

St John Fisher Catholic Church

Canon Close, Rochester, Kent. ME1 3EN Tel: 01634845430
Web: stjohnfisher.me.uk Email: rochester@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Neil Vincent

Rev Felim McCarthy (Deacon)

Mass Intentions

Sunday 28th November - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

9:00am - People of the Parish
11:00am - Nancy Neville RIP
6:00pm - Imelda Maher Birthday

Monday 29th November - Feria

10:00 Mass - Deceased members of the Boyle family RIP

Tuesday 30th - Saint Andrew Apostle

7:30pm Solemn Holy Mass - Anniversary of the Dedication of St. John Fisher Church - Jago & Curtis family & friends RIP

Wednesday 1st December - Feria

10:00 Mass - Deceased members of Ionta, Forlini & Gizzi family and friends.
7:30pm - Synod Listening meeting in the hall.

Thursday 2nd - Feria

10:00 Mass - Betty Walsh RIP

Friday 3rd - Saint Francis Xavier

10:00 Mass - Ann Higgins RIP

Saturday 4th - Saint John Damascene

9:00am Exposition of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament
10:00am Mass -

Sunday 5th - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00am -
11:00am -
6:00pm - People of the Parish

Collections 21/11/21: Gift Aid £107.00 Loose £177.51, Direct Debits £220 = £504.51 Thank you. Second collection for the Catholic Youth Service £61.00

So we come to the holy season of Advent. We pray and ask the Lord despite all the distraction and worries we may keep this season holy. Let us be like the chosen people of God who were expecting the Messiah to come, wait for the feast of Christmas. And we also await for, when the Lord will come again in triumph, gathering us to our true home with him in heaven. So we fast before the feast, use the advent resources, say extra prayers or make an effort to come and be with Jesus at Mass and Adoration. Let us give some time in our busy lives for the one who has paid for our eternal life. We thank the monastic tradition for the wonderful rich liturgy, music, set times for prayer and fasting. Ancient monastics use to fast with one meal from September to Lent. We are not obliged to fast in Advent, but there are traditions that start fasting and abstinence from the 15th November and recently from the feast of Christ the King till Christmas day. Let us encourage one another in fasting and abstinence and instruct our children to wait till Christmas to enjoy luxuries like chocolate. So our feast is even more intense, our waiting for the Lord true and sincere. Let us pray for one another to keep a holy and happy advent. God bless, Fr Neil.

Synod 2021-2023: Dear Friends we will at Sunday Masses pray the Synod Prayer. The synod listening questionnaires are now available please take one, fill in and bring it back.

Christmas Cards & Gifts: A selection of various Christmas items are available in the church repository. Please leave all your donations in the black box by the light switches near the church door.

Marys Meals: To send a loved one a truly meaningful gift this Christmas, go to www.marysmeals.org.uk/gift-card shop or call 0800 698 1212. Together, we can reach even more hungry children with a life-changing school meal.

Copies of the **CAFOD World Gifts** catalogue are in the racks in the porch. The idea of World Gifts is that instead of giving



your loved one a gift, that person receives a card showing the gift which has been given to a family or community in another part of the world where it is desperately needed. You can also buy online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts

This Tuesday 30th November - Feast of the dedication of St John Fisher Church, This feast

is a solemnity in our church recalling the time the Archbishop anointed the church as consecrated. It is a major feast of our church and urge as many of you to come to Mass at 7:30pm. If you are unable to travel at night, please let Fr Neil know so that we may be able to arrange transport for you. Likewise if people are willing to bring people to church please inform Fr Neil. Thank you.

SYNOD listening: Our parish listening evening will be on **Wednesday the 1st of December in the hall from 7:30pm—8:30pm.**

Our Zoom meeting will be on the 5th of December at 4:00pm. Please support this event to give an account of our parish listening towards the synod. Please email the parish at rochester@rcaos.org.uk for a passcode for the event.

Five Bible Studies on the Advent Sunday Gospels:

Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the Advent Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. Experience Sunday Mass in a new way. Free Live sessions aired on YouTube. **On Wednesdays at 7pm. 24th November, 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd December.** Further details & Registration at: <https://comeandsee.org/advent>

Evening Retreat - For Catholic Men:

Preparing for Advent and Christmas with St Joseph

Friday 3rd December 7-9pm here at St John Fisher parish, Catholic men are warmly invited to join our evening retreat. Attending a retreat is a very good way of preparing spiritually for the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas. It is organised by the parish Catholic Men's Group, and will be led by Fr Neil and Fr David Howell, a sought-after preacher from our Cathedral. The evening will include Eucharistic adoration, two meditations on St Joseph, Rosary, silent prayer, opportunities for Confession, and refreshments.