

Colouring the Calendar

The observant among you will have noticed that this Sunday, for the first time in many weeks, the clothes worn by the priest at mass are not white, red or purple, but green, and, with a few interruptions, this will be the case until the beginning of Advent. What is the significance of all this?

White and gold, are the tones associated with those times of the year when we most straightforwardly praise God for his wonderful love for us: Christmas when he comes into the world and supremely Easter when he rises from the dead. It is also the colour for feasts of many of the saints, which reminds us that holiness isn't something we achieve by our own efforts, but only possible because Jesus has gone before us through death: every feast of a saint is in a sense a feast of the resurrection..

Violet is the colour of repentance, worn during Lent and Advent, both times when the Church asks us to reflect on the ways in which we all of us fall short of the perfect love and trust that God asks of each of us. When the soldiers mocked Jesus before his crucifixion they put on him a purple garment. They did this because the colour was associated with royalty, and they were making fun of his claim to be king of the Jews, without realising that he is in fact king of the universe. So, it has been suggested, by wearing purple for penance we're both acknowledging the ways in which we "mock" Jesus by our sins, and saying that we accept him as our King. But once during Advent, and once again during Lent, the colour scheme changes to pink (or rose as it's properly known) – the lighter colour suggesting a lightening of mood as we remind ourselves what all the penance really for-bringing us closer to God, which is the ultimate cause for rejoicing.

Then there's red, the colour of blood, used on Palm Sunday and Good Friday as we recall the death of Jesus. But it also a fiery colour, so it is worn on Pentecost to recall the fire of the Holy Spirit. And both because they shed their blood for Christ and because they were sustained in their sacrifice by the Holy Spirit, it is also the colour worn on the feasts of martyrs

Finally: green. This is the default colour – the one worn when "nothing special" is happening in the Church's calendar. It is the colour most naturally associated with new life, and with the natural world. It's surely wonderful that this is the colour we see most of: reminding us both of the beauty of God's creation and of the new life that is always offered in Christ.

SrAnn



FISHER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 5 JUNE: TENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

CALENDAR - TERM WEEK VII

Sunday 5	TENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR
	9.00 Sung Latin Mass
	11.00 Sung English Mass
Monday 6	12.30 Mass St Norbert, Bishop
Tuesday 7	1.05 Mass
Wednesday 8	1.05 Mass
	12.30 <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Thursday 9	1.05 Mass St Columba, Abbot
Friday 10	1.05, 7.30 Mass
Saturday 11	1.05 Mass St Barnabas, Apostle
	in Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	4.30—5.30 <i>Confessions</i>
	6.00 Vigil Mass of Sunday
Sunday 12	ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
	9.00 Sung Latin Mass
	11.00 Sung English Mass

FR MARK LANGHAM - SR ANN SWAILES OP - FR PHILIP MOLLER SJ

SENIOR MEMBERS' DISCUSSION GROUP

If you are a senior member interested discussing the Pope's exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, there will be a first session on Thursday 30 June at 6.00pm in the Fisher House dining room. Please contact Fr Mark (ml709) for details.

VINCENTIAN VOLUNTEERS

The VVs are looking for young adults to work for a year in a community in Manchester and Liverpool—an excellent opportunity for a faith-based gap year. Full details are on the website: www.vincentianvolunteers.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

We are organising a students' pilgrimage to Rome from 5 to 11 December. It will be an opportunity to visit some of the great sites connected with the faith, and we will attend a Papal audience. We will also visit sites connected with St Dominic and St Ignatius, as well as the Venerable English College. Please take a leaflet from outside the chapel if you are interested. We welcome all Fisher Housers, but priority will be given to students.

GRADSOC BBQ

Next Wednesday - the first outing of our brand new, Fr Philip-approved, Australian-standard, BBQs! Fisher House Terrace. More information can be gleaned at www.facebook.com/events/847287412044574/

FISHER DINNER

A reminder for those coming—drinks from 6.00pm on the Fisher House terrace. Dress Code: Black Tie.

POST-DINNER CEILIDH

If anyone would like to play in the ceilidh part of the evening, please email Miffy Mifsud on rwm41. Any instrument is welcome, and full sheet music will be provided.



GARDEN PARTY

The Fisher House Garden Party will be held on Thursday 16 June, 3.00pm, in the beautiful grounds of the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, Grange Road.

LEAVERS' BBQ



Next Sunday, 12 June, following the 11.00am Mass, on the terrace. Free for leavers, and £2 for all others. You will be placed in the culinary care of our resident BBQ expert, Fr Philip.

LIBRARY BOOK RETURN

Please return all library books to the library by June 6. The annual stocktaking will then take place. Loans for the summer may thereafter be taken out.

SCHOLA REUNION

There will be a reunion for members of the Schola from ancient times until more recently, on Sunday 26 June. Mass on that day will be at Mid-day. Details on www.facebook.com/events/1050095068399188/ Please let Fr Mark know if you would like to attend.

CAFOD

is the Catholic Church's agency for Overseas aid and development. We are looking to revive the chaplaincy group - if you are interested in helping to run it, please see Fr Mark.

COLLECTION COUNTERS

We need a new rota of counters for the Sunday collection - just one person per week to work alongside our office staff. Please sign up, or contact Fr Mark (ml709) if you can help.

SUMMER WORKS

Agreement was reached this week on significant improvements to the Fisher Room and its kitchen. This work, which will take place over the summer, will make the kitchen easier to use and provide more storage, and will enhance the facilities in the Fisher Room itself.

MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

We will keep to the normal term-time schedule next weekend (Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 9.00, 11.00) and the weekend afterwards (18/19 June). Thereafter we move to the vacation schedule. Please watch the notice-board.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

£352.02

Thank you!