

St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church



80 Imperial Close, Harrow, HA2 7LW,
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<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harrownorth>

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

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

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

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

Parish Catechist: Jan Bennett, harrownorthcat@rcdow.org.uk (office hours Mon, Tue, Thu 10am-3pm)



10th March 2024 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY)

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

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

You may appear on camera if you are seated in the front four pews and/or when you come to receive Holy Communion.

9th Sat	Lent feria
10.00am	Vocation for Married Life - with GIFT families
	Vigil Mass of Sunday
6.00pm	Raj Rajendra RIP
10th Sun	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
8:30am	People of The Parish
10.00am	Stella & Jacqui Mesquita RIP & all Mums with children's liturgy of the Word
11.30am	Katherine Hayes RIP
11th Mon	Lent Feria
10.00am	Tricia Roach RIP/Anniv
12th Tue	Lent Feria
10.00am	Frankie Ryan RIP/2 nd Anniv
13th Wed	Lent Feria
10.00am	Westminster diocesan seminarians
14th Thu	Lent Feria
7.00pm	Abraham Dominic RIP/Birthday Remembrance
15th Fri	Lent Feria
10.00am	Toi June Aw RIP followed by Stations of the Cross
7.00pm	Chris Halley followed by Stations of the Cross
16th Sat	Lent Feria
10.00am	Jackie Fong RIP Visiting Priests available for confession (10.30 to 12)
	Vigil Mass of Sunday
6.00pm	Enzo Tagliani
17th Sun	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
8:30am	Timothy Fitzgerald
10.00am	Colin & Daphne Martin RIP/Anniv
11.30am	People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday: 10.30am - 11.30am, 5.15 - 5.45 pm and by appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Mondays and Fridays 9am-9.50am

Saturdays, First Friday: after Mass - 11.30am (with Benediction on First Friday and First Saturday of the month)

Baptisms, Funerals & Weddings – by appointment

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

CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES

You will recall the launch of our parish vision at the beginning of the year on the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. Why? Because as a Church we need to move from a maintenance-based model, carrying on doing what we have been doing hoping for different results, to mission, doing what Jesus asked us to do; 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:19-20)

Come and See! Everyone is welcome

We aspire to be a joyful and vibrant Catholic community who gather to experience God's love.

Nurturing our relationship with Jesus we become His disciples.

By the power of the Holy Spirit we are inspired to serve and spread the Gospel message.

Community – Discipleship – Mission

You might ask "what exactly is a disciple?" Yes, they were the first followers of Jesus but what does that mean for me and my family in 2024 in Harrow? Well here is a helpful description from a parish in Texas about what being a disciple looks like



A good reflection for each and every one of us during this time of Lent.

God Bless, Fr Graham

Reflect on upcoming Sunday's Readings with the help of

www.wednesdayword.org

5th Sunday of Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 50,
Hebrews 5:7-9, John 12:20-30

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 – Mary Quinn, Agnes Kelly

Pray also for – Michael Carolan, Mel Stiffle, Anna Castignetti, Rowland Kenworthy, Bruno Castignetti, Breda Linnane, Doreen Williams, Betty Kalembe, Edward Goulding, Bob Le Forestier, Jack Conway, Charlie O'Brien, John Forde Kathleen Hayes, Derrick Mitchell, Delores Atkins, George O'Neil, Norma Mesquita, Patricia Roach Catherine Cattigan, Joan Howard, Brenda O'Hanlon, Guiseppe Marcellini, John Cahill, Ann Devine, Milly Yarwood, Frederick Sutherland, Winifred Kennedy, Veronica Marzollini, Baby Melissa Ferreira, Eric McCarthy, Margaret McKenna and all whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Defibrillator use training – Another visit has been arranged from St John's Ambulance to demonstrate how to use a defibrillator. This will take place **after the 6pm Mass this Saturday 9th March**. London Hearts have also provided a link to a demonstration: <https://vimeo.com/557677120/e7524918c5>.

Send a message to a prisoner of conscience - On **9th & 10th March** you are invited to sign a postcard with a message of hope to a prisoner of conscience. Cards will be on a table in the narthex and you are invited to pray for that prisoner over the coming weeks. Postage will be £2.20 per card & you are invited to contribute to the cost if you are able to.

Funeral Mass for Agnes Kelly RIP will take place on **Thursday 21st March** at 12noon followed by committal at Hendon Crematorium. Please keep Agnes and her family in your prayers at this time. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Flowers to decorate the church at Easter – There will be a retiring collection after masses this weekend to support the cost of flowers to decorate the church at Easter. These typically cost several hundred pounds so anything you give is greatly appreciated.

Holy Week and Easter posters are available to collect in the narthex after Mass. Put one up in your window to tell people of the events of this most holy of weeks.

Palm Sunday and Holy Week services – Flyers will be available next weeknd with the timings of all the services for Holy Week. Note that **on Palm Sunday, 24th March, the 10.00am Mass will start outside St Alban's Church on The Ridgeway** with the Opening Gospel and Blessing of Palms before we process to St John Fisher to continue Mass. **There will be reduced parking outside church that weekend** Please be considerate and park nearby and/or walk if you are able to do so.

