

St John Fisher Catholic Church

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Fr Neil Vincent

Rev Felim McCarthy (Deacon)

Mass Intentions

Sunday 2nd May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00am Mass - For the people of India
11:00am Mass
6:00pm Mass - People of the parish

Monday 3rd - Ss. Philip & James Apostles

10:00am Mass - Gideon Onyenani (Birthday)

Tuesday 4th - English Martyrs

10:00am Mass - Int. Fr Thomas Manickam

Wednesday 5th - Feria

10:00am Mass

Thursday 6th - Feria

10:00am Mass - Ian McInrue RIP

Friday 7th - Feria

10:00am - Mass

Saturday 8th - Feria

10:00am Mass

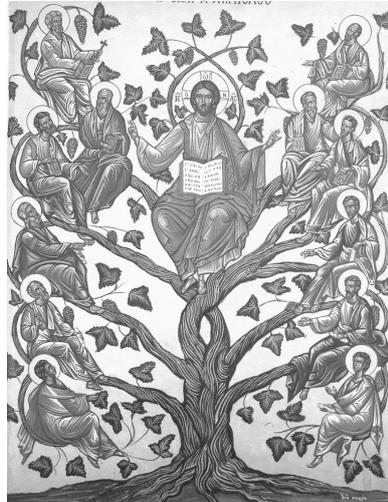
Sunday 9th - Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00am Mass - Peggy McKay RIP
11:00am Mass
6:00pm Mass - People of the Parish

I recall at a public address by Pope St John Paul II, as part of the ceremony doves were released. One of the doves much to the amusement of those gathered, flew up and perched on the Pope's head. Another made this an opportunity to get away, but was attacked and killed by scavenging birds. Some who saw it happen, were asking is there a lesson in this? Even if not, it was clear that the dove that remained was safe. In the parable of the vine and branches, the Lord teaches us about how God loves each one of us and how we are connected to God and to one another. We who are loved are called to listen and give that love to God and to one another. How wonderful that a dry stem which at first looks lifeless, finally manages to grow first forming leaves, then branches and fruit. The Lord gives life to us. We too bear fruit, from the goodness that comes from the stem. For this we need to remain in the Lord. We see how in the first reading Saul who persecuted Christians is converted through listening to the Lord. He goes to the ones who have always remained in him. Though afraid of him they help him, and he too becomes a disciple preaching the good news far and wide. Let us like Paul, listen and love. wherever the Holy Spirit takes us in life, let us draw strength from God to be his joyful and fruitful disciples. God bless. Fr Neil.

Gift Aid Envelopes from April 2021: Are ready for collection.

Collections 25/04/21: Gift Aid £ 215 Loose £ 225.77 + Direct Debits £ 290 = £ 730.77. 2nd Collection, Priests Training Fund: £385.50. Building Fund: £100 Thank you.



New Registration System for Masses: We were informed that our registration system was not secure enough. So we are now following a system where a single sheet is signed and put in the box provided. Please follow this new procedure to help with track and trace.

Crowning of our Lady: Pope Francis has asked us to pray the rosary this month of May dedicated to Mary the mother of the Lord. Next Sunday at the end of the 11:00am Mass we will have a ceremony of crowning of our Lady and praying a decade of the rosary. Anyone who would like to donate a crown of flowers for our lady is more than welcome to do so.

Saturday church cleaning teams: Thanks to the wonderful people who are now helping to clean the church on Saturdays. If you are free the church is cleaned from 10:30am after the Saturday Mass, please come along to help. With more members we could have teams that takes turn cleaning, so please consider volunteering.

Music Practice: Can you lend your musical talents? There is practice in the organ loft after the Saturday Mass for the Sunday 11:00am Mass. Why not come and join and see how you could help.

Be Better Connected: The Better Connected service is a free initiative being run by Medway Council. If you are aged 65 and over, or know of someone who feels socially isolated - affected by loneliness or with limited or no social contact, you can access the service by going to the website : www.medway.gov.uk/betterconnected Or calling 01634 333013 for more information.

The Day of the Lord: There are copies of the Reflection by the Bishops of England and Wales at the back of the church please take one home with you to read.

Remember Mawda: The Justice and Peace Commission have printed prayer cards which can be found in the porch, please do take one to pray for all refugees

Newsletter: If you take a newsletter for use at Mass, **please do not leave it behind.** Please take it home with you. Thank you.

Parish Records Update: We are in the process of updating the parish records. Please take a Registration (Pink) Form home with you to complete and return next week. This will ensure we have the correct details for everyone in the Parish. If you would like an electronic copy sent to you, please email: rochester@rcaos.org.uk to request one.