

# Fisher House Newsletter



Sunday 18 November – 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year, Cycle B

| Day                       | Time                                       | Other Information   |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Sunday 18 November</b> | <b>9:00am</b><br><b>11:00am</b>            | <b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year</b><br><b>Sung Latin Mass – Fr Tim Swinglehurst</b><br><b>Sung English Mass – Fr Tim Swinglehurst</b> |
| Monday 19 November        | 12:15pm                                    | Mass  |
| Tuesday 20 November       | <b>8.30am</b>                              | Mass  |
| Wednesday 21 November     | 12:30pm<br>1:05pm<br>6.15pm                | <b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b><br>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br>Mass<br>Choral Mass in Queens' College Chapel  |
| Thursday 22 November      | 1:05pm                                     | <b>St Cecilia</b><br>Mass   |
| Friday 23 November        | 1:05pm                                     | Mass  |
| Saturday 24 November      | 1:05pm<br>4:30-<br>5:30pm<br><b>6:00pm</b> | <b>The Vietnamese Martyrs</b><br>Mass<br><b>Confessions in the Chapel: Fr Alban</b><br><b>Said Vigil Mass for Sunday – Fr Alban</b>         |
| <b>Sunday 25 November</b> | <b>9:00am</b><br><b>11:00am</b>            | <b>Solemnity of Christ the King</b><br><b>Sung Latin Mass – Fr Alban</b><br><b>Sung English Mass – Fr Alban</b>                             |

## TODAY

A very warm welcome to our guest preacher today Fr Tim Swinglehurst, parish priest of St Martin de Porres, Wakefield.

## Monday 19 November

12.15pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.

### CATHOLICISM FOR THE CURIOUS

A short talk given by Fr Alban in the Fisher Room over lunch, starting at 1.15pm. This week's topic:

### CATHOLICS AND THE BIBLE [1]

8.00am: **GRADUATE BAR NIGHT.** All Welcome

## Tuesday 20 November

8.30am: Mass

1.30pm: Lunch in the Fisher Room.

### POETRY, FORM & FAITH

Led by Professor Howard Erskine-Hill & Sr Anna Mary

**Pagan Sadness, Christian joy: Matthew Arnold versus Francis Thompson, G M Hopkins, Geoffrey Hill et al.**

6.00PM IN THE LIBRARY: ALL WELCOME

## Wednesday 21 November

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.

6.15pm Choral Mass in Queens' College Chapel.

## THEOLOGY FOR NON-THEOLOGAINS

Jesus, God **AND** man?

6.00pm in the Library

led by Sr Ann OP. All welcome.

## TAIZÉ PRAYER GROUP

8pm in the Chapel

Half an hour of song, quiet and calm in a busy week. We will be practising the songs from 7.30 for anyone who is able to accompany with an instrument. All welcome.

## Thursday 22 November

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.

### BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Gospel of Luke

led by Sr Ann OP in the library.

All Welcome

## Friday 23 November

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.

8.30pm: **BAR OPEN IN THE FISHER ROOM.**

## Saturday 24 November

1.05pm: Mass.

Please turn to the next page

**Next Sunday 25 November**

**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION (CUCA)**

**The AGM takes place in the Fisher Room at 12.15pm on Sunday 25 November. All Catholic members of the University, past and present, are members of CUCA and entitled to vote for the association's officers in the AGM**

**REQUIEM MASS**

**IN THE EXTRAORDINARY FORM**

The annual Requiem Mass for Monsignor Alfred Gilbey, who was chaplain from 1932-1965 and is buried in the courtyard of Fisher House, takes place in the chapel on **MONDAY 26 NOVEMBER AT 5.00PM**. It will be a sung Mass in the Extraordinary Form, followed by drinks in the Fisher Room.

**CHRISTMAS JOLLY**

**Come to an anticipatory festive celebration in the Fisher Room on Tuesday 27 November beginning at 8.00pm. Mulled wine, mince pies, Christmas music and much else. Entry £2**

**MESSAGE FROM THE SVP  
SVP GIVING TREE**

The SVP is collecting Christmas gifts for the homeless at Jimmy's night shelter on East Road. Please help us by bringing a small gift. All gifts should be placed under the Christmas tree in the Fisher room. Please follow the detailed instructions displayed on the noticeboard.

**FISHER HOUSE STASH**

Scarves, £22 Ties, £22  
See Sr Ann or Fr Alban

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

If you haven't yet been Confirmed and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation here at Fisher House, please let Sr Ann know as soon as possible. Preparation will be provided in due course.

**CHRISTIANS IN THE HUMANITIES, ARTS,  
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (CHAS)**

**5:00pm, Tuesday 20 November**

**Godwin Room, Clare College Old Court**

CHAS is an informal network of Christian graduate students and faculty members, committed to exploring how faith and scholarship might be integrated. At our first gathering this academic year we will discuss how best to pursue these goals together. Wine and soft drinks served. All welcome. For more information, contact David Parry (*dp293*) or Judd Birdsall (*jbb44*).

**EMAIL ADDRESSES**

If you gave us a non-Hermes email address when you registered, would you please re-register with your cam.ac. address via the website as soon as possible, so as to avoid being unsubscribed.

**THE MARTYRS OF VIETNAM 24 NOVEMBER**

The growth of Christianity in the Vietnamese kingdoms during the 18th and 19th centuries was accompanied by indescribable suffering. It provoked waves of bitter persecution and produced numerous martyrs, 117 of whom were canonised in 1988. Eight of these were bishops, fifty were priests and fifty-nine were lay people. 96 of them were indigenous Vietnamese, the first a Dominican.

The sufferings inflicted on them all were among the most terrible in the long history of Christian martyrdom: limbs slowly torn one by one from bodies; flesh torn away with hot tongs, men and women skinned alive.

These holy deaths remind us of the tens of millions, many if not most of whom are un-named and un-numbered, who in modern times have gone to their deaths in gulags, concentration camps, 're-education centres', prison yards or on isolated country roads.

It was the custom of the English Martyrs in the 16th and 17 centuries who were priests to kiss the scaffold, before their execution, just as the priest kisses the altar before offering the sacrifice of the Mass. One of the earliest Christian martyrs, St Polycarp, offered a prayer over himself as he was tied to the stake that has the form of a Eucharistic Prayer. The same association of martyrdom with the Eucharist is present in the practice from earliest times of celebrating Mass on the tombs of the martyrs: which is the origin of the custom of having relics of martyrs in the altar-stone of a consecrated altar and the kissing of the altar before Mass.

Martyrdom, St Thomas Aquinas says, is the perfection of love: the gift of self in the surrender of that which is most dear to all of us, life itself. And yet, a martyr chooses life over death, the divine life which is ours through baptism and our incorporation into the Body of Christ, the Church. Martyrdom manifests, in other words, more explicitly than any words or doctrine the mystery at the heart of Christian faith, the mystery into which we enter during every celebration of the Eucharist: the mystery of love stronger than death. As T.S. Eliot has it, at that point, "Words fail: there is only the silence of witness."