



St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

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www.stjohnfisheronline.org.uk www.rcdow.org.uk/harrownorth

Parish Priest: Fr. Graham Stokes, grahamstokes@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr. Axcel Soriano, axcelsoriano@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Nuala Rodger, harrownorth@rcdow.org.uk (office hours Mon-Thu 9.30am-1pm)

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



12th September 2021 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

*Sunday 10.30am Mass livestreamed on
'St John Fisher North Harrow' YouTube channel*

- 11th Sat** *Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday*
10.00am Jim Wheelan RIP
1.00pm Baptism of John Patterson
- Vigil of Sunday**
6.00pm Jim Cannon RIP
- 12th Sun** **24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am People of the Parish
10.30am Bwanika Haruna RIP
12noon Celine Marie Arulanantham RIP anniv
- 13th Mon** *St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor*
10.00am Patrick Bourke RIP anniv
- 14th Tue** **THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**
10.00am Deirdre Ratnayake RIP anniv
- 15th Wed** *Our Lady of Sorrows*
No public Mass
- 16th Thu** *St Cornelius, Pope & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs*
7.00pm Sheila Dunne RIP
- 17th Fri** *St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor*
10.00am John Cunningham RIP
- 18th Sat** *Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday*
10.00am Ted O'Mahoney RIP
12noon Baptism of Liam Perera
- Vigil of Sunday**
6.00pm Tony Graydon RIP
- 19th Sun** **25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am People of the Parish
10.30am **John Cunningham RIP**
12noon Neville Ransley RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10.30-11.30am & 5.15-5.45pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 9am-9.45am; Saturday after Mass-11.30am

First Friday (with Benediction): after Mass - 11.30am

Funerals & Weddings – by appointment

Baptisms – speak to Fr Axcel or Fr Graham after Mass

Sacrament of the Sick – please speak to a priest or contact the parish office leaving a message if there is no reply

CARE FOR THE DYING



This week I was called to St Luke's Hospice to confer the Sacrament of the Sick on an elderly lady who was dying. The care and compassion offered to those most in need at this place is always impressive.

It was fortuitous that I received an alert that evening to an appeal to all Catholics in this country from Bishop John Sherrington. It tells us that 'in the next weeks we face an unprecedented attack on the sanctity of life with Baroness Meacher's 'Assisted Dying Bill 2021' which is due its Second Reading in the House of Lords with full debate on Friday, 22 October. If legalised, this Bill would allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live to be assisted in committing suicide. Catholic teaching opposes assisting suicide, since life is a gift to be cared for and preserved until its natural death. The Church is clear that we cannot directly choose to take the life of another, even if they request it. The solidarity of praying and caring for the most vulnerable at this fragile time of their lives is a profoundly Christian act which imitates Our Lady's prayer at the cross and Christ's service to the weakest.'

The bishop suggests three important actions that we can take in the next weeks: praying, writing and sharing. First, to **pray that the Bill will be defeated**. Second, to **write to the Peers** from our personal experience and share stories which will argue the reasons for opposing the Bill as well as narrate the importance of precious time during the final stages of life. Finally to **engage and share stories and reasons against the Bill on social media**.

Every blessing for the week ahead

Fr Graham

Reflect on next Sunday's Readings with the help of
www.wednesdayword.org

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wisdom 2:12,17-20, Psalm 53,
James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37

REGULAR NOTICES

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 SVP direct on **07935 776298**.

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

Recently Deceased – Fr Stephen Delaney, Margaret Rattary

Pray also for Patrick Cunningham, Denis McHugh John Furlong, Betty Trundle, Monty Moriarty, Alma (James) Houghton, Gerry Furnell, Kitty Young, Philomena Dias, Georgina Wilson, Pauline Angold, Deidre Ratnayake, Molly McCann, Jean Casey, Francis Kerr, Ann Maybury, Mavis Pereira, Elmo Josphe, Pascal James, Reginald Dingley, Florida Lawani, Margaret Garvey and all whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Emerging from the pandemic - Over the coming weeks we will be reintroducing aspects of the Mass that have been withdrawn since the start of the pandemic. Whilst the obligation to attend remains suspended until the First Sunday of Advent at the earliest, Holy Communion may once again be received on the tongue and Holy Water is available to be taken away from the urn beside the baptismal font (Please bring your own bottles). **These changes will include restoring the 10.30am Mass to 10am.**

This Sunday we celebrate **Education Sunday** and pray especially we pray that God will fortify those working to make our schools places of learning and sanctuary. To find out more please visit www.cbcew.org.uk/education-sunday-20-21

Rosary – The reciting of the Holy Rosary after the 10 am Mass will resume this Monday.

Parish Office – The office will not be staffed until Thursday. If you contact the parish office please leave a voicemail if there is no reply; you may need to be patient if your enquiry is not urgent.

First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated at 10am on Saturdays 2nd, 9th and 16th October – Due to this extended celebration there will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Confessions those mornings.

Weekday Mass times – The **10am Wednesday Mass** will resume on **Wednesday 22nd September**.

Baptism - We welcome into God's family Liam Perera.

Candles – Fire is one of the biggest risks in churches. You will see that new spacers have been placed on some of the candle stands to separate candles and reduce the risk of fire. When the stands are full please do not add candles to the trays beneath the candle racks nor perch them on other candles.

Maintenance to Mission – Fr Graham hopes to read with a group of parishioners a book with that title by Fr James Mallon. In his parish in Nova Scotia he sought to make that transition from Maintenance to Mission and writes about his experience. Many parishes are exploring his ideas for a 'Divine Renovation.' If you are interested in finding out more there are films of an interview in which he explains what he tried to do that you can see at www.youtube.com/watch?v=C18V0I28-2U.

Certificate of Catholic Practice Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP) - Fr Graham will make time available next month to see families wishing to obtain CCPs for secondary school and sixth form applications by appointment only. Meetings for primary school applications will follow in November.

Novena in Honour of Our Lady of Walsingham – starts this Wednesday, 15th September, in preparation for the celebration of the feast on 24th September – to pray the novena and download a prayer booklet visit www.walsingham.org.uk/novena/

Churches Together in North Harrow are having a Week of Accompanied Prayer from **Sunday 10th to Saturday 16th October** offering an opportunity to explore different ways of praying and to deepen one's relationship with God in daily life. For more information please see the notice in the church porch.

100 club – The 100 club draws for 2020, for all those who were paid up members of the club that year, have not been forgotten! They will take place soon with the winners announced here.

Hall hire – There have been a number of requests to hire the parish centre hall. We do not have a caretaker and the additional requirements placed on us to remain 'Covid secure' mean that, regrettably, we are unable to *consider* such requests until at least the half term break. The hall remains in use for the St John Fisher Pre-School and parish groups, subject to risk assessment including the necessary cleaning regimes.

Westminster Interfaith and Justice and Peace newsletters are displayed on the noticeboard at the back of the church along with other Catholic organisations' newsheets. If you would like to receive a copy direct please contact the parish office.

DEANERY & DIOCESAN NOTICES

Isaiah, the Fifth Gospel – an online talk by Fr John Hemer MHM on **Tuesday 21st September** at 7pm via zoom; Fr John is an enlightening and engaging speaker so this talk is strongly recommended. To book see poster in church porch or click on <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-god-who-speaks-isaiah-aka-the-fifth-gospel-tickets-164970859281>

St Scholastica's Retreat, Princes Risborough – Open Day **Saturday, 25th September** The Retreat offers sheltered housing to Catholics aged 60 or over in self-contained flats – more information on the poster at the back in church porch or from the warden (01844) 344437, www.stscholasticas.co.uk

CAFOD is responding to crises across the world, working with local Church organisations in **Haiti, Afghanistan, Tigray** in Ethiopia, **South Sudan** and **north-east Nigeria**. You can read more about how we can express solidarity with those affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website at www.cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news.

Eucharistic Octave: The International Eucharistic Congress is due to take place in September in Budapest. There will be a Eucharistic Octave in London to celebrate our Eucharistic Lord from this **Saturday, 11 September**, and culminating in a grand **Eucharistic Procession at 3:30pm on Sunday 19th September** departing from Our Lady of the Assumption, Warwick Street, and heading towards St James, Spanish Place, Full details of events during the octave can be found at www.catholiclondon.org or on the poster in the church porch