

REMEMBER, REMEMBER

At first sight, it seems odd, and perhaps worse than odd. On Sunday, ceremonies will be held throughout the nation to remember the fallen, many of them particularly poignant in this centenary year of the First World War. There will be calls to work urgently for peace, so that future generations may be spared the horrors of conflict that have disfigured the last century. There will be moments of tender pathos as wreaths are laid and bugles sounded, and, for some, more recently bereaved by war, there will be violent grief. But this year, on Remembrance Sunday, our Church calendar also asks us to remember something else, rather abstract and irrelevant to most or our lives: the consecration, in the year 324, of the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral church of Rome. Doubtless, many contemporaries would say: there goes the Church, getting it wrong again, paying more attention to grandiose buildings from the ancient past than to human suffering in living memory. How might we respond?

First, we might point out that Remembrance Sunday itself testifies to the importance of special places in the life of communities, large and small. As people gather to seek a focal point for their griefs and their hopes at this time of year, they find themselves bound closer together. It is not surprising that those places where we encounter each other on a deeper level than the everyday should take on special significance. And what is true of village war memorials and the Whitehall Cenotaph and military cemeteries is true of our churches, too, where we meet each other at the deepest level of all; in the body of Christ which we share, and which in sharing we become. Affection for our church buildings is not a distraction from our love for those we meet there, Sunday by Sunday, day by day, but a kind of reflection of it.

But second, this weekend's feast should help us to get our priorities right. The Lateran Basilica is on the site of the first church to be built in Rome after the legalization of Christianity. The Emperor Constantine himself worked on the construction of the church. Whereas up to that point, Christians had been required to demonstrate their loyalty to the Emperor by offering him incense as though he were a god, they could now offer praise and worship to the true God, in public, with imperial approval. We can think of the Lateran Basilica, therefore, as a kind of celebration in stone, of freedom from persecution by human authorities with pretensions to divine power. Commemorating the consecration of this Church building, then, the "Mother and Head of all the Churches in the City and the World", can remind us that, however much, and however rightly, we love our homelands, our first allegiance is to the Kingdom of God. What could be a better reason for praying and striving for peace, or a better tribute, therefore, to those who have died in war?

Sr Ann



FISHER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Sunday 9 November - DEDICATION OF LATERAN
BASILICA, REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

CALENDAR

Sunday 9		DEDICATION OF LATERAN BASILICA REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	
	8.00	Low Mass in the Extraordinary Form	
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass	
	11.00	Sung English Mass. Cel: Bishop John Arnold	
Monday 10	12.30	Mass	Pope St Leo the Great
Tuesday 11	1.05	Mass	St Martin of Tours
Wednesday 12	1.05	Mass	St Josaphat
	12.30	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
Thursday 13	1.05	Mass	
Friday 14	1.05	Mass	
	7.30	Mass (& 'Crumbs')	
Saturday 15	1.05	St Albert the Great	
	4.30—5.30	<i>Confessions</i>	
	6.00	Vigil Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 16		33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
	8.00	Low Mass in the Extraordinary Form	
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass	
	11.00	Sung English Mass	

CAFOD EBOLA CRISIS APPEAL

The outbreak of Ebola has killed thousands of people across West Africa. Please donate to the appeal. Your gift will provide life-saving hygiene kits, food for quarantined families, and help spread the word about preventing the spread of the disease. You can donate online at cafod.org.uk/ebola, or by calling 0500 85 88 85. There will be a collection after Masses this weekend.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

A book of remembrance will be left outside the chapel for you to record names of those you wish prayed for during November. They will be remembered at Mass throughout the month.

FOOTBALL

There will be training on Jesus Green this Sunday afternoon at 2 in preparation for the forthcoming away game against the Oxford chaplaincy. Contact: John Darlison (jd600).

FACEBOOK & WEBSITE

Keep up to date with announcements on the Fisher Society Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/fishersociety/ - and check out the new Fisher House website, www.srcf.ucam.org/fisherhouse

FISHER BITES

Our Fisher House community boasts some brilliant experts in their field. Fisher Bites is a chance to hear them, on their own topic, in a relaxed atmosphere. This Thursday 13 November, Dr Claire Daunton will give an illustrated talk on *Art, Faith and War*. Library, 8.00pm. Wine provided.

CATHOLICISM FOR THE CURIOUS

A series of talks over lunch on Mondays, given by Fr Mark in the Fisher Room at 1.15, on a range of topics to do with Catholicism. This week: *What do Catholics say about women priests?*

MEDICAL ETHICS GROUP

Of particular (but not exclusive) interest to medics, next meeting on Monday 10 November at 7.00pm in the library. For details contact Basia Chmielewska (bjmc2)

FISHER FAMILIES

A new group for those with bumps, babies and little children, meeting on Mondays from 3.00pm - 4.30pm in Sr Ann's room. Meet other Catholic families, eat cake, and bring along something to play with or read together. Contact Irenka Lennon (wmis2)

LUNCH is available in the Fisher Room every weekday during term,

BISHOP JOHN ARNOLD

The 11.00am Mass today will be celebrated by Bishop John Arnold, head bishop for CAFOD, newly appointed bishop of Salford and bishop responsible for the Oxford and Cambridge chaplaincies. Following Mass there will be a chance to meet Bishop John over coffee in the Fisher Room.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S PILGRIMAGE TRUST

Each year HCPT takes 2000 disabled children to Lourdes for a pilgrimage in Easter week. The Cambridge Group hopes to take 6-8 children this year. This pilgrimage relies on volunteer careers. It is an amazing way to spend Easter week in Lourdes and to have a lot of fun. The dates will be 5/6 April to 11/12 April 2015. If interested please contact John O'Sullivan (john_osullivan208@hotmail.com) or Sarah (sml45@cam.ac.uk).

SAINTS AND SCONES

On Sunday afternoon, come to Fisher House at 4.30 to learn about saints while enjoying a traditional Devonshire Cream Tea.

APOLOGETICS GROUP

Meeting in the Library on Saturday at 7.00pm, the Group will this term study St Augustine's *Confessions*. For more information contact Hania Wyciszczok (hmw56) or Max Nussbaumer (mn406)

SVP FOOD BANK

The SVP is asking for foodstuffs for the Cambridge Foodbank this weekend. There is a list outside the chapel of what they want—also available at cambridgecity.foodbank.org.uk Foodstuffs can be left on the table in the vestibule, before Monday.

MASS AT CORPUS

On Monday, at 5.30pm. Contact Aurelian Gueroult (ag786) or just turn up!

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

A course of marriage preparation will begin at Fisher House on Tuesday 11 November. Please contact Fr Mark (ml709) if you are interested in taking part.

ECUMENICAL TEA

Next Saturday 15 November, at 3.30pm in the Fisher Room, there will be an Ecumenical Tea to welcome friends from other traditions. All welcome—bring a friend!

COLLEGE MASSES

Robinson 18 November 6.30pm
Selwyn 27 November 6.30pm

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

£399.68

Thank you!