

Fisher House Newsletter

Sunday 27 November – First Sunday of Advent, Cycle B



Day	Time	Feast or Event	Other Information
Sunday	27 November	9:00am 11:00am	First Sunday of Advent Sung Latin Mass – Fr Tim Calvert OP Sung English Mass – Fr Tim Calvert
Monday	28 November	12:15pm	
Tuesday	29 November	1:05pm	
Wednesday	30 November	12:30pm 1:05pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass St Andrew, Patron of Scotland
Thursday	1 December	1:05pm	Mass
Friday	2 December	1:05pm	Mass
Saturday	3 December	1:05pm 4:30-5:30 6:00pm	Mass Confessions: Fr Alban Vigil Mass for Sunday – Fr Allen
Sunday	4 December	9:00am 11:00am	Second Sunday of Advent Sung Latin Mass – Fr Alban Sung English Mass – Fr Kevin

A warm welcome to Fr Tim Calvert OP, Prior of the St Dominic's Priory, Haverstock Hill, London, who is our guest preacher this weekend.

Wednesday 30 November

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.
5.45pm: BIBLE STUDY GROUP. *The Gospel of John: the Way, the Truth & the Life*, led by Sr Ann OP. All welcome. Please note, slightly earlier time.

AFTER 11AM MASS

CUCA'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will take place in the FISHER ROOM after the 11.00am Mass today, at which elections to the Council will take place. Every Catholic member of the university is automatically a member of CUCA and has a right to vote at the AGM.

ADVENT CAROL SINGING IN FISHER SQUARE AT 6.30PM

& A CHRISTMAS JOLLY AT 8.00PM

starting with Mulled Wine in the Fisher Room.
Come for all or part.
All welcome

Monday 28 November

12.15pm: Mass followed by CATHOLICISM FOR THE CURIOUS at 1.15pm over lunch in the Fisher Room, a short talk given by Fr Alban on what Catholics believe and why. This week: *Love, Sex & the Holy Eucharist*. All welcome.

GRADUATE SOCIETY SPEAKER EVENING

6.00pm in the Library
Clare Asquith, Lady Oxford, will speak on
Shakespeare's Dark Matter
All welcome

Thursday 1 December

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.
6.00pm: THEOLOGY FOR NON-THEOLOGAINS: led by Sr Ann OP. This week's topic: *Meeting Christ in the Church and the Sacraments*. All welcome.
7.00pm: SVP MEETING.
7.30pm: INTO GREAT SILENCE: Silent and Sung Prayer in the Chapel before the Blessed Sacrament.

Tuesday 29 November

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.
6.00pm: Poetry, Form & Faith meeting the library. This week's topic is: *Poetry of the City & the Country: Pope, Wordsworth, Louis MacNeice and others*. All welcome.

Friday 2 December

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.
8.00pm: DRINKS IN THE FISHER ROOM.

Saturday 3 December

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch in the Fisher Room.
4.30pm: Confessions
6.00pm: Vigil Mass for Sunday

Sunday 4 December

Last Sunday with term time Masses. From 11 December, Sunday Mass will be at 10.30am only

CONSIDER YOUR CALL

Fr David Foster, a Benedictine monk of Downside, will lead a discussion about the nature of vocation, starting with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7.30pm.
All welcome

Congratulations to our victorious Fisher House Football Team for regaining the Fisher-More Trophy by beating Oxford 3-1 last Sunday.

FOR YOUR DIARY NEXT TERM

FISHER LECTURE 2012 Wednesday 1 February

Trent and Vatican II: Two Anniversaries of Two Misunderstood Councils

Professor John O'Malley

Georgetown University, Washington DC

If you would like to sponsor the lecture by helping us the chaplaincy to pay for the lecturer's travel expenses from the USA, please speak to Fr Alban

THE LITURGICAL READINGS DURING ADVENT

Advent is the time *both* to prepare for the solemnity of Christmas, when the Son of God's first coming to us is remembered *and* to recall His Second Coming, which still lies in the future. For both of these reasons, the season of Advent is a time for the renewal of hope and expectation.

Each Sunday gospel of Advent reading has a distinctive theme: the Lord's coming at the end of time (First Sunday of Advent), John the Baptist (Second and Third Sunday), and the events that immediately preceded the Lord's birth (Fourth Sunday). The Old Testament readings are prophecies about the Messiah and the Messianic age, especially from the Isaiah. The second readings serve as exhortations and as proclamations, in keeping with the different themes of Advent.

The weekdays of Advent involve two sequences of readings: one to be used from the beginning of Advent until 16 December; the other from 17 to 24 December. In the first part of Advent there are readings from Isaiah, distributed in accord with the sequence of the book itself and including salient texts which are read also on the Sundays.

THE TRUE FACE OF CHRISTIAN HOPE

Day by day we experience many greater or lesser hopes, different in kind according to the different periods of our life. Sometimes, one of these hope may appear to be totally satisfying, without any need for other hopes. Young people have the hope of a great and fully satisfying love; the hope of a certain position in their profession, or of some success that will prove decisive for the rest of their lives. When these hopes are fulfilled,

however, it becomes clear that they were not, in reality, the whole. It becomes clear that we have need of a hope that goes further. It becomes clear that only something infinite will suffice, only something that will always be more than we can ever attain.

Our contemporary age has developed the hope of creating a perfect world that, thanks to scientific knowledge and to scientifically based politics, seemed to be achievable. Thus hope in the kingdom of God has been displaced by hope in the kingdom of mankind, the hope of a better world which would be the real "Kingdom of God"...It has become clear that this hope is constantly receding...We need the greater and lesser hopes that keep us going day by day. But these are not enough without the great hope, which must surpass everything else.

This great hope can only be God, who encompasses the whole of reality and who can bestow upon us what we, by ourselves, cannot attain. The fact that it comes to us as gift is actually part of hope. God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end, each one of us and humanity in its entirety.

His Kingdom is not an imaginary hereafter, situated in a future that will never arrive; his Kingdom is present whenever and wherever he is loved and whenever and wherever his love reaches us. His love alone gives us the possibility of soberly persevering day by day, without ceasing to be spurred on by hope, in a world which by its very nature is imperfect. His love is at the same time our guarantee of the existence of what we only vaguely sense and which, nevertheless, in our deepest self, we await: a life that is "truly" life.

From *Spe Salvi*, the Encyclical letter of Pope Benedict XVI in 2007

**THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER OF
MICHAELMAS TERM. THE NEXT WILL BE ON
SUNDAY 15 JANUARY**