

St John Fisher 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 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)

18th October 2026, 29th 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.

17th Sat	Saint Ignatius of Antioch
10.00 am	Joe Mesquita RIP/5th Anniv
	Vigil Mass of Sunday – Mass Book p 143
6.00pm	Kevin Carway RIP/2nd Anniv
18th Sun	**29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am	Tony D' Souza
10.00am	Maria Pranto RIP/5th Anniv
11.30am	People of The Parish
19th Mon	Saint Paul of the Cross
10.00 am	Private Intention
20th Tue	Feria
10.00am	Leslie Mendanha RIP
21st Wed	Feria
	No Public Mass
22nd Thu	Saint John Paul II
7.00pm	Anna Francisca Texeira RIP/Anniv
23rd Fri	Saint John Capistrano
10.00am	Anthony D'Souza RIP/Anniv
11.30am	Funeral Mass of Melvyn Paul Mendonça
24th Sat	Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday
10.00am	Eileen Brady RIP
	Vigil Mass of Sunday - Mass book p.146
6.00pm	Russell & Edna Wedding Anniversary - Thanksgiving
25th Sun	**30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
8.30am	Jude 50th Birthday Thanksgiving
10.00 am	People of the Parish
11.30 am	Pattie (Catherine) Kent RIP

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

HOLY WATER



As part of the welcome group's plan to make the narthex of our church more welcoming, we have had the holy water stoops firstly cleaned, and then moved closer to the side doors. This will leave space to put in new welcome banners on the central pillars. Therefore, may I take this opportunity to remind us of the importance and reasons why we bless ourselves with holy water on entering the Church?

Firstly, it is a reminder our Baptism. Dipping our fingers in the water and making the Sign of the Cross recalls the day we were baptised, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. We were washed clean of our original sin, and welcomed into God's family as a beloved son or daughter of God.

Secondly, it is a purification. Blessing ourselves acts as a minor spiritual cleansing, helping us leave the busy secular world behind and prepare our hearts to worship God.

Lastly, it is a spiritual protection. As a sacred sign (also called a sacramental), blessing ourselves with holy water asks for God's grace and protection against evil as we enter His house.

In addition to these changes we have installed a holy water stoop at the entrance to the church from the sacristy for clergy and altar servers to bless themselves before a liturgy.

Fr Francis

Pope Leo's Intention for October
For mental health ministry
Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Readings for next Sunday:
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 22:21-27 Psalm 18(17):2-3a.
1Thessalonians 1; 5c-10 Matthew 22:34-40

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.

Pray also for : Vincent Bourke, Bo Claeson, Angela Doctrove, Maureen Cusack, Joe Mesquita, Monica O'Sullivan, Michael McWilliams, Gabriel Faria, Rose Wright, David Else, Manuel Fernando Clotilda Hubert, Anthony "Tony" D'Souza**,** Winifred Maher, Margaret Sullivan, Victor Crick, Soad Raie, Bridget Flanagan, Patrick Webber, Maureen Nixon, Hannah Barnard, Hannah Shevlin, Harry McKinney, Martin Flangan, Donald Haynes, Gerald Taylor, Maureen Walsh, Michael McCrohan, Kathleen Benad, Mervyn Fernando and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

PARISH NOTICES

Mass Count – next steps – This year's Mass count remains unchanged from 2024 and 2025, at around 510. This puts us in a good position to move forward with the proposal I mentioned in the newsletter a few weeks ago: combining our three Sunday morning Masses into two. We have already followed this pattern over the last two summers and for significant celebrations such as when the Archbishop visited.
A joyful and vibrant celebration of Mass depends on good liturgy, including music and singing, readers and altar servers, as well as a warm welcome, thoughtful homilies and a congregation large enough to foster a genuine sense of community. When attendance is spread more thinly across several Masses, it becomes increasingly difficult to sustain these different ministries and to celebrate the liturgy as fully as we would wish.
Before taking matters further, I am working with the Welcome Group to provide an opportunity for parishioners to share their thoughts, concerns and suggestions. This is an important decision for our parish, and we should approach it in the spirit of synodality, seeking the best way forward for the life and mission of our parish.

