

St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church



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020 8868 7531

<https://parish.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, 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)



24th March 2024 – PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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.

23rd Sat	Lent feria
10.00am	William Johns RIP/2 nd Anniv
	Vigil Mass of Sunday
6.00pm	Agnes Kelly RIP
24th Sun	PALM SUNDAY
8:30am	William Patrick Johns RIP/2 nd Anniv
10.00am	Bastiampillai Rajan RIP/1 st Anniv
	Gather for 9.45am outside St Albans, The Ridgeway for
	Blessing of Palms and procession to St John Fisher
11.30am	People of the Parish
25th Mon	MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK
10.00am	Saverimuthu Leo Anton
12 Noon	Funeral Mass of Mary Quinn RIP
26th Tue	TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK
9.00 am	Christopher Ponnukone RIP
27th Wed	WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK
10.00am	Sindhu & Healthy Baby in Pregnancy
28th Thur	HOLY THURSDAY
8.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper (followed by watching at Altar of Repose)
	Patrick Monaghan RIP/Anniv
11.50pm	Night Prayer then church closes
29th Fri	GOOD FRIDAY
10.00am	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Stations of the Cross for Children
3.00pm	Solemn Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
7.00pm	Stations of the Cross & Night Prayer
30th Sat	HOLY SATURDAY
10.00am	Morning Prayer
3.00pm	Blessing of Easter Food Baskets
	EASTER TIME
8.00 pm	EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT
	People of the Parish
31st Sun	EASTER SUNDAY
8:30am	Thanksgiving Mary Nakuya & Family
10.00am	Maria Texeira RIP/Anniv
11.30am	Mrs McDonagh RIP/Anniv

ENDURING CALVARY

Passion Sunday, or Palm Sunday as many people commonly know it, marks the beginning of Holy Week when we commemorate the triumphant arrival of Christ into Jerusalem, just days before the crucifixion.

This year as we journey through Holy Week we keep in particular prayer the land of Christ's birth. The parish priest of the only



Catholic parish in Gaza explained how the rest of the population feels greatly disheartened, as there are no visible signs of peace or an end to violence and death. In an interview with SIR, an Italian Catholic news agency, Fr. Romanelli laments the terrible toll of the war, saying, "This conflict has already resulted in more than 32,000 deaths, 12,000 of which are children." The members of the parish have been taking refuge for months in the parish compound along with other displaced Christians, totalling about 600, who have lost everything in the bombings. "The situation continues to be extremely grave and worsens by the hour. Our Christians have faith and hope in the Essential, in Jesus Christ," according to Fr. Romanelli. "They have been enduring relentless Calvary for months," he adds.

We all have our crosses, our own personal Calvary. Let us place them before the Lord in this week to come.

Wishing you a blessed Holy Week, Fr Graham

Reflect on upcoming Sunday's Readings with the help of

www.wednesdayword.org

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34.37-43, Psalm 117,
Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-9

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Monday and Wednesday of Holy Week – after Mass;
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

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 Michael Daley, Janet Teixeira

Pray also for – Stephen D'Cruz, Noel O'Neill, James O'Brien, William Patrick Johns, Margaret Rogers, Josephine Doyle, Grace Selvarajah, Anton Kulasegaram Saverimuttu, Sean Kelly Sabina Walsh, Charles Brown, Walter Jackson, Michael Lee, Antonio Cacchioli, Jose 'Duran' Carballo, Ned O'Neill, Ann Castell, Kathleen Truscott, Barbara Dyt, Bernard Letchet, Lucy "Lucille" Goulding, Mary Farrell, Deirdre Ratnayake and all whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Palm Sunday and Holy Week services – Flyers are available with the timings of the services for Holy Week and Easter. **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. **Please gather for 9.45am outside St Alban's. There will be reduced parking in the church car park that weekend** Please be considerate and park nearby and/or walk if you are able to do so.

