.00am mass today. It will include entertainment from the school's Irish Dancers as well as homemade baking. The school is currently fundraising for a new minibus and tickets will be on sale for the draw to take place on 7th March. Do come and support this event

New Readers Training – At 7:30pm on **Monday 9th March** there will be a meeting in the church for all new readers. If you are interested in reading at Mass please speak to Fr Graham or Kay.

Altar Servers – if you would like to become an Altar server we will have training at **6pm on Monday 9th March** in the church. To be an Altar Server you must have made your First Holy Communion. If you wish to attend the training you will need to give your name to Fr Graham or Kay before the 9th March.

Rededication of England to Our Lady - As announced in last week's pastoral letter this country will be re-dedicated to Our Lady in Walsingham on **Sunday 29th March**. In advance there is a 33 day 'Do it yourself' retreat in preparation for Marian Consecration, '33 Days to Morning Glory.' Copies are available in the porch by the newspapers.

Fairtrade food stall and coffee morning To celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight there will be a coffee morning & Fairtrade food stall in the parish centre after 10 & 11:30 Mass next **Sunday, 1st March**. Come and enjoy coffee and cake with old friends or come and make new friends. There will be a raffle and money raised will go to Traidcraft Exchange who support the poorest people to get a better deal from trade. The food stall will be open in the church porch as usual after other Masses.

Harrow Citizens – Date for the diary Please keep free **Tuesday 21st April**, the date for the London Citizens Mayoral Assembly at 6pm in the Copperbox in the Olympic Park at Stratford.

LENT 2020 - 'Prepare the Way of the Lord'

Walk with Me –Lenten journey of prayer booklets available at the back of the church price £1. Families can collect a children's Lenten calendar as well.

Day of Eucharistic Adoration – Saturday 29th February from after 9.30am Mass until Benediction at 5.30pm. Note **change to confession times next Saturday 4.30pm – 5.15pm.**

Palms from last Palm Sunday – please leave these in the basket at the back of the church to burn for the ash for Ash Wednesday.

Lenten Alms – This year we will be supporting **Aid to the Church in Need**. Their Westminster organiser, John Ravi, will be coming to speak to us about their work on the weekend of 21/22 March.

Churches Together in North Harrow - St Albans Church is hosting a textile exhibition during Lent on 'Peace and Reconciliation.' As part of this CTNH are supporting a talk on **Tuesday 3rd March** at 7.45pm by Marian Partington on 'Walking the Path of Reconciliation.' Marian's sister was killed by Fred and Rosemary West. More details on poster in church porch. Lenten House group details will follow when available.

Devotions and Mass As last year, there will be **Stations of the Cross led by parishioners after the 9.30am Friday mass**. If you would like to lead these morning stations, please contact the parish office. In addition there will be **7.00pm Friday Mass followed by Stations of the Cross around 7.30pm.**

Lenten Reconciliation Service - with visiting priest confessors will take place on **Monday, 30th March from 7.00pm.**

Talks on the Mass – Fr Graham will be offering a short series of talks on the Mass; these will take place after the 7pm Mass on Thursday evening in the Fisher Room. Dates to follow

Knitting group supporting Bakhita House meets on **Friday 28th February from 2pm** in Fisher Room. All welcome.

Planned giving envelopes – We have ordered new sets of planned giving envelopes for all those who have collected and used them during this financial year. If you did not collect your envelopes this year and wish to support the parish this way next year please contact the parish bookkeeper via the parish office.

100 club – Although there has not been a draw for some time we have not forgotten about the 100 club! We will be carrying out a review over the next few weeks. In the meantime if you pay by standing order please ensure that the reference '100 club' is included with your payments.

DEANERY & DIOCESAN NOTICES

European Settlement – Notice from The Bishops of England and Wales All EU, EEA and Swiss Citizens living in the UK (but not Irish citizens) must apply through the Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The Deadline for application is **30 June 2021**. Details and links to the application process can be found at gov.uk/eusettledstatus. Please see noticeboard for more information.

Divine Mercy Retreat at St Gabriel South Harrow on **Saturday 14th March**. Please see noticeboard for more information.

A Day with Mary – Our Lady & St Michael, Garston on **Saturday 7th March**, Please see the noticeboard for more details.