

WAITING WITH A PURPOSE

I've noticed that between 8.10 and 8.30 at the Emmanuel Street 'bus stop, no 'buses arrive. By some trick, or oversight, of timetabling, the stand for transport to the south of the city is empty for some twenty minutes. Not a good time to stand there. But it's never a good time, waiting for a 'bus. It's dead time, you can't use it usefully, it is simply an empty prelude, an *in-between* time.

At the chaplaincy, this week itself feels a very in-between time. As I typed this week's newsletter I noted, with a sigh, that it is week six of term, almost at the end - but not quiet yet. There's a slight sense of treading water, wanting to move on but not being able to, not quite yet. It's still too early. I have to wait.

As for students, for whom exams provide their own momentum, there is also a sense of time holding its breath. I remember the particular rhythm of Lent Term, the days of revision that resembled each other so that time seems to stand still; the gap before the next exam, or the wait for the final exam, and then - a pause, before parties, May Week, Graduation. There is a timelessness about this time of year.

We spend a lot of our time waiting. In terms of Church, we are at present waiting for the descent of the Holy Spirit, and quite what we are meant to do in the meantime has many of us baffled. We look forward to the Spirit's coming, but it is too early to start on the hymns. Don't uncork the champagne just yet. It is, in spiritual terms, a pause.

Or is it? Waiting, for the Christian, is not like other sorts of waiting. We say at Mass that 'we wait in joyful hope', and we don't mean by that merely a cheery optimism that the 'bus will turn up eventually. For us, our future overlays our present, pushes in, breaks through. The future we await has begun already (in a lovely Italian phrase, it is *già ma non ancora*) - this is the Kingdom Jesus came to establish, where heaven is not simply what happens apart from or after earth, but underlies it, seeps in, allows us to glimpse now what our future glory will be: *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven*.

This very day, you will glimpse heaven, God will happen to you, you will experience holiness, even as you get on with your very ordinary, earthy, exam-filled life. Christian hope is not just optimism; it is imagination, being able to see Christ in others, the glory of heaven in the Market Place, the joy of heaven in the shouts on the football pitch (hem, hem). Look around: your waiting is not empty. It is filled with the future, already.

Fr Mark



FISHER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Sunday 2 June - 7th Sunday of Easter

CALENDAR - EASTER TERM WEEK VI

Sunday 2	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER		
	9.00am	Sung Latin Mass	
	11.00 am	Sung English Mass	
Monday 3	1.05pm	Mass	<i>St Charles Lwanga & comp.</i>
Tuesday 4	1.05pm	Mass	
Wednesday 5	1.05pm	Mass	<i>St Boniface</i>
Thursday 6	1.05pm	Mass	
Friday 7	1.05pm	Mass	
	7.30pm	<i>Vespers and Meditation</i>	
Saturday 8	1.05pm	Mass	
	4.30—5.30	<i>Confessions</i>	
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass of Pentecost Sunday	
Sunday 9	PENTECOST SUNDAY		
	9.00am	Latin Mass	
	11.00 am	Sung English Mass	

FR MARK LANGHAM - SR ANN SWAILES OP - FR CHASE PEPPER CSC

TAIZE PRAYER

At 8.00pm every Monday in term time, in the chapel All welcome.

CONTACTLESS PAYMENT

Remember that there is an opportunity to make your contribution to Fisher House after Mass

AUDIO-VISUAL RELAY & BACKGROUND NOISE

Sunday Mass is now relayed to the Fisher Room on a large screen, with excellent sound. If your child is making a loud noise, please do consider moving to the Fisher Room for a

while: you will be able to follow Mass there. The Loop system is now operational.



COLLEGE REPS



If you are a College Rep who will be leaving Cambridge at the end of the year, please nominate a new Rep (ask them first!) and let Fr Mark know.

MONKS AT MAGDALENE

After a gap of some 500 years. Benedictine monks, from Douai Abbey, return to Magdalene College this Sunday evening to sing vespers. 6.00pm

GRADSOC



On Wednesday, the GradSoc will hold a games night in the Fisher Room - a panoply of popular pastimes. From 7.30pm.

PRAYER FOR EXAMS

A card is available outside the chapel, with the prayer of St Thomas Aquinas before study, and prayers before exams.

SENIOR MEMBERS

We are keen to make sure that our senior members are fully part of our community, even if they cannot get to Mass. In the next few weeks, we'll be suggesting ways in which we can work together to care for all our members, especially those unable to get to Mass.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

£308.64

Contactless: £32

It costs £4,000 per week to run Fisher House.

MORNING PRAYER

From Monday to Friday, Morning Prayer (Lauds) is prayed in the chapel at 8.00am.

OXFORD vs CAMBRIDGE FOOTBALL MATCH



This Sunday 2 June, at 2.30pm the Dolphins (Fisher House's magnificent football team) will successfully defend the Fisher/More Cup against Oxford Catholic Chaplaincy.

SAFEGUARDING AT FISHER HOUSE

We have a responsibility to ensure that the chaplaincy is a safe place for all, and Fisher House works to the guidelines of the Diocese of East Anglia. We have the help of the safeguarding administrator of the diocese, but it would be good to have someone from our own community on hand. More information about how you can do this is available in the NCSC leaflets outside the chapel.

LEAVERS' MASS

The Leavers' Mass takes place on Sunday 16 June, followed by a Barbeque on the Roof Terrace.

THE FISHER PARTY



Following the Fisher Dinner, you are invited to come back to Fisher House for our all-night party, featuring games, events, entertainments, and flying sharks. Even if you didn't come to the dinner, you are welcome! This year, for the first time, we feature a theme:

Les Misérables

Come, and man the barricades!

THE FISHER HOUSE GARDEN PARTY



On Tuesday 18 June, in the lovely gardens of the Margaret Beaufort Institute, join us for our annual homage to Pimms, cucumber sandwiches and Croquet, from 3.00pm to 5.00pm.