

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18 - 25 January

The energy has gone out of Christian Unity. Following the events in recent days in Paris and Belgium, it is clear that the urgency is, and has to be, with inter-religious dialogue. Every effort needs to be made to understand, pray with, and talk with, our non-Christian brothers and sisters. This was underlined by Pope Francis in his visit last week to Sri-Lanka when he sat with Buddhist, Muslim and Hindu leaders, and he has made the appeal for inter-faith harmony and toleration a keynote of his papacy.

By comparison, the work of Christian Unity seems forgotten or largely irrelevant - the message of Dr George Carey last year was that it had no meaning for ordinary Christians in our country. We have learned to live together and work together; our own Cambridge food bank, run by several local churches, is a case in point. Moreover, there are more important things to think about than the divisions between Christians. When Christians in Syria, Africa and throughout the world are persecuted throughout for their faith, aggressors do not discriminate between denominations; we must stand together in support of those who bear the name of Christ without distinction.

The spark seems to have gone out of the quest for Christian Unity. Theological developments among our Protestant partners, and (not always theological) disagreements with Orthodox Christians, seem insurmountable. Our task would realistically seem to be collaboration and co-existence, rather than seeking a unity which very few believe can happen.

There is one reason why we cannot give up: it is our Lord's command - more, his *prayer*. He prays that we be one, as he is one with his Father. In obedience to him, we must continue the seemingly painstaking and slow business of theological dialogue. In as much as Christians are still divided, we do not reflect the unity of Christ with his Father; we are less like Christ, we are less able to bear witness to him in the world. Our Lord himself gives the key: our unity is to base itself on the inner life of the Trinity; that is, unity, not uniformity. For Pope Francis, this means being attentive to the voice of the Holy Spirit, who alone can bring together diverse elements in harmony rather than disunity. We cannot give up our quest for Christian Unity, then, for this is not our own work, but God's.

Fr Mark



FISHER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Sunday 18 January—2nd Sunday of the Year

CALENDAR

Sunday 18	SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass	
	11.00	Sung English Mass	
Monday 19	12.30	Mass	
Tuesday 20	1.05	Mass	(St Sebastian)
Wednesday 21	1.05	Mass	St Agnes
	12.30	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
Thursday 22	1.05	Mass	(St Vincent)
Friday 23	1.05	Mass	
	7.30	Mass	
Saturday 24	1.05	Mass	St Francis de Sales
	4.30—5.30	<i>Confessions</i>	
	6.00	Vigil Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 25	THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
	9.00	Sung Latin Mass	
	11.00	Sung English Mass	

CATHOLIC PARLIAMEN- TARY INTERNSHIPS

The Catholic Bishops' Conference offers internships for six Catholic graduates, to work for 11 months from September 2015 to July 2016.

The internships provide an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. Four interns are placed with Christian MPs at Westminster, one in a parliamentary support role in the Bishops' Conference, two in public policy with CAFOD, and one in a media internship in Archbishop's House Westminster. Closing date for applications 4 March.

Information is available on cards and posters outside the chapel, and can be downloaded from www.cbcew.org.uk/interns

FISHER FAMILIES

A 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, for £1.50.

BENSON DINNER

The annual Graduate Society Dinner will take place on Saturday 7 February. Details tba.

DANTE CIRCLE

A group will meet with Professor Kirkpatrick to read Dante every second Wednesday in the Great Chamber at 6.30pm. First meeting 21 January.

GRADUATE SOCIETY

On Wednesday 21 January, Fr Dominic Allain will speak on his work with the 'Grief to Grace' movement, dealing with survivors of abuse. Fisher Room, 6.00pm.

MEDICAL ETHICS GROUP

The first meeting of this group for Lent term will take place on Monday 19 January at 7.00pm in the Fisher House library. For details contact Basia Chmielewska (bjmc2)

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 Christian Unity?*

FACEBOOK & WEBSITE

Keep up to date with announcements on the Fisher Society Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/fishersociety/ - and don't forget to check out Fisher House website, with its useful calendar of events www.srcf.ucam.org/

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: EVENTS

- Today, Sr Ann is preaching at St Edward King and Martyr at 11.00am.
- On Monday, Fr Mark will speak on Christian Unity in Catholicism for the Curious, 1.15pm.
- On Friday 23 January, there will be Vespers for Christian Unity at 7.30pm. The preacher is Revd Dr Stephen Plant, Dean of Trinity Hall.
- On Saturday 24 January, a 'Unity Tea Party' will be held in the Fisher Room, 3.30pm. Bring any non-Catholic friends!
- On Monday 26 January, Revd Dr Rowan Williams will hold a Q&A on Christian Unity, Fisher Room 1.15pm.

All are welcome to these events.

APOLOGETICS GROUP

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

SPIRITUAL READING GROUP

Meets on Thursday for Vespers at 6.30pm in the chapel, and then in Sr Ann's room to discuss a spiritual classic over wine.

COLLEGE MASS

will be celebrated at Trinity Hall on Monday 19 January at 6.30pm

EXTRAORDINARY FORM (TRIDENTINE) MASS

With only one priest, we have had to cut the weekly 8.00am EF Mass. We are now planning to celebrate it on the first Saturday of each month (ie twice a term) at 1.05pm Mass. Accordingly, the next EF Mass will be on Saturday 7 February at 1.05pm.

PANEL DISCUSSION

There will be a discussion on *Security and Religion in today's world affairs*, on Tuesday, 5.30pm, in room S1, first floor Alison Richard building, West Road. Organised by the Von Hügel Institute. Admission free.

SAINTS AND SCONES

Meeting at 4.30pm in Sr Ann's room, over a cream tea, to discuss St Aelred of Rievaulx.

FRIDAY NIGHT CHOIR

If you are a singer or instrumentalist and would like to help in the Friday evening Mass, please contact Stephen Bick (sb982).

WEEKLY COLLECTION

We need help counting the Sunday collection. Please contact Fr Mark, *ml709*.