

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

Traditionally, on this Sunday when the readings speak of Christ as the Good Shepherd, we think about, and pray for, vocations. There has been something of a trend in recent years to emphasise that all Christians have a vocation, that it is as important to address the vocations to married or single life as that to religious life. Each of us is called by God, and so when we speak of 'vocation', we should celebrate the vocations we all have, and pray for discernment and fulfillment in each of these states of life.

I, must confess that I am of a slightly older school, who wish on this Sunday to concentrate on religious vocation specifically. To that end, my preference would be to grab students by the lapels and stare them in the eye, saying insistently "Be a priest!" or "Be a nun!" (gender appropriately, of course). While I am sure that God's call will always get through if it is his will, I think that every Catholic should, at some stage of their life, have considered priesthood or religious life - even if only to dismiss it rapidly. It would be sad if we missed out a religious vocation because someone had never been challenged to think about it.

It goes without saying that the priest, the religious sister, the religious brother, has a deep sense of closeness to Christ, that the sacrifices he or she makes intensify that bond, that there is a great satisfaction in serving the Lord. Of course. But I would like to add that priesthood and religious life are fun; fun in the deepest sense of filling every part of your life with joy, with a sense that every talent, everything you have to offer, is used to the full, with a sense that this is where you are meant to be. I have just been out in Market Hill watching the Morris Dancers, this hallowed and eccentric English tradition in which men devote the utmost effort and energy to doing something gloriously pointless. You can see the concentration in their faces. For so many people, life, a career, can be like that. Religious vocation is not for everyone, but it does bring that sense of deep fulfillment that comes from exerting effort in a worthwhile cause, to change lives, to make God happen to people. Think about it. It may just be your call.

Fr Mark



FISHER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Sunday 11 May

Fourth Sunday of Easter

CALENDAR

Sunday 11		FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	8.00	Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass
	11.00	Sung English Mass
Monday 12	12.30	Mass (Sts Nereus & Achilleus, St Pancras)
Tuesday 13	1.05	Mass (Our Lady of Fatima)
Wednesday 14	12.30	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	1.05	Mass ST MATTHIAS
Thursday 15	1.05	Mass
Friday 16	1.05	Mass
	7.30	Mass
Saturday 17	1.05	Mass
	4.30	Confessions
	6.00	Vigil Mass of Sunday
Sunday 18		FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	8.00	Extraordinary Form (Tridentine)
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass
	11.00	Sung English Mass celebrated by HE Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor

GRADUATE SOCIETY

There will be a Graduate Pub lunch after 11.00 Mass today.

FRIDAY 7.30pm MASS

We are continuing with these popular Masses, in a more contemporary style. If you would like to help with music, contact Stephen Bick on bickstephen@gmail.com

HOLY ROSARY

The Rosary is prayed in the Chapel on Saturdays at 5.30pm, Sundays after the 11am Mass, and Tuesdays and Thursdays after 1.05pm Mass.

ROSARY-MAKING FOR CHARITY

The Rosary Legion is making Rosaries (from beads, cord string, and crucifixes) to send to third-world missions. Contact FisherHouse-Rosary@gmail.com

FAITH AND THE MODERN STATE

Professor John Loughlin will deliver the final seminar in the VHI Faith and Governance Series on *Faith and the Modern State* on Friday 23 May at 5.00pm, in the garden room at St Edmund's College.

TERM CARD

College Reps—please make sure you take your bundle from the Fisher Room.

H.E. CARDINAL CORMAC MURPHY-O'CONNOR

The 11.00 Mass next Sunday will be celebrated by the Cardinal, during which he will celebrate the sacraments of baptism and confirmation for students.

Following Mass there will be a buffet lunch to meet the Cardinal: all are welcome.

BOOK LAUNCH

During lunch, there will be an official launch of Professor Duffy's book of prayers: "The Heart in Pilgrimage." Copies will be available to buy at the event.

ROBINSON COLLEGE MASS

Mass will be celebrated by Fr Kevin at 6.30pm on Tuesday.

CRUMBS ON FRIDAY

The 3 minute explanation of things we do, but don't know why, after the 7.30 Friday Mass next week.

FISHER DINNER, 12 JUNE

Bookings and payment for the Fisher Dinner must be received by today. This is the major social event in the Cambridge Catholic Calendar - don't miss it. Contact Michael Loy on mpal2

THE DEAN OF ST PAUL'S

The Right Revd David Ison, dean of St Paul's Cathedral, and a major figure in exploring Faith in the City, will speak to the 'Catholicism for the Curious' group over lunch on Monday, at 1.10pm, talking about the work, history and mission of St Paul's Cathedral in London. Do come to hear this fascinating presentation.

LIBRARY STOCK-TAKING

We need a volunteer to help the librarian towards the end of term, 11 & 13 June. Payment available. See Fr Mark.

FANCY A ST KEVIN? OR A DULCE DOMINICANA?

On Friday evenings, the Bar staff will be premiering the forthcoming Catholic cocktail book. Bar open from 8.30, all welcome.

FISHER HOUSE SVP GROUP

Feeding the homeless and hungry, visiting the elderly, and helping those on the margins in our city. Meetings every Thursday evening. Please contact Sarah Culkin on slcculkin@gmail.com

COUNTERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help count the Sunday collection. Please see Fr Mark.

SAINTS AND SCONES

S&S meets this afternoon in Sr Ann's sitting room at 4.30pm, for *Saints in black and white - St Candida Maria of Jesus and St Philip Neri* (with a relic of St Philip in attendance!) while munching through a Devonshire cream tea.

MORNING PRAYER/LAUDS

From Monday 19 May, morning prayer will be celebrated in the chapel each weekday at 8.00am, followed by breakfast. You will be able to get away by 9.00am.

POLLING DAY

Advance warning that on Thursday 22 May, Fisher Hall will be used as a polling station. There will be no Morning Prayer or Mass that day. The library will still be available. Please ring the bell of the old house for admission.

MONKS AT MAGDALENE

On Sunday 25 May, the Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey will sing Vespers at Magdalene at 6.30pm, recalling the original foundation of the College as a monastic house of training.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

£490.00

Thank you!