



Fisher House

Cambridge University
Catholic Chaplaincy

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 1 May 2022

Easter Term Week 1 | Third Sunday of Easter

OUR TERM CARD IS OUT! SEE WHAT'S ON AT
[FISHERHOUSE.ORG.UK/TERMCARD](http://fisherhouse.org.uk/termcard)

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Masses are open to the public, with no sign-up required.

Sunday 1 May	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	9.00am†	Mass (Sung Latin)
	11.00am†	Mass (Sung English)
Monday 2	12 noon†	Votive Mass to St John Fisher at Great St Mary's
	1.05pm	Mass (cancelled)
Tuesday 3	8.20am	Mass <i>Ss Philip and James</i>
	1.05pm	Mass
Wednesday 4	8.20am	Mass <i>The English Martyrs</i>
	1.05pm	Mass
Thursday 5	8.20am	Mass (cancelled)
	1.05pm	Mass (cancelled)
Friday 6	8.20am	Mass
	12.30pm	Rosary
	1.05pm	Mass
	6.30pm	Sung Vespers
Saturday 7	1.05pm	Mass
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Said English)
Sunday 8 May	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
	9.00am†	Mass (Sung Latin)
	11.00am†	Mass (Sung English)

† Also livestreamed to [our YouTube channel](#).

We are delighted to welcome back **Fr Richard Finn OP**, of Blackfriars, Oxford, to celebrate our Masses this Sunday 1 May.

At our 11.00am Masses next Sundays 8 and 15 May, we will be welcoming visiting priests. Sr Ann and Matteo warmly encourage you to stay after Mass for teas and coffees in the Fisher Room, to welcome them and offer them the chance to meet us all!

THIS WEEK AT FISHER HOUSE

Sunday 1 May

12 noon **Post-Mass Welcome Back Reception**

Monday 2 May

12 noon **Fisher Mass 2022** at Great St Mary's, the University Church (Senate House Hill, CB2 3PQ; [FB](#))

For this year's Fisher Mass, we are delighted to welcome Fr Anton Webb as chief celebrant and guest preacher. Fr Anton is Parish Priest at St Alban's, Winslow (Bucks), and has extensive experience in prison ministry.

The Fisher Mass will be livestreamed to fisherhouse.org.uk/live and followed by a reception at Fisher House. Doctors are invited to wear scarlet and all members of the University are invited to wear academic dress. Please note that there will be no Masses at Fisher House on Monday.

Tuesday 3 May

6.00pm – 6.45pm **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in the Chapel

7.00pm – 9.15pm **Apologia: The Theology of Holy Spirit** with Br Thomas Thérèse Mannion OP ([FB](#))

Maria, the newly-elected Chair of the Fisher Society, writes of the inaugural Apologia of term: "As we prepare for Pentecost in the Church's year, we are delighted to welcome Br Thomas Thérèse Mannion OP. Br Thomas will speak to us about who the Holy Spirit is and how He can inspire us in our daily lives.

"Following on from our series on the Church, we will be hearing throughout our May Apologias why Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to His Church, and how essential it is to cooperate with Him to carry out our mission today."

"Br Thomas Thérèse Mannion OP is a Dominican Friar of Blackfriars, Oxford, who is full of the joy and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. He has a particular interest in St Thérèse of Lisieux and Ecclesiology, and will be drawing from both of these areas of expertise in his talk."

Join us as you can for a 7.00pm for a homecooked meal, 8.00pm talk, and 9.00pm Night Prayer, followed by the Black Swan Bar from 9.15pm.

9.15pm – 10.30pm **Black Swan Bar** - Cambridge's most fun and most Catholic bar, serving alcoholic and nonalcoholic drinks at prices you won't find elsewhere!

Thursday 5 May

Fisher House will be used as a polling station for the local elections this Thursday 5 May. The Chapel, Fisher Room and Library will be closed throughout the day, and there will be no Masses at Fisher House.