A big clean for Holy Week and Easter – Please come and join our regular parish cleaning teams on **Saturday 23rd March from 8am-10am** to make the church shining for Easter! There will be some refreshments in the Fisher Room after Mass.

Change to Mass Times – On **Tuesday 26th March** the parish Mass will be celebrated at **9am**, rather than 10am, to enable Fr Graham and Fr Axcel to attend the Chrism Mass in Westminster Cathedral to which all are welcome.

Easter Offering – Envelopes are available in the church narthex for your Easter offering towards the clergy. This is paid into the parish bank account and supports the stipend that the diocese pays its priests. Regular standing orders do not include an Easter Offering. You can also support this collection using the contactless giving device. Thank you for your generosity.

Collections in Holy Week – On **Holy Thursday** the collection will support our **Parish Lenten Alms**. This year our Lenten Alms will support Harrow Foodbank and the appeal of Cardinal Pizzaballa the Patriarch of Jerusalem to support Christians in the Holy Land. On **Good Friday** the collection goes to support the **Holy Places**, the stewardship of the sites in the Holy Land associated with the Life of Christ. Thank you for your generosity

Good Friday Walk of Witness – The regular Churches Together Walk of Witness around the local churches will take place on **Good Friday, 29th March** starting at 11.30am outside St Alban's Church, The Ridgeway. Details in church narthex.

Sacraments – We welcome Sienna Power who is being baptised into the church next weekend. We also welcome Daniel Tsaparis who will be received into the church and Harry Keen and Adrian Wojcik who will be Confirmed at the Easter Vigil.

Exodus, Passover, and The Jewish roots of Christianity – Fr Axcel will conclude his series of talks on 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 25th March**.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal – Each year this appeal supports 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 with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. If you wish to contribute please take a donation envelope.

Funeral Mass for Mary Quinn RIP will take place on **Monday 25th March** at 12noon followed by committal at Pinner New Cemetery. The **Funeral Mass for Beryl Riggs RIP** will take place on **Friday 5th April** at 12noon followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Divine Mercy Sunday Devotion – **7th April, 3pm** We will be praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Litany during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and concluding with Benediction. All are welcome to come and pray this devotion so close to the heart of St John Paul II.

Family Catechesis – 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 March session and lets you know when the 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.

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.

Save the date: Saturday, 20th April, 7 pm - QUIZ NIGHT In the Parish Centre. Tickets £5 cash (on sale after masses on 6/7 and 13/14 April). Snacks provided and a cash bar. Bring a team or join one on the night!



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



Gift Aid Scheme: Thanks to everyone who 'Gift Aids' their donations to the parish. If you are a taxpayer and do not currently Gift Aid your offerings to the parish, but would like to, please collect a form from the church narthex. If you pay by standing order that reduces the burden on our parish counters as well. If you are a member of the Gift Aid scheme but are no longer a taxpayer please contact our bookkeeper on harrownorthbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk

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.

OTHER NOTICES (online only)

Charity fundraising concert for St John & St Elizabeth Hospice on **Saturday 13th April** at the Salvation College School Hall, Wealdstone HA3 5DY 7:15pm. A fun filled evening of music and dance. You will be entertained by the Rock Chorus, the extremely talented Kathryn O'Hare, World Champion Irish Dancer Joe McGeown .and Harrow Apollo Male Choir. You will be supporting Amanda Kennelly who is raising funds for St John's Hospice by running the London Marathon. Thank you for your support And tell your friends... Tickets and more information available by using this QR code.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 19th- 26th July 2024 – Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nicholas is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by **Tuesday 30th April**.

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).

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.

'Cabrini' film - Now showing in cinemas including Harrow Vue, Cabrini is the story of Saint Frances Cabrini, better known as Mother Cabrini. It is the epic story of Catholic missionary, Francesca Cabrini, an Italian immigrant who arrives in New York City in 1889 and is greeted by disease, crime and impoverished children. With broken English and poor health, Cabrini uses her entrepreneurial mind to build an empire of hope unlike the world has ever seen.