



PRAYING TOGETHER FOR THE CHURCH,
THE WORLD, THE PARISH & ONE ANOTHER



SUN ✘ 24 May	7th Sunday of Easter	Mass offered privately	Tony Hill RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the parish
Mon 25 May	St Bede the Venerable Priest and Martyr	No Mass today BANK HOLIDAY	
Tue 26 May	St Philip Neri Priest	Mass offered privately	Pro Populo - for the people of the parish
Wed 27 May	ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY Bishop	Mass offered privately	Pro Populo - for the people of the parish
Thur 28 May	Easter feria	Mass offered privately	For the National Health Service and all who work within it
Fri 29 May	Easter feria	Mass offered Privately	Patrick Doohan RIP
Sat 30 May	Easter feria	Mass offered privately	Norma Doohan RIP
SUN ✘ 31 May	PENTECOST SUNDAY	Mass offered privately	Pro Populo - for the people of the parish

Prayer intentions during the pandemic: We pray for all who work in the NHS at this time, for our wonderful doctors, nurses and support staff, for all who are sick in any way, for the elderly & vulnerable and for those who feel afraid. For our politicians making difficult decisions and for a compassionate heart for those who don't have to make difficult decisions but who readily criticise. Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father for May. For Deacons: We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Richards shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk
 Administrator: Nathalie Hasted Currently on Furlough
 Book keeper: Traci Blundell Currently on Furlough
 All Hall Bookings: Via parish office

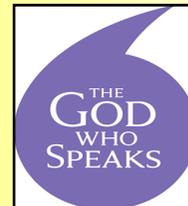
Parish Safeguarding: Katrina Lavery sheppertong@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
 Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator 020 7798 9356

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Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekday readings
Easter Week 7
Divine Office
Week 3

**ST JOHN FISHER
CATHOLIC CHURCH**



Sunday 24th May 2020

**7TH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



**HOLY MASS
THIS SUNDAY**
Father, glorify
your Son

This is an unusual "in between" Sunday, in between the Lord's Ascension into heaven which we celebrated last Thursday and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost next Sunday. The Church's tradition is to spend this time 'in between' in prayer, as did Mary and the Apostles, waiting for the promised gift of the Spirit which we read about in the first reading today.

The Church is itself the community 'in between' the Lord's first and second coming as we await the Spirit next Sunday. Pray this coming week that we may receive a vision of God's Glory for ourselves, and even though we cannot pray together, let us remember that we are the Church wherever we may be and that we are united in the power of the Holy Spirit awaiting the time when we shall be together again at the Altar of the Lord.

**Whilst all public Masses have been suspended
be assured that the Holy Mass is offered at SJF in private,
day by day, for your intentions.**

NEXT WEEKEND the Church, wherever we may be, will celebrate Pentecost, fifty days after the resurrection of the Lord. Pentecost marks the birthday of the Church. The clergy wear red vestments at Mass to represent the coming of the Holy Spirit onto the people of the Church. Even though we cannot celebrate together at this time of national lockdown, why not wear something red yourself at home on Sunday, to join in the celebrations? Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people and kindle in them the fire of your love!

CARDINAL VINCENT has recorded a Pastoral Message in preparation for Pentecost. This can be viewed directly on our Web and Microsite and also using this link:

<https://vimeo.com/421046273>

PENTECOST NOVENA: Once again, the global wave of prayer calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost is taking place from 21st to 31st May, for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. Online Prayer resources, including specific Catholic resources, can be found at:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/about-us>

THE WORK CONTINUES:

Whilst the Holy Mass is celebrated day by day at SJF for your intentions, other important stuff is going on as well behind the closed doors where urgent repairs and maintenance are being addressed. Some time ago, we cordoned off the back rows of the church due to a small amount of falling masonry from the roof space. It's taken a long time to receive quotations and to work out the way forward for permitted works during the lockdown. I am grateful to our diocesan surveyor, for his help and guidance in this period. A large proportion of the cost for high level work is scaffolding hire, so the decision was also made to repaint the badly stained ceiling of the church at the same time, this is because we shall save financially in the long term, rather than duplicating on scaffolding costs at a later date.

