



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



Sun ☒ 20 Dec	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm (Sat Vigil) 8.30am 10.30am	Peter Pollard & Jean Reynolds RIP Sheila Wheaton - Sick Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Mon 21 Dec	Advent Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 22 Dec	Advent Feria	9.30am	In thanksgiving for our volunteer stewards at SJF
Wed 23 Dec	Advent Feria	9.30am	For Marilyn RIP
CHRISTMAS EVE 24 Dec	Advent Feria VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY	9.30am	Colin Souter - sick & Ellen Clark – sick
		6.00pm 9.00pm	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
CHRISTMAS DAY 25 Dec	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	8.30am 10.30am	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
BOXING DAY 26 Dec	ST STEPHEN, First Martyr	12.00 noon	Peter Rowntree RIP
Sun ☒ 27 Dec	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH	6.00pm (Sat Vigil) 8.30am 10.30am	Silvio Fernandez - In thanksgiving Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Alice Cane RIP

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: For the time being, please arrange this directly with Fr Shaun.
Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father for December: For a life of prayer . We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ, be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Richards shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk
 Administrator: Nathalie Hasted On Furlough
 Book keeper: Traci Blundell sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk
 All Hall Bookings: Via parish office (all bookings are currently suspended)

St John Fisher Catholic Church, 15 Wood Road, Shepperton. TW17 0DH

Telephone: 01932 563116

website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton> or www.sjfchurch.org.uk

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

Charity No: 233699



Sunday 20th December 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

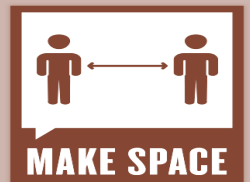
Sunday cycle
Readings Year B
Weekday readings
17th -24th Dec
Divine Office
Psalter Week 4



**HOLY MASS
THIS SUNDAY**
Listen! You are to
conceive and
bear a son

We are entering a new stage of Advent. Having spent so much time on the Second Coming of Jesus, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord's First Coming. Today we focus on the character of Mary, and hear of the angel Gabriel being sent to her, to invite her to take her part in the mystery of the Incarnation, the revelation of the mystery kept secret for endless ages. This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the establishing of that house. An interesting idea is that the first reading talks of David wishing to build a house for the Lord; through the prophet he is told not of the house that he would build, but the House which is his line: eventually, in Mary (betrothed to Joseph) the House of David does itself become the house of the Lord, the womb wherein he has a dwelling place.

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
OF ST JOHN FISHER**



WELCOME to the Holy Mass today. This news letter gives you some information for the week ahead. There are also weekly sheets available for children called 'LOOK' to take away.



CHRISTMAS EVE - Thursday 24th Dec

Morning Mass of Advent: 9.30am
Vigil Mass of Christmas: 6.00pm
Midnight Mass begins 9.00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY - Friday 25th Dec

Mass of the Nativity: 8.30am & 10.30am

BOXING DAY - Saturday 26th Dec

Mass of St Stephen: 12.00noon
Vigil Mass for Sunday: 6.00pm

Sunday 27th Dec - The Holy Family

Mass at 8.30am & 10.30am

Mon 28th Dec - Fri 1st Jan - No Masses at SJF (Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wed 30th 9.30-10.00am, Holy Rosary, Fri 1st Jan 9.30-10.00am)

Saturday 2nd Jan

Mass 10.00am
Vigil Mass for Sunday 6.00pm

Sunday 3rd Jan - 2nd Sunday after the Nativity

Mass at 8.30am & 10.30am

CHRISTMAS IS DIFFERENT THIS YEAR ... not least because the Masses will be said, without singing. In order to keep us *Covid Secure*, we will be limiting the numbers of people in church. The balcony area which we have used as an overspill in previous years, will also be closed. There will be no requirement to reserve places for the Masses, we'll work on a 'first come, first served basis' - as we have been doing over the past months. **We will not be able to accommodate everyone!** **Please consider attending a less busy Christmas Mass over the Christmas season, maybe, Saturday 26th or Sunday 27th, to be sure to get a seat more easily.** Please take note of the time of Masses, as some start times are different to previous years. It will help us enormously if you

have the NHS Track & Trace App on your mobile phone to check in with, when you arrive; if not, the door stewards will take your name and phone number. Thank you for using the one way system — this applies to everyone in church, wherever you sit. Please sit in the spaces indicated with a tick ✓ If seats are available in the middle of the bench, please use these first, this avoids blocking a row. Face coverings are compulsory in church at all times, unless you are exempt. Please put your face covering on before you enter the building, this is for the protection of others as well as yourself. This distribution of Holy Communion (and Blessings) falls at the end of the Mass, parishioners then exit directly afterwards using the car park exit. The duration of Masses over Christmas will be 25-30 minutes. Apologies that this is all rather prescriptive, we are just ensuring that you and the building are kept as *Covid Secure* as is possible. Finally, many thanks to our volunteer door stewards, who have checked parishioners into the church, cleaned benches, kneelers, tables and doors, after every Mass, totalling many hours, over the past months. Such generosity of spirit has enabled SJF to stay open.

NUMBER 28: If you are part of the weekly envelope giving scheme and your set of envelopes is number **28**, please can you let either Traci our Bookkeeper or Fr Shaun know. We can then update our files. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS GIVING ENVELOPES: These are now available and are an opportunity for you to make a Christmas gift, not to the clergy, but to our parish church, in thanksgiving for the blessings we have received in this Holy place over the past year, where Mass was offered for you, even during the lockdowns. Thanks be to God.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK 2021 is now available from the Repository £4.50p

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: For the time being, please arrange this directly with Fr Shaun. Please be advised that it is not possible to hear confessions before Mass.

APOLOGIES: our toilets and hall remain closed at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

“EVERY DAY IS CHRISTMAS DAY” is a journey through the Octave of Christmas for families or individuals to enjoy this coming Christmas. It takes the form of a scripture reading, reflection, prayer, and activity for each day from 25th December – 1st January. You can download the booklet at: <https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/news/every-day-is-christmas---a-journey-through-the-christmas-octave-2020/> In the booklet, Cardinal Vincent Nichols writes: “I invite you to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas in your homes. Please ensure that you have a crib in a prominent place in your home. Gather round it as we approach this great Feast and say some prayers with your family and in your ‘bubbles’. Give your decorations a touch of the Christmas story: some joyful angels, prominent star, gift parcels from the wise men. Try to make this Advent and Christmas a family festival of the birth of Jesus, a time when faith finds fresh expression in your homes. To do this will bring rich rewards.”

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

WHY WE SHOULD BOTHER: Thank you to all who have returned Parish Registration Forms so far and with such positivity. We have had a steady stream of forms returned with offers of support and help. We have had just one parishioner write in negative terms. So why should we be bothered with registering at all? Throughout life we fill in membership forms for all manner of things. It should surely be a joyous thing to want to be listed as a member of the church community which loves the Lord and expresses that love with joy and with support for one another? There is no obligation on anyone whatsoever to register, to update their details, but to do so assists your parish church in a very small way, to be more efficient, so we can keep in touch with you and plan for our future. If you can support us in this simple task, you can do so online via our

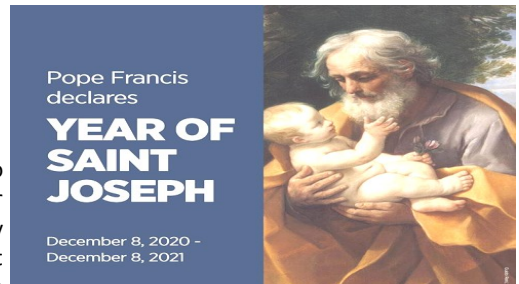
microsite: [St John Fisher Online Registration 2020 V2 \(rcdow.org.uk\)](https://rcdow.org.uk) Paper copies are also available from the church.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Current Covid restrictions, do not allow us to have a Christmas card box at the back of church this year. Please do not bring in cards to leave for other parishioners, or put cards for parishioners through the letterbox of the Presbytery. Thank you for helping to keep our SJF Covid Secure.

NEW YEAR - NEW JOB? For all job vacancies in the Diocese of Westminster please go to: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

THOU SHALT KNOW HIM WHEN HE COMES

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners, nor his airs,
Nor by any thing he wears.
Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by his crown nor by his gown,
But his coming known shall be,
By the holy harmony
Which his coming makes in thee.
Thou shalt know him when he comes.
Amen. Amen.



PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Norman Parsons, Peter Pollard, Joan Colnbrook

ANNIVERSARIES THIS DECEMBER
Lynn-Marie Szczelkun, Herbert Bishop,
James Loftus, Dominic Dyer, Alice Cane,
Maurice Dodd, Robert Tams, Terry Ryan, Francis
Curley, Lillian Maloney, John Cunningham,
Sheila Barrett, Daniel Hodgson, Wilbert West-
Watson, Alan South, Marina Schwartz,
John Byrne, Sheila Passey, Mary McCarthy,
Denis Miranda.

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD