



St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

80 Imperial Close, Harrow, HA2 7LW, 020 8868 7531

harrownorth@rcdow.org.uk

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

27th FEBRUARY 2022 – 8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 10.00am Mass and highlighted Masses livestreamed on 'St John Fisher North Harrow' YouTube channel

26th Sat Blessed Virgin Mary On Saturday
10.00am Mary Sayer RIP 1st anniv

Vigil of Sunday

6.00pm John Keenan RIP

27th Sun **8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8.30 am People of the Parish

10.00am Ann & Patrick Kilcoyne anniv

12noon All deceased members of the Dias Family

28th Mon feria

10.00am Patrick Sloane RIP/anniv

1st Tue **ST DAVID, Bishop, Patron of Wales**

10.00am Marie & Ernie Comp, RIP/anniv

2nd Wed **ASH WEDNESDAY**

10.00am Monica Fitzmaurice RIP anniv

7.00pm Bryan Filan

3rd Thu Lent feria

7.00pm Stuart Higginson & Family

4th Fri Lent feria

10.00am Holy Souls

followed by Stations of the Cross

7.00pm The Cruz Family

followed by Stations of the Cross

5th Sat Lent Feria

10.00am John Keenan RIP

Vigil of Sunday

6.00pm People of the Parish

6th Sun **1st SUNDAY OF LENT**

8.30 am Chris Cusack RIP

10.00am "for those who prayed for Joe and Supported The Mesquita Family"

11.30am Marie Baldomero Marinas

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10.30-11.30am & 5.15-5.45pm

and by appointment

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

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

Baptisms, Funerals & Weddings – by appointment – 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

REFLECTION AND LENT

Brothers and sisters, after night prayer I play music because it's what I do before I go to bed; it helps me fall asleep. The piece of music that came out in my playlist one night this week was Vivaldi's 'Spring'



played by an orchestra. I was surprised I had this piece in my playlist, I tend to have more modern stuff although classical stuff I enjoy from time to time. This piece is supposed to be an optimistic upbeat piece of classical music. The violin is what makes it stand out, just like Jesus Christ stands out in our life if we are Christian.

This Sunday we hear that the good disciple knows how to discern the good things and the bad because he/she has allowed themselves to be examined first, by themselves, and then by the master Jesus Christ.

To enter a space of self-examination or as we say in our faith an examination of conscience is good. This invites us to put aside this old nature St Paul speaks about and put on the nature of Christ Jesus.

Vivaldi's 'Spring' is the sound our life can have when we allow the master to use us rather than we try to be the master of our own orchestra, in other words taking away Jesus's authority over our life and trusting in the things of this world for happiness creates the opposite effect as we witness today through the uncertainties of war, epidemics, and sin.

Let us keep our head up high, because we wait for our redeemer (Luke 21:28) who promises us his victory over death. Let this time of Lent in our lives be live different than other years rather than giving up chocolate or things we don't care about we begin to search for deeper forms of prayer. Let this time us to prepare ourselves for the true spring which is Easter and eternal life.

Fr Axcel

Reflect on next Sunday's Readings with the help of

www.wednesdayword.org

1st Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26:4-10, Psalm 90,

Romans 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13

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.

Pray also for : Patrick Savage, Eugenia Chellotti, George Niznik, Maidie Wilson, James Small, Thomas Lee, Francis Roberts, Joan Barry, Jack O’Gorman, Istvan Papp, Katherine Obi, Maragret Caden, Patrick Sloane, Sylvester Rebbitt, Joana Desouza, Archie O’Brien, Monica Fitzmaurice, Francois Joseph, Charles Dunleavy, John Rogers, Helen Cronin, Patricia McCarthy, Delia Murphy, Noel Johns, John Dignam, Veronica Furie, Doris McNulty, Helen Leahy, Honora Norgate-Bennett and all whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

From next Sunday, 6th March, the 12 Noon mass will revert back to 11.30 am. Mass intentions booked for the 12 Noon mass will be transferred to the 11.30am Mass.

Confirmation – Confirmation registration is taking place. Candidates should collect registration forms from Fr Axcel or Fr Graham after any Mass. The deadline for the return of forms is **2nd March, Ash Wednesday**. Once we have received your application Father Axcel will send you a letter. There will be a Confirmation induction meeting in the church at **4.30pm on 5th March** for the Candidates and their parents, please keep that date free as it is important. Please note that there will be a charge to cover the costs of materials and the retreat.

St John Fisher Social Club are holding a quiz on **Saturday 5th March**. Doors open at 8pm, quiz starts at 8.30. Entry £1.50 per person, max team size 4 persons, max number of teams 6. Reserve your team table by phoning John Cousins on 020 88666845. Bottle of wine each for the winning team.

The **Social Club AGM** will be taking place this **Sunday 27th February** in the small hall at 7:30pm. Please note that membership renewals are now due.

Harrow Emergency Support Scheme – Help with living costs. The scheme is open to Harrow residents who are struggling to cope with living costs. To apply telephone 0808 250 5705 or email advice@citizensadviceharrow.org.uk. Full details can be found on the church notice board. All applicants must apply by 18th March.

