

HAD WE BUT WORLD ENOUGH AND TIME ...

We've not long packed away the decorations - unless you are of more antique liturgical taste, in which case you may still be enjoying them until Candlemas on 2 February. Memories of Christmas linger in the mind, just as calories of Christmas linger on the waistline.

Yet the term we have just begun changes mood abruptly, ending in Lent. Admittedly, early Lent, but nonetheless a different season. A different mood. A different light. The joyful alleluia we sing at Christ's birth will soon be banned by the sombre rubric of the penitential season.

Poets and priests have long sought to see the joy of Christmas and the sorrow of Holy Week contaminating each other - think of T.S. Eliot's famous poem *The Magi*, containing the lines:

Were we led all that way for Birth or Death? ... I had seen Birth and Death and thought they were different. This Birth was hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.

In the Renaissance, many artists depicted the nativity with Mary cradling the baby on her lap, consciously pointing forward to the time she would hold his broken body when she received it from the cross. We are reminded that the Christian mystery is all one - that all is connected. The mystery of our redemption comes among us in Bethlehem, to be unfolded and enacted on Golgotha.

But perhaps this is too clever, too theological. This term we merely have a sense of time rushing by, of a shifting mood, which in academic terms moves from a delight at a new academic year to fraught concern as the shadow of exams falls across the diary. Time seems ever shorter, and with the poet Marvell, we cannot delay too long our pleasures:

But at my back I always hear

Time's wingèd chariot hurrying near;

A mature person engages fully in the present moment, while seeing the greater cycle of years. The Christian delights in God's gifts today, while trusting in him for the future, knowing that all time is held in his hands, and is part of his will. This Lent Term, let us say with Psalm 90: *Teach us so to number our days that we may gain wisdom of heart.*

Fr Mark



FISHER HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Sunday 19 January - 2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

CALENDAR - LENT TERM WEEK I

Sunday 19	2ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
	9.00am	Sung Latin Mass	
	11.00 am	Sung English Mass Ccl: Bishop O'Toole	
Monday 20	1.05pm	Mass	St Sebastian
Tuesday 21	1.05pm	Mass	St Agnes
Wednesday 22	1.05pm	Mass	St Vincent
Thursday 23	12.30 - 1.00pm	Adoration	
	1.05pm	Mass	
Friday 24	1.05pm	Mass	St Francis de Sales
	7.30pm	Vespers and Meditation	
Saturday 25	1.05pm	Mass	Conversion of St Paul
		Beginning of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	
	4.30 - 5.30	Confessions	
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 26	3RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
	9.00am	Latin Mass	
	11.00 am	Sung English Mass	

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

FAMILIAR FACES

If you've been around Fisher House for a while, you may recognise two friends who are back in Cambridge for this term:

Fr Kevin Grove CSC is former assistant chaplain at Fisher House, and is spending a sabbatical term at the Margaret Beaufort Institute.

Fr Joe Iguanez spent a term at Fisher House in 2014, and is here for a sabbatical term at Magdalene College.

WOMENS' SCRIPTURE GROUP

A new group, for women undergraduate and graduates, will meet on Saturday 25th at 10.30am in Sr Ann's room.

COLLEGE MASSES

We have a good number of Masses this term:

17 January Clare College
29 January Queens' College
3 February Trinity College
10 February Pembroke College
12 February Homerton College

CONTACTLESS GIVING

You can donate £4 after 11.00am Mass via contactless giving. The machine will be available outside the chapel.

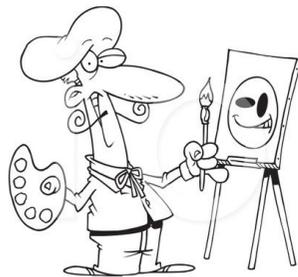
EXPOSITION

Every Thursday, at 12.30pm, we hold exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before 1.05pm Mass.

BISHOP MARK O'TOOLE

We welcome this weekend the Bishop of Plymouth, Bishop Mark O'Toole, who will celebrate the 11.00am. Bishop Mark will confirm four candidates - we congratulate them and keep them in prayer

FISHER ART EXHIBITION



The art exhibition is installed at Fisher House, in the area outside the chapel and in the Fisher Room, and will be open for a week.

DAILY LUNCH

Costing only £1.50, and available from Monday to Friday after 1.05pm Mass in the Fisher Room. Payment by cash or card.

OPEN OFFICE



Each Friday, from 3.00pm to 5.00pm, come for tea, cakes and a chat in Sr Ann's office.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The prayer for unity will be said at all Masses this week.

On Friday this week, Revd Robert Mackley, Vicar of Little St Mary's, will preach at Vespers for Christian Unity at 7.30pm. We do hope to see many of you there.

APOLOGIA

Our popular series of talks on Catholic theology and culture returns on Tuesday, with a meal at 7.00pm, and at 8.00pm a talk given by Fr Mark for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity entitled *To be Catholic is to be Ecumenical*.

BENSON CLUB

The book for this term is *The House of Ulloa* by Emilia Pardo Bazan. We will meet to discuss it on Monday 9 March.

SVP

The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) meets weekly on Wednesdays at 5.00pm in the Fisher Room (*nb* new time). The SVP also operates the nightly soup runs. We always need more names on the rota. If you'd be willing to sign up, please contact Nikhil on naa49.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

£331.06

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

CHINESE NEW YEAR



COSTA, the chaplaincy group for South East Asians, is hosting a celebration of the Year of the Rat at 7.30pm on Saturday 15 January. Please sign up for dinner outside the chapel - space is limited to 25 people, so scurry off to book your place! £3 per person.

TERM CARDS

Please take your term cards, and if you are a College rep, pick up a bundle from the Fisher Room for your College.

NEWMAN LECTURE SERIES

The next lecture in our series to mark the canonization of Cardinal Newman will be on Thursday 30 January, when Fr Guy Nichol Cong. Orat. will speak on *Newman's Idea of the Beautiful*

FISHER COMMITTEE

The Fisher AGM, with election of the new committee will take place on Sunday 16 February - if you are a first year, why not consider standing for election?