Rosary with the Old Testament. Join Kevin Turley to recite this ancient prayer and reflect on how the Old Testament helps us to pray the mysteries of the Rosary. Thursdays at 6pm in the Fisher Room on **22nd October and 5th November**.

Funeral Mass of Melvyn Paul Mendonça RIP will take place on **Friday 23rd October** at 11.30am followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. We keep Melvyn and his family in our prayers at this time.

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 **Saturday 14th November starting with Mass at 10:00am**.

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.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



THIS WEEKEND 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. Entry £5 with prizes to be won. **Tickets available on the door**

Sunday 1st November – Coffee morning in the Parish Centre after all Masses.

Saturday 14th November – Curry Evening in the Parish Centre 7 for 7:30 pm. Food provided by Gana Restaurant who would like to know as soon as possible how many to cater for. **Could you add your name to the list in the narthex as soon as possible. You can also book via harrownorthwelcome@rcdow.org.uk.** Tickets will be available after all masses from 1st November £20 adults, £10 for under 18s. Meat or vegetarian options. Here is a flavour of our previous Curry Evening in 2024 - https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harrownorth/news/culture-music-and-dance-parish-curry-night/



Saturday 28th November 7.30pm in the Parish Centre – Ghostly Lantern Show with Kevin Turley – Come in from the Dark – an evening of the extraordinary hidden within the ordinary. Stories of those who lived, loved, struggled, failed hoped and dared again. See flyer for more details

Sunday 13th December – 3.00pm Advent Carol Service followed by Mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Centre. There will be a hamper raffle and Christmas cake auction.

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

Confirmation 2027 - Young people in year 10 or above interested in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation should speak to Fr Graham or Fr Francis and collect a link to the on-line registration form. You must be baptised Roman Catholics and the first part of any preparation is attendance at Mass every Sunday in the parish. Applications will be considered on an individual basis and will involve a meeting with Fr Graham to discern together where candidates are in their relationship with Jesus, His Church and His mission and what God's call means for each candidate. There will be a meeting for potential candidates and their parents on **Thursday 19th November at 7.30pm i**n the Fisher Room. The application portal will close at 23:45 **on Sunday 8th November** so please complete your registration by this time to be considered.

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

All Souls Mass Monday 2nd November at 7.00pm - The names of those we have prayed for who have died in the last year is being compiled, to be read out during the Mass. If you would like someone to be included in the list please contact the Parish Office. Names need to be submitted by Thursday 29th October.

Blessing of Graves –

- Northwood Cemetery **– 2pm Saturday 14th November**
- Pinner New Cemetery – **2pm Saturday 28th November**
- Carpenders Park Cemetery **-** *awaiting information*

OTHER NOTICES

Welcome ministry - The rota for October to December has been emailed to volunteers but some email systems seem to be blocking the group message. There are a few extra copies in the pink folder in the Narthex and the rota is pinned on the board near the kitchen.

At Your Word Lord – Our faith sharing group commences **Monday 19th October** after 10am mass at Neville Bayross's house. All welcome. Neville's phone number is 0208 863 8876

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, 8th November** 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

Confirmation sponsored Walk4Venezuela – Our recently Confirmed from earlier this year raised an amazing £1151.75 from their sponsored walk to South Ruislip last month. Thanks to them and all their generous sponsors a lot of people in desperate need will be helped

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

Thank you from The Spiritans who offer sincere thanks for our kind generosity in response to their Mission Appeal. With gratitude, they received £630.47 from our parish. This amount will greatly increase their ability to bring Christ to the poorest and most neglected, and to respond to their cries for help.

Candlelit Procession at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, 7pm **Sunday 18th October**. Join Archbishop Richard, Pilgrims, and the Community of Allen Hall Seminary, as we ask Our Lady's prayers for the gift of Priests for the Church, and for the Protection of London. The Shrine is situated at 1 Nicoll Road, London NW10 9AX

Sacred Heart Language College Wealdstone School Fundraising clothes collection Please see notice board in church narthex for more details.