



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



CHRISTMAS EVE 24 Dec	Advent Feria VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS (MIDNIGHT) MASS OF THE NATIVITY	9.30am 6.00pm <u>9.00pm</u>	Colin Souter - sick & Ellen Clark – sick 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, Proto, (the first) Martyr	<u>12.00 noon</u> 6.00pm (Sat Vigil)	Peter Rowntree RIP Silvio Fernandez - In thanksgiving
Sun 27 Dec	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY AND JOSEPH	8.30am 10.30am	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Alice Cane RIP
	No Masses at SJF Mon 28th Dec – Fri 1st Jan		
Wed 30 Dec	6th Day in the Octave of Christmas	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30 -10.00am	
Fri 01 Jan 2021	HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	The Holy Rosary will be prayed 9.30 -10.00am	
Sat 02 Jan	Ss. Basil & Gregory, Bishops and Doctors	10.00am	Patricia Poole RIP
Sun 03 Jan	2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY	6.00pm (Sat Vigil) 8.30am 10.30am	Pauline Lynch RIP John O'Malley & Ann Marie Mathews RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish

MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

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

Our Charity Number is: 233699



Sunday cycle
Readings Year B
Weekday readings
Christmas Octave

Divine Office
As For
Christmas Day

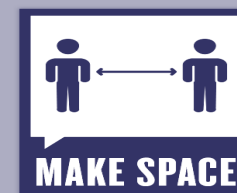
**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
OF ST JOHN FISHER**

Thursday 24th Dec - Sunday 3rd Jan 2021

**NEWSLETTER
CHRISTMAS EDITION**



The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us"





May the birth of the Saviour bring joy to your hearts and peace to your lives. Merry Christmas to you all !

Welcome to Mass this Christmas at St John Fisher, you are very welcome. This Christmas is unlike any other. The Holy Mass will be celebrated in a shortened, simplified form. The accompanying Emmaus Mass Sheet will guide you through the Mass, though there are some changes to the written order of things. When the time comes, to receive either Holy Communion or a Blessing, these will be at the very end of the Mass. Afterwards, please go directly to the church exit door. If you are not Catholic, or you are a Catholic but are not receiving Holy Communion, you are invited to come forward for a Blessing instead of Holy Communion. Simply cross your arms in front of you to indicate this. Perhaps in your prayers this Christmas, you might pray for those who are alone or separated from their loved ones at the moment. Please pray for our emergency services, especially the NHS and for the healing of our nation. Finally please remember those who have lost family members and friends this past year and who will find Christmas a challenging time.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION
(For those not receiving Holy 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.

LOOKING FORWARD:

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

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD falls on Wednesday 6th January. As the obligation to attend Mass is suspended during the pandemic, there will be one Mass at 9.30am.

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 a generous spirit has enabled SJF to keep open over the year.

THANK YOU for the many Christmas cards and gifts that I (and George, my Labrador) have received from parishioners over the past days. In the surreal times we all find ourselves in, your kindness and generosity have been very comforting. As I approach my second anniversary on 4th January as your Parish Priest, I am blessed by such kindness. Thank you. Fr Shaun.

CHRISTMAS CRIB Thank you to Jean and Pir for preparing the Christmas Crib and for decorating the church. Thanks also to Daphne who will prepare the Altar for all the Masses over the Christmas Season and beyond. Unlike the usual public Blessing of the Crib on Christmas Eve, the Crib has been blessed outside of the Mass, beforehand. The Crib offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work with disadvantaged children and families. This will help provide health services, family support and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our diocese. If you are praying at

the Crib, please observe social distancing and please try to keep your prayers brief.

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 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 has been offered for you, even during the lockdowns. Thanks be to God.

'RISE UP' YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT: Catholic Voices has partnered with Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry, to launch a brand new project designed to train the next generation of Catholic leaders. Who is it for? Practising Catholics in the Diocese of Westminster, aged 15 - 21. Details: <https://www.catholicvoices.org.uk/rise-up>

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: <https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/news/every-day-is-christmas---a-journey-through-the-christmas-octave-2020/>

TIER 4 AND COMING TO SJF: It's great to be together at Mass, especially during Christmastide. Moving into Tier 4 has, not unsurprisingly, caused some anxiety. Please be assured, the obligation to attend the Holy Mass has been suspended. If you or a member of your household is vulnerable or clinically compromised, it is important that you stay at home. It is also most important, that if you are unwell, even if it's just the common cold, that you remain at home and get better before attending Mass again. Thank you for wearing a face covering, they are compulsory in our buildings at all times - even outside of the Mass. Please remember that we are doing all we can to keep SJF as safe as is possible.

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Norman Parsons, Peter Pollard, Joan Colnbrook (and for those who have no one to pray for them)

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

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M	H	P	E	S	O	J	E	R	L
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H	T	E	R	A	Z	A	N	H	G
E	D	H	D	L	E	F	E	E	N
R	R	R	E	U	S	R	G	L	A
D	E	H	E	R	J	A	Y	A	T
O	H	S	S	A	O	I	P	U	S
R	E	H	T	O	M	D	T	S	E

ANGEL	JOSEPH	DREAM
EGYPT	HEROD	MOTHER
ISRAEL	ARCHELAUS	JUDEA
AFRAID	GALILEE	NAZARETH