Family Catechesis – GIFT - Our March meeting takes place this **Saturday 9th March** beginning with Mass at 10:00am; we will be looking at Holy Week and Easter. The next parents' only meeting will take place on **Thursday 18th April** at 8pm via ZOOM. The noticeboard at the back of the church gives details of what we did at the last session and lets you know when the

LENT 2024

Exodus, Passover, and The Jewish roots of Christianity - Fr Axel will continue his series of talks on understanding the Exodus, the Feast of Passover and how Jesus fulfils all of this and how we live it every time we come to Mass from 7.00pm-8.00pm in the Fisher Room on **Monday 11th and 25th March**. Please see poster and flyers in church narthex.

Stations of the Cross take place on Friday mornings and evenings during Lent. We invite you to lead the Stations of the Cross **after Friday morning Mass**; please contact the parish office if you would like to do this. There is a **Friday evening Mass at 7pm in Lent** followed by Fr Graham, Fr Axel or James leading Stations of the Cross.

Additional opportunities for confession – At least two visiting confessors will be here from **10.30-12noon on Saturday 16th March**. There will be additional opportunities for Confessions at Our Lady & St Thomas on **Saturday 23rd March** from 10.30am and at St Luke's Pinner on **Sunday 24th March** from 3pm.

Parish Lenten Alms – This year our Lenten Alms will support **Harrow Foodbank** and the appeal, supported by Cardinal Vincent, launched by Cardinal Pizzaballa the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, to support **Christians in the Holy Land**.

Ecumenical Lenten Lunches are taking place on four Saturdays in Lent starting at 12noon on **Saturday 2nd March** at Elmfield on Imperial Drive. For more details see poster on noticeboard in church narthex.

Ecumenical worship is taking place on weekday evenings at a number of churches across North Harrow. More details on noticeboard in church narthex.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal – Each year the donations made to this appeal support work in areas such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work d with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. If you wish to contribute please take a donation envelope.

next sessions are. Take a look at what our children are learning about and come and join us if you have children of primary school age.

Parish Women's Social Group The group will host a **book evening on Thursday, 21st March** at 7.45pm in the small hall of our Parish Centre. Cost: £1. We will be discussing 'Mad Honey' by Jodi Picoult & Jennifer Fianey Boylan. do come if you haven't read it as we will be sharing our recommendations of books recently read and enjoyed. Small portions of snacks or drinks to share would be appreciated. The PWSG is open to all women in the parish and their invited friends. Newcomers welcome.

Walk in the Chilterns - On **Saturday 23rd March** the group is planning a walk in the Chilterns. It will be an 8km walk from West Wycombe of moderate difficulty with a small pub lunch in the middle. If you wish to join us, please get contact Anna Ryland (annaryland22@aol.com or 0774 710 3303).



PARISH NOTICES (online only)

Caritas Newsletter – The latest newsletter from Caritas Westminster is on the noticeboard in the church narthex for helpful advice and information on help with the cost of living and the church's social outreach.

The Annual Mass for Matrimony will be in Westminster Cathedral will be on **Saturday 25th May at 2.30pm**. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please contact the parish office with: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

Church heating – The parish centre boiler requires replacement There is a 'repairs and maintenance' option on the contactless giving device as well as on the donate section of the website or scan this QR code. Thank you for your support



Fire wardens – We need to have **fire wardens identified at each Sunday Mass**. If you are willing to help please contact Fr Graham. It is not an onerous duty and training will be provided.

Missio and Mill Hill Missionaries: Volunteer required - Local Secretaries are the 'engine room' of the work of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Missio is the Pope's own charity for overseas mission and helps God's love to be shared by supporting local missionaries to work alongside global communities that are poor or in need, regardless of background or belief, and works in partnership with the Mill Hill Missionaries, Britain's own missionary society. Local Secretaries look after the Red Box members in their parish, ensuring that boxes are emptied and organising the distribution of the free quarterly magazine, Mission Today. The Red Box can be found in 200,000 homes across England and Wales and plays a vital role in the universal mission of the Church. Our volunteers have the full support of the Missio team. More information at www.missio.org.uk Please make yourself known to Fr Graham who will contact Missio to get you started.

OTHER NOTICES (online only)

Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform Bach's retelling of St John Passion **on Thursday 14th March at 7.30pm** at Westminster Cathedral. J.S. Bach's setting of the Passion story was first performed in 1724 and has since become a popular staple of the season of Lent. You are invited to join this devotional performance by the world-famous Choir directed by Master of Music, Simon Johnson, accompanied by a period Baroque Orchestra and joined by outstanding soloists: James Gilchrist and William Thomas. This is a wonderful chance to hear the Cathedral's superb choir performing one of the greatest pieces of Easter music ever written. Tickets are available at https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F00602BD7A81B4F?d_id=sjp30

Breakspear: The English Pope – An illustrated talk by Adrian Waddingham at St Matthew's, Northwood from 7.30pm on **Saturday 9th March**. Tickets priced £10 available from Northwood parish. For more details see poster on noticeboard in church narthex.