The repairs and painting have been ongoing for the past week and when we are permitted to reopen, we shall have a cleaner and brighter church. But this is not all, in the peace and quiet of the curtilage of the church, pigeons have taken

up residence in the eaves of the church hall, consequently the debris in the hall during the lockdown has been considerable. It is hoped that this issue will be solved before the lockdown ends. I mention these things to keep you up to date and to assure you that the Church hasn't gone into hibernation, but is actively preparing for the time when we can join together again to celebrate the Holy Mass and give glory to God with joy filled hearts. The months ahead in our lives and in the life of the Church are still uncertain, but we must plan for what people are calling the *new normal*. Whatever the *new normal* way of life is, be assured that the Lord is constant and will remain ever present whatever life brings.

PLEASE SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS AROUND that we are producing this *On Line* newsletter each week. It might be just the link that some parishioners need, to help to keep them in the loop and up to date.

CATHOLIC CHURCH ISSUES GUIDELINES FOR CATHOLICS ON ORGAN DONATION FOLLOWING CHANGE IN THE LAW:

Last Wednesday, 20th May, an opt-out system for organ donation was introduced in England. The Catholic Church has consistently encouraged its followers to consider organ donation. The act of donating organs before or after death has been considered a gift and an intrinsic good. However, a system of presumed consent risks taking away the right of the individual to exercise this decision, and therefore potentially undermines the concept of donation as a gift. Following the change in the law, all adults in England will be considered donors in the event of death, unless they have recorded a decision not to donate or are in one of the following excluded groups: those under the age of 18; people who lack the mental capacity to understand the new arrangements and take the necessary action; visitors to England, and those not living here voluntarily; and people who have lived in England for less than 12 months before their death.

The Catholic Bishops' of England and Wales have produced Guidelines for Catholics on Organ Donation, and how to record this decision online via the Organ Donation Register (ODR). The ODR

also allows you to record your faith beliefs so that they may be respected in the event of death and organ donation. You can see the guidelines on our parish web site and parish microsite or cut and paste this link into your browser:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/04/Organ-Donation-Guidelines-Feb-2020.pdf>

THANKS FOR THINKING OF US: Some parishioners have made requests for their new weekly envelopes, which can be posted out and others have asked to move over to a Standing Order with the bank so they can keep their gift offering to our church going.

Importantly however, we realise for many who are unable to work, that this is a difficult time and church contributions are difficult. Please know that the care of your family comes first and whatever you would like to offer now or afterwards, when the time is right, will be a welcome gift. If you are wanting to help us now, the Diocese have just updated our Donate Page on our microsite:

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/Shepperton/donate>

This page offers various ways to help us to keep on paying our bills. Many thanks for your help.

PAUSE FOR FAITH: Fr Stephen Wang is live streaming each day at the 'Pause for Faith' YouTube channel, where you can also see a library of recent videos. It's an informal look at different aspects of our Catholic faith. Including how to pray, the lives of the saints, faith formation,

coping with lockdown, and a new series of talks about 'What Christians believe in 100 objects'. This is a good site and you can check it out at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/PauseforFaith>

MASS INTENTIONS: We can still arrange Mass intentions and have space available leading to Pentecost. To request a Mass intention, in thanksgiving, for a birthday or a wedding anniversary or for someone who is ill or who has died, please contact Fr Shaun via the office email or telephone.

MARY'S MEALS We were scheduled to have a clothing collection for Mary's Meals at the end of June - building on the success of our first collection last year. It looks like this will not now be taking place, given the current lockdown. The founder of Mary's Meals has recorded a short message which can be found here:

https://youtu.be/h9e_zhu98HY (just copy the link and paste it into your internet search engine)

SJF SAMARITANS: Thank you to all who have joined this new community group helping those who are self isolating or social distancing, to get help, be it with urgent shopping delivery, telephone companionship or support or picking up urgent medicines. If you would like to help, please contact Fr Shaun via email and please include your contact number. If you are in need of any urgent help, please phone Fr Shaun.

LITTLE CHURCH: Have a look at our microsite and click on the tab '*THINGS TO DO WHILST AT HOME*'



PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Veronica Sreenan, Kathleen Johnson, Tim Sullivan, Arthur Frendo, Jasmine Shell, Jim Tranter, Mary Mullahey, Margaret Ward, Gerry Firth

ANNIVERSARIES THIS MAY

Fr John O'Sullivan, Ella Mary Butterworth, Elsie Curley, Peter Johnson, Alice (Nita) Manning, Mollie Pugh, Jeanne Diekmann, Joe D'Souza, Tom Ray, David Weathers, Bartley Keady, Dorothy Price, Linzi Geddes, Joan King, Daphne Dodd, Kitty Brett, Terry Quinn

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD