

**PARISH OFFICE**

Opening hours next week

Monday 25th	11.00am - 4.00pm
Tuesday 26th	11.00am - 4.00pm
Wednesday 27th	11.00am - 4.00pm
Thursday 28th	10.00am - 3.00pm
Friday 29th	10.00am - 3.00pm

**A SIMPLE PRAYER BOOK**

Copies of the simple prayer book are now available from the Repository shop priced at **£3.50**.

There is an all-English version as well as a Polish-English version available. Please ask a volunteer if you would like to buy one.



**ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH**

41/42 LANGDALE GARDENS, PERIVALE, UB6 8DQ

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Agustin Conesa

**Tel:** (020) 8997 3164

**Email:** perivale@rcdow.org.uk

**Website:** <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/perivale/>

**Follow us on:** [Instagram@ST.JOHN FISHER PERIVALE](#)

**YouTube Channel:** [St John Fisher RC Church Perivale - YouTube](#)

**LITURGY TIMES THIS WEEK**

Masses will be offered for the following intentions:

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Masses at</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	John & Christine Mathias RIP Florein Angela Gumban RIP
			<b>11.30am</b>	Olive & Tommy Bradley RIP
<b>Monday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	-
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	-
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	<b>Church is closed</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	-
<b>Friday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	-
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	Pat Hogan RIP Leonard Cabral RIP Abdul Goni RIP

**18th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Masses at</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Maurice Griffin RIP Sabine Kozłowska RIP
			<b>11.30am</b>	Carlos Pereira RIP

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Saturday 23rd July 5.00pm  
Monday 25th July 10.30am  
Saturday 30th July 5.00pm

There will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 31st July and throughout the summer period.

**Confessions**

There will be no Confessions from Saturday 23rd July and throughout the summer period.

**CONGRATULATIONS...**

to **AIDEN GAYLE-FERDINAND** who will be baptised on Saturday.

Please pray for Aiden as he is welcomed into the Holy Church, his parents and godparents.

**Please pray for:** (the sick)

Helen Whitty, Eddie Boland, John McCarthy, Gabriel and George Brum and Pam Murray.

**for those who have died recently:**

Sabine Kozłowska, Simon Washaw, Mariusz Skrzypczak, John O'Leary and Neil McElhinney

**and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:**

Barbara Czaykowska, Joaquim Guerra, Martin Grass, John Joseph Scott, Mary Abbott, Samira Awad, James Flynn, Kathleen Lavin, Pat Hynes, William Swords, Mary Michael, Dominic Kennedy, Mary Ellen Byrne, Arturo Caridade, Patrick Paisley, Fr Walter Ormiston (our 1st parish priest), George Williams, Roy Hughes, Mary Skuse, Cardinal Basil Hume, John Preston, Michael McCarthy, Mary Turner, Stefania Browne, Helen Taylor, Charles Hearn, Catherine Bourke, Sharon Robert, Anne Wilson, Callum Cunningham, Mary Cotton, Carlos Pereira, Fernanda Holecz, John Doherty, Ellen Heduan, Olive Bradley, Eric Ago-Martey, Ann Murphy, Basil Keys, John Langan and Pamela Maher

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - C**

Genesis 18:20-32 Colossians 2:12-14 Luke 11:1-13

24th July 2022

Parish Mass Book p.114

**WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY**

24 July 2022 - Message from Pope Francis

*"In old age they will still bear fruit" (Psalm 92:15)*

Dear Friends,

"In old age they will still bear fruit" (Ps 92:15). These words of the Psalmist are glad tidings, a true "gospel" that we can proclaim to all on this second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. They run counter to what the world thinks about this stage of life, but also to the attitude of grim resignation shown by some of us elderly people, who harbour few expectations for the future.

Many people are afraid of old age. They consider it a sort of disease with which any contact is best avoided. The elderly, they think, are none of their concern and should be set apart, perhaps in homes or places where they can be cared for, lest we have to deal with their problems. This is the mindset of the "throw-away culture", which leads us to think that we are somehow different from the poor and vulnerable in our midst, untouched by their frailties and separated from "them" and their troubles. The Scriptures see things differently. A long life – so the Bible teaches – is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance. Blessed is the house where an older person lives! Blessed is the family that honours the elderly!

Old age is not a time of life easily understood even by those of us who are already experiencing it. Even though it eventually comes with the passage of time, no one prepares us for old age, and at times it seems to take us by surprise. The more developed societies expend large sums on this stage of life without really helping people to understand and appreciate it; they offer healthcare plans to the elderly but not plans for living this age to the full. This makes it hard to look to the future and discern what direction to take. On the one hand, we are tempted to ward off old age by hiding our wrinkles and pretending to be forever young, while on the other, we imagine that the only thing we can do is bide our time, thinking glumly that we cannot "still bring forth fruit".

Retirement and grown children make many of the things that used to occupy our time and energy no longer so pressing. The recognition that our strength is ebbing or the onset of sickness can undermine our certainties. The fast pace of the world – with which we struggle to keep up – seems to leave us no alternative but to implicitly accept the idea that we are useless. We can resonate with the heartfelt prayer of the Psalmist: "Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent" (71:9).

Yet that same psalm – which meditates on how the Lord has been present at every stage of our lives – urges us to persevere in hope. Along with old age and white hairs, God continues to give us the gift of life and to keep us from being overcome by evil. If we trust in him, we will find the strength to praise him still (cf. vv. 14-20). We will come to see that growing old is more than the natural decline of the body or the inevitable passage of time, but the gift of a long life. Aging is not a condemnation, but a blessing!

For this reason, we ought to take care of ourselves and remain active in our later years. This is also true from a spiritual standpoint: we ought to cultivate our interior life through the assiduous reading of the word of God, daily prayer, reception of the sacraments and participation in the liturgy. In addition to our relationship with God, we should also cultivate our relationships with others: first of all by showing affectionate concern for our families, our children and grandchildren, but also for the poor and those who suffer, by drawing near to them with practical assistance and our prayers. These things will help us not to feel like mere bystanders, sitting on our porches or looking out from our windows, as life goes on all around us. Instead, we should learn to discern everywhere the presence of the Lord. Like "green olive trees in the house of God" (cf. Ps 52:10), we can become a blessing for those who live next to us.

Old age is no time to give up and lower the sails, but a season of enduring fruitfulness: a new mission awaits us and bids us look to the future. "The special sensibility that those of us who are elderly have for the concerns, thoughts and the affections that make us human should once again become the vocation of many. It would be a sign of our love for the younger generations". This would be our own contribution to the *revolution of tenderness*, a spiritual and non-violent revolution in which I encourage you, dear grandparents and elderly persons, to take an active role.

Contd....

**DONATIONS**

Thank you for your donations to the church.

Last week:

Envelopes £ 415.31      Loose Plate £ 164.23      Standing Orders £ 429.85      Total £ 1,009.39

Thank you for your donations to Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea). As a parish we raised **£118.70**

Contd....

Our world is passing through a time of trial and testing, beginning with the sudden, violent outbreak of the pandemic, and then by a war that is harming peace and development on a global scale. Nor is it a coincidence that war is returning to Europe at a time when the generation that experienced it in the last century is dying out. These great crises risk anaesthetizing us to the reality of other “epidemics” and other widespread forms of violence that menace the human family and our common home.

All this points to the need for a profound change, a conversion, that disarms hearts and leads us to see others as our brothers or sisters. We grandparents and elderly people have a great responsibility: to teach the women and men of our time to regard others with the same understanding and loving gaze with which we regard our own grandchildren. We ourselves have grown in humanity by caring for others, and now we can be teachers of a way of life that is peaceful and attentive to those in greatest need. This attitude may be mistaken for weakness or resignation, yet it will be the meek, not the aggressive and the abusive, who will inherit the earth (cf. *Mt 5:5*).

One fruit that we are called to bring forth is protecting the world. “Our grandparents held us in their arms and carried us on their knees”; now is the time for us to carry on our own knees – with practical assistance or with prayer alone – not only our own grandchildren but also the many frightened grandchildren whom we have not yet met and who may be fleeing from war or suffering its effects. Let us hold in our hearts – like Saint Joseph, who was a loving and attentive father – the little ones of Ukraine, of Afghanistan, of South Sudan...

Many of us have come to a sage and humble realization of what our world very much needs: the recognition that we are not saved alone, and that happiness is a bread we break together. Let us bear witness to this before those who wrongly think that they can find personal fulfilment and success in conflict. Everyone, even the weakest among us, can do this. The very fact that we allow ourselves to be cared for – often by people who come from other countries – is itself a way of saying that living together in peace is not only possible, but necessary.

Dear grandparents, dear elderly persons, we are called to be artisans of the *revolution of tenderness* in our world! Let us do so by learning to make ever more frequent and better use of the most valuable instrument at our disposal and, indeed, the one best suited to our age: prayer. “Let us too become, as it were, poets of prayer: let us develop a taste for finding our own words, let us once again take up those taught by the word of God”. Our trustful prayer can do a great deal: it can accompany the cry of pain of those who suffer, and it can help change hearts. We can be “the enduring ‘chorus’ of a great spiritual sanctuary, where prayers of supplication and songs of praise sustain the community that toils and struggles in the field of life”.

The World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to proclaim once more, with joy, that the Church wants to celebrate together with all those whom the Lord – in the words of the Bible – has “filled with days”. Let us celebrate it together! I ask you to make this Day known in your parishes and communities; to seek out those elderly persons who feel most alone, at home or in residences where they live. Let us make sure that no one feels alone on this day. Expecting a visit can transform those days when we think we have nothing to look forward to; from an initial encounter, a new friendship can emerge. Visiting the elderly who live alone is a work of mercy in our time!

Let us ask Our Lady, Mother of Tender Love, to make all of us artisans of the *revolution of tenderness*, so that together we can set the world free from the spectre of loneliness and the demon of war.

To all of you, and to your loved ones, I send my blessing and the assurance of my closeness and affection. And I ask you, please, not to forget to pray for me!

**FRANCIS**

*Text courtesy of Libreria Editrice Vaticana*

### **SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFERS Applications to Catholic Secondary Schools**

If you are the parent of a child who will be starting year 6 of Primary School in September 2022 and you are looking to apply for a place at a Catholic Secondary School with a start date in September 2023, you are likely to need a Certificate of Catholic Practice as part of the application.

In order to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice, you will need to book an appointment with Fr. Agustin during September/October 2022. The dates for these appointments will be given nearer the time.

For the appointment with Fr Agustin, you will need to complete an ‘Information re Secondary School Transfer 2022/23 Form and bring it with you. **This form will be available from next week so that you can start to complete it well in advance. It can be requested by sending an email to the Parish Office.**

Please note that Certificates cannot be issued unless the parish priest knows you and your child. Now that churches are fully open, it is important that you and your child attend Mass regularly and the priest sees you. If this is not your regular parish, please request a certificate from the church you normally attend.

**Further information is available on the church noticeboard.**

### **MASSES DURING AUGUST - ADVANCE NOTICE**

During the holiday period from **Monday 1st August - Monday 5th September (inclusive)**, we will be reducing the number of Masses here at St John Fisher Church.

**During these dates there will be 1 weekday Mass on a Friday at 10.00am, the normal Mass on Saturday evening at 6.30pm and only 1 Mass on Sunday morning at 10.00am.  
(The church will be closed Monday to Thursday)**

There will also be changes to confessions, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, teas and coffees and the office opening hours. More detail will be provided next weekend.

### **FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022 Programme Application - NOW OPEN!**

Application for the next First Reconciliation & Holy Communion Programme is now open. If your child will be starting Year 3 or above in September and you would like them to prepare for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, through St John Fisher Church, **please pick up an Application Form from the back of the church or request one via the parish office.**

In order to be accepted on the programme, you must:

- ◆ Either be registered with St John Fisher parish and attend Mass regularly at our church.
- ◆ Or, if you are registered with another parish / attend Mass elsewhere, you must be able to provide a letter from your parish priest permitting your child to complete the programme with us.
- ◆ Be able to provide a copy of your child’s baptism certificate together with the required application fee.

All details are available on the Application Form.

**Applications must be received in the parish office by Monday 15th August**

Information about where the lessons will take place, dates, times, etc, will be communicated early September

### **CHILDREN’S LITURGY**

Children are welcome at all Masses, but we know that it can sometimes be hard for very young children to follow what is happening.

**We are planning to resume our Children’s Liturgy sessions in October, which will take place during the first half of the 11.30am Mass.**

Children’s Liturgy is for children from 3 - 8 years old, who have not yet received the sacrament of First Holy Communion. During each session they will hear the Gospel in a way that they can understand. They will participate in prayer, readings and activities, specially tailored to their age group.

The children then return to the church in time for the Offertory procession, and will remain for the second half of the Mass. Towards the end of Mass, one of the children will be invited to say a few words about what they have learned.

Our aim is to make the children’s experience of church a meaningful one, helping them to grow in the faith of the Catholic Church and develop as active members of our Parish Community.

If you would like your child to attend the Children’s Liturgy group on Sundays at 11.30am, **please complete a Registration Form** available in the lobby and give it to Fr Agustin or post it through the door of the parish office (no. 41 Langdale Gardens).

### **ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR**

In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage across England, Scotland, and Wales for the very first time. This very special event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes in a church or cathedral near them.

The relics will be in the Diocese of Westminster for the following dates:

- ◆ St Thomas of Canterbury, Fulham: 3rd September, 30th October – 1st November
- ◆ Westminster Cathedral: 3rd – 5th September
- ◆ Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hayes: 5th – 6th September
- ◆ St Mary’s University, Twickenham: 6th September -
- ◆ St John Fisher, Shepperton: 6th – 7th September
- ◆ St Joseph’s, Stevenage: 17th – 18th October
- ◆ Our Lady of Willesden, Willesden: 28th – 30th October

For full details of the tour, visit [www.stbernadette.org.uk](http://www.stbernadette.org.uk)