

St John Fisher 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 and Diocesan Youth Chaplain: Fr Francis Thomas francisthomas@rcdow.org.uk
Permanent Deacon: Rev. James Shin jamesshin@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)

27th September 2026, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

26th Sat	Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
10.00 am	In Thanksgiving
	Vigil Mass of Sunday – Mass Book p 134
6.00pm	Gabriel Hanrahan RIP/Bday Remembrance
27th Sun	**26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am	People of The Parish
10.00am	Agnello Fernandes & Sophie Anniv/RIP
11.30am	John Patrick Hayes RIP
28th Mon	Saint Laurence Ruiz & Companions
10.00 am	Rose Earls RIP
29th Tue	SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL
10.00am	Pauline Ratnayake RIP/2nd Anniv
30th Wed	Saint Jerome
	No Public Mass
1st Thu	Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus
11.30am	Funeral Mass of Mary Else
7.00pm	Rita Sandrasagara
2nd Fri	Holy Guardian Angels
10.00am	Holy Souls
Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	
3rd Sat	Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
10.00am	Eileen Brady RIP
	Vigil Mass of Sunday - Mass book p.137
6.00pm	Diago Fernandes Anniv/RIP
4th Sun	**27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am	Bernard Barker RIP/Anniv
10.00 am	Leanne Middlemass
11.30 am	People of the Parish

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturday: 10.30am -11.30am (except 2nd Saturday of the month)
5.15 – 5.45 pm and by appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction
Mondays and Fridays 9am–9.45am
Saturdays, First Friday: after Mass – 11.30am

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

ANNUAL MASS COUNT



In every parish I have served we have carried out in these weeks the annual mass count, looked at the figures, reflected on our response…..and then carried on as usual. This is not the case in St John Fisher. Our **renewal leadership team**, our parish renewal initiatives of **Growing in Faith Together** in place of First Reconciliation and First Communion programmes, our intentional prayer initiatives with **prayer ministry** and **prayer partners**, our **welcomers** and **regular coffee mornings**, and of course **alpha** and **youth alpha**, are a recognition that we can't go on doing what we have always done all these years and expecting different outcomes.

The ultimate outcome of parish life can only be measured by God Himself, the number of souls saved. In the meantime, one of the flawed measures we typically use is the number of people coming to Mass. Here at St John Fisher in 1991, when Mgr Keith Barltrop was parish priest, there was an average of 235 people coming to each of the Masses; last year the equivalent number was 128. A joyful and vibrant celebration of Mass requires good liturgy - including music and singing, readers, altar servers - a warm welcome, good homilies and sufficient numbers of parishioners to create a genuine sense of community and to sustain all those different aspects. When attendance is spread more thinly across Masses, it becomes increasingly difficult to support these ministries and worthily praise God.

So we must look again at the number of Masses we have each weekend for our parish to flourish in the years ahead. In the meantime, now that our Mass intention bookings have opened into 2027, we are taking intentions for two Sunday morning Masses, just as we did over the summer period and for major celebrations.

With every blessing for the week ahead, Fr Graham

Readings for next Sunday:
Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80(79):9,
Philippians 4:6-9 Matthew 21: 33-43

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: Melvyn Paul Mendonça

Pray also for : Sean Caden, Delia Mulvaney, Keith Cullis, Agnes Van Rosse, Eileen Lynch, Sam Madden, Gehan El-Sheikh, Bridget & James Horkan, Mary Kane, Katie Quinn, Agnello Fernandes, Peter Lamble, Michael Mascurine, Margaret Doran, Evelyn Kelly, William Murphy, Kity Davis William Rebbitt, Maria Bertha Dasilva, Patrick Grogan Pauline Rasheed Ratnayake and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Funeral Mass of Mary Else RIP will take place on **Thursday 1st October** at 11.30am followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. May she rest in peace and rise in glory

Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP) – If you require a CCP for your child's entry into a primary or secondary school or sixth form please contact Fr Graham to arrange an appointment. **You should be regularly coming to Sunday Mass.** Please bring a part completed CCP with you for each application. Many Catholic schools, such as St John Fisher Primary School and St Joan of Arc Secondary School no longer ask for a CCP.