6.15pm **Taizé on the Terrace** – a reflective service of candlelit prayer, with songs and chants. Contact Songyuan ([sz311](#)) or Lakshmi ([gmail](#)) for more details. ([FB](#))

Taizé will be held on the Terrace this week. For access, please ring the doorbell of the Chaplains' House (the doorbell of the wooden door next to the plaque).

Friday 6 May

3.30pm – 5.30pm **Sr Ann's Open Office** – all students warmly welcome for friendship, tea and homebaked goodies! ([FB](#))

6.30pm **Sung Vespers** – a service of thanksgiving at the close of the working day, with psalms and scripture. ([FB](#))

7.00pm **An Evening on Vocations** – a chance for us to come together to explore and discuss God's calling our lives, in a welcoming and friendly environment! ([FB](#))

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8.00pm – 11.15pm **Black Swan Bar** – Cambridge’s most fun and most Catholic bar, serving alcoholic and nonalcoholic drinks at prices you won’t find elsewhere!

Saturday 7 May

4.30pm – 5.30pm **Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in the Chapel

Fisher House, including the Chapel of St John Fisher, is open 8.00am to 10.00pm daily. Students are welcome to use the Fisher Room, its kitchen, the Library and Terrace. You can request interior card access at fisherhouse.org.uk/card-access.

In addition to the closure of Fisher House this Thursday 5 May, the Fisher Room will be closed from 4.00pm to 5.00pm this Wednesday 4 May for a private booking. When the Fisher Room is closed, please access the Library via the Chapel side-door.

REFLECTION: NO MATTER HOW BUSY THE TERM GETS, LET THE LORD SPEAK!

My dear friends,

A warm welcome back to Cambridge to those of you who have been away, and to everyone, greetings and all good wishes at the beginning of a new Term. Easter Term in Cambridge has its own character, which many more people than usual will be experiencing in all its fullness for the first time this year. Perhaps for most, it will be a time of shifting emotions, with an intensity that can sometimes be disturbing: anxiety juxtaposed with festivity; nervousness about exams or submission deadlines, alternating with the anticipation of celebrations to come when it is all over. And, of course, especially for those for whom this is their final term in Cambridge, there is the ambivalence that, one way or another, pretty much inevitably accompanies the ending of chapters in all of our lives: the complex mix of gratitude and regret as we look backwards, and of excitement and trepidation as we look forwards.

Perhaps the coincidence between Easter Term and Eastertide has something to tell us here too. In the weeks between the first Easter and the first Pentecost, the friends of Jesus had to negotiate the landscape of memories, joyful and sorrowful, newly illuminated by the glory of the Resurrection. The gospels tell us how, in their encounters with the risen Lord, the apostles are invited to revisit the events that led to his death and see them anew – and thus see themselves anew in relation to Jesus. Peter, for instance, who denied Christ three times by the midnight brazier in the high priest’s courtyard on that terrible night of the Lord’s arrest, is affirmed three times by Christ at another charcoal fire at dawn, as

the Lord entrusts him with feeding his flock. Neither the abject horror of his betrayal, nor the bravado that preceded it, and that must have seemed so bitterly ludicrous in its light – “even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you” – has the last word. The last word belongs to Jesus, and to his creative, re-creative love for Peter, transfiguring his shame into acceptance – rekindling, surely, his gratitude for all that journeying with Jesus has meant to him already, and opening up the possibility of new growth in his friendship with the Lord.

It’s also striking that Peter receives this invitation – an invitation that is simultaneously his healing and his vocation; the reassurance of Jesus’ tender compassion for him and the call to minister that compassion to others – in the stillness of dawn, on the disciples’ return from a night-time fishing expedition, while the rest of the world sleeps on. It’s a reminder, perhaps, of the importance of allowing the Lord an opportunity to speak similar words of healing and vocation to us, in those moments when we, too, can withdraw a little from the clamour of the preoccupations that sometimes threaten to overwhelm us amid a relentlessly noisy world.

But such moments are, of course, hard to come by, especially in Easter Term. There are two things that must be said. On the one hand, as all the great spiritual masters and mistresses of our tradition insist, it is immensely helpful for us to set aside specific times for prayer – so that alongside all the other dates in our crowded calendars, we schedule regular appointments with God. Such habits of prayer will doubtless make us the more alert to

those moments that are sometimes given us unexpectedly: the chance-meetings as we go about our daily business, as the risen Christ appeared to the disciples as they re-entered the workaday world of steering boats and hauling nets. But secondly, sometimes it is precisely in the unforeseen and unforeseeable interruption of our daily busyness – perhaps because of a bout of sickness, for instance – that we may be most conscious of the Lord alongside us, inviting himself, so to speak, to an appointment we have not planned. This too is important because it reminds us that we are not, finally, in control of our agendas: that’s the Lord’s job, and he discharges it with infinite strength, but also with infinite kindness. We do not need to be afraid that he will abandon us because in our weakness and limitations we sometimes abandon him, any more than Peter’s denial was met with denial in return. It is sometimes when we can no longer maintain the illusion that it is we who are in command of the situation that we may be most ready to hear this most consoling of messages.

As Easter term gets underway, let’s look out, and help one another to look out, for those quiet ways in which the risen Lord longs to draw close to each one of us, sustaining us in our work, refreshing us in our rest, blessing us with his forgiveness and healing, and going before us into a future we cannot yet imagine.

God bless,

Sr Ann Swailes OP, Acting Chaplain ([acs92](https://www.acs92.org))

FISHER HOUSE NOTICES

OUR TERMCARD IS OUT!

See what’s on at Fisher House this Easter Term at fisherhouse.org.uk/termscard. Printed copies are available in the Chapel corridor and will be posted to all students resident in Cambridge over the coming days. Please contact Matteo ([mb2481](https://www.mb2481.org)) if you do not receive a copy and would like one. *Matteo is very embarrassed and apologises profusely for the wrong pagination on the printed copies!*

SECURITY REMINDER

There has been an unfortunate minor breach of security. We kindly remind you not to share the code to the glass doors without the prior permission of a chaplain, nor let anyone see you key the code in, nor let anyone follow you into Fisher House from behind. If you are in the Library in the evening, please close and latch-lock the doors to the Terrace and lock the white grill shut with the key on the shelf to the left. May we also remind you that we unlock the glass doors for Masses and other services, and we take no responsibility for personal property left behind.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously or destroying chapel property, or if you would simply like a member of the Chaplaincy Team to be present, please immediately contact a member of the Chaplaincy Team or ring the doorbell of the Chaplains’ House. Our landline number is [01223 742192](tel:01223742192); Sr Ann’s mobile number is [07553 892943](tel:07553892943) and Matteo’s mobile number is [07825 033345](tel:07825033345).

NEW FISHER FAMILIES WHATSAPP GROUP

On request, we’re setting up a new WhatsApp group chat for families with young children. We hope that this can be a place of friendship and mutual support. To join, simply send a quick email to Matteo ([mb2481](https://www.mb2481.org)), including your name and WhatsApp mobile phone number.

ELIZABETH KOLB MEMORIAL TRUST: APPLICATIONS OPEN!

The Elizabeth Kolb Memorial Trust offers grants to Catholic women students at the University of Cambridge who were born in the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland. Eligible women may apply for grants towards the cost of books or equipment, travel (particularly if related to their studies) or medical expenses. Grants are usually given for up to £500 for well-defined purposes and where a clear breakdown of expenses is offered. The deadline for applications is Friday 20 May 2022. For more details and to apply, visit fisherhouse.org.uk/elizabeth-kolb.

FINAL CALL FOR LOURDES

For almost three decades, the Oxford University Catholic Chaplaincy and Fisher House have organised joint pilgrimages to Lourdes, spending a week serving around the Sanctuary. The proposed dates this year are Sundays 24 to 31 July 2022, for a total cost of about £200. Contact Matteo ([mb2481](https://www.mb2481.org)) as soon as possible for more information or to join.