

St John Fisher Roman Catholic Church

80 Imperial Close, Harrow, HA2 7LW,
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)



7th April 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

6th Sat **SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**
10.00am Bernadette Fernandes RIP/5th Anniv
6.00pm Mr Victor Fontgalan & Mrs Winifred Fontgalan

Vigil Mass of Sunday

7th Sun **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**
8:30am Betty Kalemba RIP & Huruna Bwanika RIP
10.00am Janet Teixeira RIP
11.30am People of the Parish
2.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions

8th Mon **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**
10.00am Maks Kozien (Health Intentions)

9th Tue Easter Feria
10.00 am Catherine & John P O'Sullivan RIP

10th Wed Easter Feria
10.00am Marcelo Ortiz RIP/Anniv

11th Thu St Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr
7.00pm Marcelo Ortiz RIP/Anniv

12th Fri Easter Feria
10.00am Marcelo Ortiz RIP/Anniv

13th Sat Saint Martin I, Pope & Martyr
10.00am Stella Mesquita RIP/2nd Anniv

Vigil Mass of Sunday

6.00pm John O'Sullivan RIP, Lily & Edward Kelly RIP

14th Sun **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**
8:30am People of the Parish
10.00am John De Freitas
11.30am Tom Sullivan

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

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

CARDINAL'S EASTER MESSAGE

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, in his Easter morning homily, celebrated a day of victory – Christ's victory over death. "Christ is risen," said the Cardinal, "and with him we are set free." Cardinal Nichols heralded the hope that Christ brings – hope in the eternal life where all are valued in the eyes of God. In particular, he refuted sentiments on assisted suicide and euthanasia such as those expressed in recent newspaper articles. The Cardinal asserted that Christ, in breaking these claims of death, "opens a new and wonderful horizon by which we are now to live." In the freedom we are given by Christ, we can confront the reality of death – a reality that comes to us all.



"If, in the end, death is all that there is, then life is simply sound and fury signifying nothing," said the cardinal. "Indeed, the logic of life understood as nothing more than a collection of days was laid out starkly in a recent newspaper article. In it the writer argued that euthanasia is such a good thing. He believed, in all seriousness, that it was everyone's duty to take their own life once their usefulness was over. Since there was no other meaning to life than usefulness, then we should have a duty not to waste resources in sustaining a life no longer useful to others. Easter breaks us out of that stultifying perspective. Easter shouts a resounding 'No' to the domination of death and its callous logic."

Our Easter message is "to live in love through the practical service of one another and, at crucial moments, to be forgetful of self," said the Cardinal. "We pray for this spirit of service and sacrifice to be poured out in our world, that we can work together wholeheartedly for the relief of stark poverty, for peace between warring factions, for stability in home and society."

Wishing you a blessed Easter, Fr Graham

Reflect on upcoming Sunday's Readings with the help of

www.wednesdayword.org

3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Psalm 4,

1 John 2:1-5, Luke 24: .35-48

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 – Kathy Burrows

Pray also for – Hannah Celine O'Brien, Kathleen Prendeville, Bernadette Fernandes, Mary Keane, Sally Enwright, Nora O'Connor, John O'Sullivan, Laurentine Jean-Jacques, Maisie Rainsford, Eileen Jordan, Kathleen Bacon, Catherine Fearon, Michael Broderick, Bridget Maher, Florence Keane, June Collins, Robert Monahan, Mary Maloney, Lucy Mulvaney, Dr Larry Fisch, Beryl Gibbs, Barbara Ryan, Maura Haygreen, Brian Walton, Frank Baldock and all whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Easter thanks from Fr Graham –“Thank you to everyone who participated in our Holy Week liturgies. Particular thanks are always risky but they are certainly due to our servers and those who took on the role of ‘MC’ each day; to our musicians including the families who formed the childrens’ choir; to those who cleaned the church; to our sacristans as well as the new flower team who decorated the church so beautifully. Thanks are also due to Fr Axcel, Jan and Nuala and to all the volunteers who do so much ‘behind the scenes’. Thanks also from Fr Axcel and myself for your Easter offerings and other gifts as well as entering so prayerfully into our Triduum celebrations and in such numbers! Deo gratias.”

Divine Mercy Sunday Devotion – 7th April, 2pm (note revised time) 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 which will not include Mass.

The Annunciation of the Lord which is usually celebrated on 25th March will be celebrated this year on 8th April; this is typical practice when a solemnity falls during Holy Week or the Easter Octave. This is not a holyday of obligation.

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. There will not be a family catechesis session on the second Saturday of April, 13th April, given the school Easter holidays.

Harrow Food Bank Collection is this weekend **6th /7th April**. The following are required: long life skimmed & whole milk; tinned ravioli/bolognese; tinned spaghetti & sausages; chopped pork & ham, sponge pudding microwaveable; tinned mixed vegetable; cooking oil; tinned beef, meat meals, tinned meat/corned beef, tinned vegetarian & vegan meals, packet meat soup, tinned fish (not tuna); tinned meatballs; tinned/jarred hot dogs, tinned carrots; tinned peas, tinned potatoes; packet mashed potato, Tesco Irish stew/tinned lamb meals; tinned macaroni cheese; savoury biscuits, crackers, tinned custard; coffee (small jars), baby toiletries. Thank you

Mary’s Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity. Donations for the foreign currency collection totalled £366.50. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary’s Meals.



Saturday, 20th April, 7 pm

QUIZ NIGHT In the Parish Centre. Tickets £5 cash per person (on sale after masses this weekend and next

weekend (6/7 and 13/14 April). Cash Bar and Snacks. Bring a team of up to 6 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 – Planned giving envelopes 2023/24 - For those who contribute regularly using envelopes the new tax year envelopes are now available to collect after mass from the Fisher Room. 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 or the parish office. If you would consider switching to pay by standing order that reduces the burden on our parish counters as well as the cost of envelopes on which we spend over £100 a year. Please contact the parish office or bookkeeper harrownorthbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk

If you are a UK taxpayer, through Gift Aid, we can claim back the tax that you have paid on your donation at no cost to you; every £1 you give is worth £1.25 to the parish. If you are interested in joining the scheme or are a member of the scheme but are no longer a taxpayer please contact our bookkeeper harrownorthbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk

Poor box – Thanks to your generosity in supporting the parish ‘poor box’ in the back wall of the church a significant amount of money has accumulated over the past few years which we wish to redistribute to good causes. Fr Graham and the Parish Finance Committee have agreed that sufficient money should be held to support both the parish SVP group and any urgent needs; beyond that money given to the poor box should be distributed to Catholic and local registered charities that support the poor and needy and which are not supported as part of our regular parish activities. This year we would therefore propose to support the work of

1. More Than Just a Choir
2. Good Counsel Network
3. The Passage
4. The Cardinal Hume Centre
5. Providence Row
6. Little Sisters of the Poor
7. Firm Foundation

Any suggestions for additional registered charities that we might also support are welcome. Please contact Fr Graham in the first instance who will bring your suggestions to the Finance Committee.

OTHER NOTICES

Translator required - Volunteer sought by a Pro-life, Pregnancy Support Centre to translate leaflets into Tamil, so that more women in difficult pregnancies can be reached with help and alternatives to abortion. Call Clare on 07795205117 if you can help.

OTHER 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.

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 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).