Youth Ministry – The next meeting for our young people in school year 7 and above is on **Saturday 26th September after Mass**. This is an opportunity for us to explore aspects of our faith, meet other young people in the parish and have fun.

Children's Liturgy of the Word – takes place on the second Sunday of each month at the 10am Mass. Our next session will be this **Sunday, 11th October**. If you are interested in helping to lead or support these sessions please get in touch with Jan at Mass or via harrownorthcat@rcdow.org.uk

Family Catechesis (GIFT) - Growing in Faith Together is for families with children between 5 and 12 years of age ***including those wishing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion*** in due course. You can join anytime during the year. The next Session will be on **Saturday 10th October starting with Mass at 10:00am**. Come along and see what is involved. The next Parents' only meeting will be on **Monday 28th September** at 7pm in the Fisher Room.

Parish Women's Group's next meeting will be on **Thursday, 8th October**; it will be a book evening, and the group will pay tribute to Deirdre Barker, who was an author and a poet.

Mass Intentions for 2027. The diary has now been opened for Mass intentions for January 2027 until May 2027. We are not currently taking bookings for the later part of the year.

CAFOD Family Fast Day was on Friday 25th September. As you leave Mass this weekend you are invited to support the work of CAFOD by giving what you saved. Please place your offering in the basket or use a CAFOD Envelope so that you can Gift Aid your donation, or give through the CAFOD website www.cafod.org.uk/envelope . Thank you for your generosity**.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 11th October – **Macmillan Coffee and Cake Appeal** in the Parish Centre after all masses.
Saturday 17th October – **Quiz Night** in the Parish Centre, 7 for 7:30 pm. Bring your own food if you wish. The bar will be open and light snacks and soft drinks will be provided. Entry £5 with prizes to be won.
Sunday 1st November – **Coffee** morning after all masses.
Saturday 14th November – **Curry Evening** in the Parish Centre 7 for 7:30 pm. Food provided by **Gana Restaurant**, Rayners Lane. Tickets will be available after all masses from 1st November £20 adults, £10 for under 18s. Meat or vegetarian options**.**

Foodbank The next collection will be on **3rd /4th October.** Please see link below for food items required Thank you. https://harrow.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/
Thank you for the generous donations of last month.

Parish Social Club – The social club is open on Friday nights (8.30pm–11.00pm) and on Sunday afternoons (12.30pm-3.00pm). It serves a wide range of drinks and is open to all parishioners to use as a place to relax, socialise and meet new people. There is no membership fee. For further details contact Jerome 07721 788000

Blessing of Pets: There will be a blessing of pets at 12.30 pm on **Saturday 4th October** which would have been the feast of St Francis of Assisi were it not a Sunday. This will take place on the lawn beside the church.

Alpha – Our 'Alpha' course continues on Tuesdays. Please pray for the guests and helpers, that the Holy Spirit may touch all their hearts.

Poor box' distribution – Thanks to your generosity in supporting the 'poor box' money has accumulated which we wish to redistribute to good causes. Fr Graham and the Parish Finance Committee agreed that sufficient money should be held to support the parish SVP and any urgent pastoral needs; the remaining money given in this way should be distributed to Catholic charities and local registered charities that support the poor and needy and which are not supported as part of our regular activities. Any suggestions for charities that we might also support and meet the above criteria are welcome. Please contact Fr Graham who will bring your suggestions to the Finance Committee.

OTHER NOTICES

Adoremus, the **National Eucharistic Congress** will take place in London on **Saturday 10th October**. You are encouraged to join the **Procession of the Blessed Sacrament from Southwark Cathedral, along the South Bank of the Thames, to Westminster Cathedral**. The procession will begin at 3pm and will finish at 5pm with Solemn Benediction at Westminster Cathedral presided over by Bishop Jim Curry. This will be followed by Mass at 6pm celebrated by Bishop Gerard Bradley, Auxiliary Bishop of Southwark. After the Mass at 8pm, the first of three Holy Hours will begin led by different youth ministry teams. From 11pm an all-night Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament begins, which will finish with Mass at 6am. Anyyone wishing to attend the Holy Hours and all night-vigil needs to register their attendance at: https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/adoremus/