Planned Giving Envelopes – For the next financial year we will be purchasing planned giving envelopes for those who have donated to the parish this way during the last two years. If you have not used your envelopes for more than two years but would still like to receive them please contact the parish office.

Harrow Foodbank – Our monthly collection takes place next weekend; the Foodbank shopping list this month includes shaving foam and razors; long-life fruit juice; tinned fruit; tinned macaroni cheese; shampoo; sponge puddings; men’s deodorant; full fat long-life milk; salt; bars of soap; nappies size 4

LENT 2022

Maintenance to Mission – We are having a ‘**Watch Party**’ on **Shrove Tuesday, 1st March** to watch ‘What is God Saying the the Church?’ a live discussion between Fr James Mallon, author of ‘Divine Renovation’ Bishop Robert Barron founder of ‘Word on Fire’ and Nicky Gumbel from the Alpha Course. Afterwards there will be time for discussion and pancakes, all in the Fisher Room or Small Hall (depending on numbers booking) starting at **6pm** so arrive for 5.45pm. Please sign up in the porch or contact the parish office if you would like to come

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, a day of abstinence and fasting - we abstain from eating meat or an equivalent luxury, as a sign of penitence; we eat less than usual, perhaps even missing a meal. All these observances are to help our devotion; they not punitive! This year Pope Francis has asked us to keep Ash Wednesday as a day of prayer and fasting for peace in Ukraine. **Masses with the distribution of ashes will take place at 10 am (with part of St John Fisher School) and 7pm**

Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday mornings and evenings during Lent. We are inviting parishioners to lead the Stations of the Cross **after Friday morning Mass**; please contact the parish office if you would like to do this; there are many texts available in the sacristy to choose from. There will be a **Friday evening Mass at 7pm** in Lent followed by Father Graham or Father Axcel leading Stations of the Cross with Confessions available as well.

Saturday morning ‘mini retreat’ with Confessions for Lent from visiting priests – date and further details to follow

Lent ‘Walk with Me’ booklets are available at the back of the church for £1. Please put money in ‘papers’ wall safe

Lenten Almsgiving – This year our Lenten alms, typically the collection on Holy Thursday, will go to support the **Cardinal’s Lenten Appeal** supporting the work of parishes and Caritas Westminster to enable those on the margins to lead a life of dignity and worth, and also the work of **Mary’s Meals** feeding children at school in developing countries in order to help them attain an education.

DEANERY & DIOCESAN NOTICES

Thanksgiving Mass for Matrimony - Married couples who are celebrating particular anniversaries during 2022 are invited to Westminster Cathedral for a Thanksgiving Mass for Matrimony. This will take place on **Saturday 14th May** at 3pm. If you would like to attend please contact the parish office.

St John Fisher Preschool is looking for a preschool assistant, ideally with a relevant Level 2 Early Years qualification or above. However they will accept unqualified if you are willing to start a level 2 course. You will be required to work up to 20 hours a week, (days/times negotiable for 38+ weeks). Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. Closing date for applicants **21st March**. A full and enhanced DBS will be required. For an application form please email Lynne Durcan on sjf.preschool@gmail.com.

OTHER NOTICES (online only)

Northwick Park Hospital Chaplaincy. Father Agustin Paunon is the Catholic chaplain serving Northwick Park/St Marks, Central Middlesex and Ealing Hospitals. To refer a Catholic patient to be visited by the Catholic Chaplain please call 020 8869 2113 or email either agustinpaunon@nhs.net or lnwh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net

Parish Administrator: Harrow South & Northolt Parish is looking for a Parish Administrator. 22.5 hours per week. Salary: £13 per hour Closing date:25 February 2022 at noon Full details available at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/parish-administrator-harrow-south-northolt/> More details on notice in church porch.

The Passage a Catholic Charity, working with people who are homeless, is holding a St David's Day concert on **Thursday 3 March at 7.30 pm** in Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square with The London Welsh Male Voice Choir and soloist tenor Ryan Vaughan Davies. All tickets are £20. Please support the work of this excellent charity. Tickets at www.passage.org.uk/st-davids-day-concert or telephone 020 75921856

Gala Irish Concert - at Salvatorian College, High Road, Harrow Weald from 7.30pm-11pm on **Saturday 26th February** supporting the British Heart Foundation and Michael Sobell Hospice. For more details see notice in church porch

Examination Invigilators - St Dominic's Sixth Form College and Sacred Heart Language College are looking for Examination Invigilators. For more information please see notice on church notice board.

Retrouvaille, A Lifeline for Marriage - Has Covid-19 put you under more stress as a couple? Is your marriage become stressed, unloving, cold? Do you argue more? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, are you thinking about it? Do you want to try again? The Retrouvaille programme may be just what you need! The next programme commences with a weekend **3rd-6th March**. For more information, Telephone or text 0788 729 6983 (Complete confidentiality assured.) Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit <https://www.retrouvaille.org.uk>