

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, 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)



14th April 2024 – THIRD 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.

13th Sat 10.00am	Saint Martin I, Pope & Martyr Stella Mesquita RIP/2 nd Anniv
6.00pm	<i>Vigil Mass of Sunday</i> John O'Sullivan RIP & Lily & Edward Kelly RIP
14th Sun 8:30am	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER People of the Parish
10.00am	John De Freitas
11.30am	Tom Sullivan
15th Mon 10.00am	Easter Feria All priests (thanksgiving)
16th Tue 10.00 am	Easter Feria Michael Hughes RIP/Anniv
17th Wed 10.00am	Easter Feria Tom Gallagher RIP
18th Thu 7.00pm	Easter Feria Anna Da Silva RIP/1 st Anniv
19th Fri 10.00am	Saint Alphege, Bishop & Martyr John Gallagher RIP
20th Sat 10.00am	Easter Feria Marie O'Connell
6.00pm	<i>Vigil Mass of Sunday</i> Mary Anne & Patrick Moloney RIP
21st Sun 8:30am	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Mary Kate McGlynn
10.00am	Maria Pranto RIP/4th Anniv
11.30am	People of the Parish

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

HISTORY, FAITH, AND PILGRIMAGE

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, last weekend I went down to Toulon, Marseille and Avignon to have a bit of a break, also to visit a family who is in mission there and a priest who was in the Holy Land with me when I lived there for a year in 2013-2014.

It was very interesting to have seen first of all Avignon, because it was a time in Church history where things were unclear and often confusing. What we sometimes fail to realise now adays is that confusion and chaos is not a stranger in the history of the Church. The hope I got from there was the words our Lord said to the apostles, **"I am with you always even to the end of the age"** **Matthew 28:20.**

The second thing was to see the mission of the church with this family and priest which is serving the evangelisation in an area of France where the Church is no longer a big presence. They have been there for 10 years, and one may think they are there as immigrants because they are from Spain, but they are making a presence in their neighbourhood of the risen Christ in their mission. They are 8 siblings and to the people there they give a question mark. Why are they so many and why are they not unhappy? The world tells our families to have few children or none, and live only for oneself. This family showed me that one can live the Christian life serving in a family and others around. The children are the main evangelizers there because they have friends that come from broken households and they are welcomed by them when the family prays together on Sunday.

Lastly but not least, the saints and our Lady. I didn't realise it but it was like a short pilgrimage for me, firstly because I visited the relics of Saint Lazarus in the Major Cathedral, and then walked to Notre dame de la Garde up the highest point in Marseille. To visit our Lady, having the surprise to see Didier Drogba's Shirt there because he had also visited our lady there too when he played for the FC Marseille.



Brothers and sisters Let us live our faith in all we do even when we are taking a break, and let us enjoy those times the Lord gives us to bless him.

Wishing you a blessed Easter time, Fr Axcel

Reflect on upcoming Sunday's Readings with the help of

www.wednesdayword.org

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:8-12. Psalm 117,

1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18

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 Alex Mascarenhas

Pray also for – Joanne Flannery, Margaret Monahan, Phyllis Healy, Una Graydon, Bernard Devine, Patrick Kennedy, Teresa Kitchie, Joe & Nora Broderick, Mary Maher, Alice Tobin, Seamus O'Brien, Richard Plesner, Theresa Sundaram, Margred Joseph Sinnathurai, Irene Hurst, Michael Hughes, Bridget Byrne, Trenton "Loyd" Henry, Helen McNamara, Kathleen Forde, Nellie Connolly, Tom Mc Cann, John Manners, William O'Riordan, James Pettifer, Margaret Fogarty, Claire (Tita) Fisch, Andrew Blyth, Karl Smol, Maria Pranto, Mary Hutchinson and all whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

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.



Saturday, 20th April, 7 pm PARISH QUIZ NIGHT In the Parish Centre. Tickets £5 are on sale after masses; pay with cash or using the contactless device. Alternatively

order by phone from Eddie Collins 07803150222. Cash Bar and Snacks. Bring a team of up to 6 or join one on the night

Priest Training Fund - Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 49 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 13 of whom are from our own Diocese. We also have one seminarian in Valladolid and one at the Beda, presently on pastoral placement in Ruislip. There are also two on a propaedeutic year at Redemptoris Mater. Last year 3 deacons were ordained for Westminster Diocese. The Priest Training Fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation envelopes are available in the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code to **make** your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations Thank you for your generosity.

Mass Intentions 2025. We are now taking mass intentions for 2025. Please contact the parish office to book.

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

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



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.

Lenten Almsgiving – The Lenten Alms collection on Holy Thursday raised £545.73 which will be split between Harrow Foodbank and Cardinal Pizzaballa's appeal for Christians in the Holy Land. Thank you for your generosity.

OTHER NOTICES

SPUC PRO - Life Chain 2024 Next **Saturday 20th April** Harrow SPUC Branch will be holding a Silent Act of Witness between 11am and 1pm the "Pro Life Chain" to commemorate 56 years of legalised abortion. This will take place on Kenton Bridge opposite Kenton station. Pro-Lifers will hold placards which will be witnessed by passing motorists. You are most welcome to join the chain. The organiser Iwona Edupuganti can be contacted on 07713990065 or at iwonaedupuganti@gmail.com

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)

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.

Kenton May Devotion in honour of Our Lady, on **Saturday, 18 May** beginning at 2.30pm at All Saints' Church, Kenton Road HA3 0UL. After opening prayers at All Saints there will be a Rosary procession to St Mary-the-Virgin Church of England Church, St Leonard's Avenue HA3 8EJ. Following concluding devotions at St Mary's, all are welcome to the church Hall, to enjoy a world foods party (on the Eve of Pentecost). For details see poster on noticeboard in church narthex.

Soul Food Young Adults Prayer Group based in St Charles Borromeo Church, Ogle Street, will be running their annual Life in the Spirit Seminar in April. This is a six-week course running every Thursday evening from 7.00pm, beginning 18th April. The course is a back-to-basics course, with a focus on the Holy Spirit, for Catholics at all stages of their faith journey. As part of the course they will be hosting a weekend retreat. For details and to register visit <https://soulfoodgroup.co.uk/liss/>

Retrouvaille – Do you need in support your marriage? Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidentially for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme is in Welwyn Garden City on **14th -16th June**. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

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**.