



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



Sun* 10 Jan	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	6.00pm (Sat Vigil) 8.30am 10.30am	Daniel O'Malley - Sick Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Joaquim Fernandez - In thanksgiving
Mon 11 Jan	Feria	<i>No Mass at SJF - Fr Shaun off duty</i>	
Tues 12 Jan	Feria	Mass will be offered privately	Tony Hill - RIP
Wed 13 Jan	Feria	9.30am	Nan Waldron - RIP
Thur 14 Jan	Feria	Mass will be offered privately	Paul Kavanagh - RIP
Fri 15 Jan	Feria	9.30am	Philip O'Neill - RIP and for the consolation of his mother, sister and wife
Sat 16 Jan	The Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	Mass will be offered privately	Lola Duranova - RIP
Sun* 17 Jan	2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm (Sat Vigil) 8.30am 10.30am	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Monique & Robert Kemlin - RIP Silvio Fernandez - In thanksgiving

Holy Rosary Prayers: currently offered in private.

Exposition and Benediction (Eucharistic Adoration): currently suspended.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: For the time being, please arrange this directly with Fr Shaun.

Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father for January: Human Fraternity: May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another and open to all.

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

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

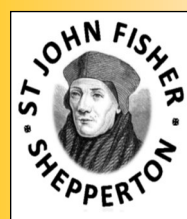
Telephone: 01932 563116

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

St John Fisher Church is, with the whole Diocese of Westminster, a registered charity.

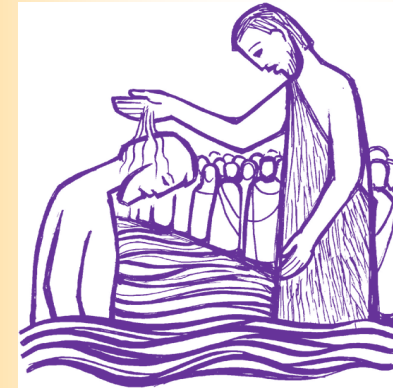
Our registered charity number is: 233699



Sunday 10th January 2021

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sunday cycle
Readings Year B
Weekday readings
Year 1
Divine Office
Psalter week 1



HOLY MASS THIS SUNDAY

“You are my Son,
the Beloved;
my favour
rests on you”

It may seem strange, but this is a Christmas Feast. Not if we think of Christmas only in terms of the Baby in Bethlehem, but if we have followed the ideas of the Feasts of The Holy Family and especially Epiphany, and have seen the Season in terms of the growing manifestation or appearing of the Son of God: first to the shepherds and then to the wise men from the East. Now, in the River Jordan, Jesus, Son of Mary, is revealed to all as the fullness of all God's promises: “This is my Son, the Beloved”. On this day we stand before the revelation of God's love for us, such, that he would send his only Son into the world. Christmas without the Baptism of the Lord, and the words that are spoken from heaven, would be incomplete, since it is only in them that we fully see the wonder of what happened in Bethlehem, that we fully understand the reason for the joy with which we celebrated Christmas Day. As we come to the end of The Christmas Season today, and look forward to hearing the Gospel in Ordinary Time, we do so having been shown who it is we listen to: the only Son of God, the Beloved.



As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we recall our own Baptism and the promise of life we have gained through it. We pray that all would be given the opportunity to experience life in its fullness, both in this world and the next. Lord hear us, Lord graciously hear us.

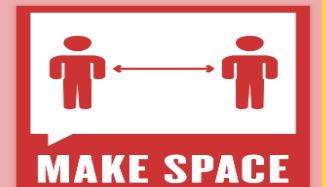
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST JOHN FISHER



WASH HANDS



COVER FACE



MAKE SPACE

THE NATIONAL LOCKDOWN AND THE CHURCH:

Currently, we are permitted to continue our Masses at SJF with Covid restrictions in place. This week, the seating configuration has been changed, to allow for more distance between worshippers. We are only permitting 3 parishioners per bench, unless a family/bubble are sitting together. In common with other Catholic churches in our Deanery, some of our weekday Masses will now be said privately. We will therefore be open for public Mass at 9.30am on Wednesday and Friday and for the usual Sunday Masses: Sat Vigil at 6.00pm and Sunday at 8.30am and 10.30am. This may be adjusted in the weeks ahead. All Mass intentions will be offered as usual, be that at the public Mass or when Mass is said in private (see back page). The Holy Father has suspended the obligation to attend Mass during the pandemic, including Holy Days of Obligation. If you, or a member of your household are vulnerable, clinically compromised, or shielding, it is important that you do not come. 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.

Holy Communion at home for the sick continues to be suspended for the time being. The Sacrament of the Sick, for those who are close to dying (commonly called the Last Rites of the Church) will still be administered. Please let me know if someone is very gravely ill, so they can receive the Sacraments. If a parishioner is in hospital, the Catholic Hospital Chaplain can be advised via the nurses station on each ward. Parish clergy are not permitted to go on to the wards during the pandemic.

Looking ahead: First Holy Communion (FHC) Registration will not take place for the time being. Whilst FHC children were finally able to finish their course and receive Holy Communion before Christmas, our young people preparing for Holy Confirmation, are still, waiting to finish the course and receive the Sacrament. When there is a clearer way to proceed, we'll let you know. There will be no registration for a new class for Holy Confirmation during 2021.

It would be a great kindness to look out for other parishioners and neighbours who live nearby, especially those who live alone. If you know someone who is feeling particularly isolated and would value a chat over the phone, please do let me know on the church phone number. Our new up to date church database will be proving its worth in the weeks ahead for this very purpose. Thank you to those who have sent in their updated details and are now listed correctly.

Many people are naturally feeling anxious at the moment about the spread of Covid. But we have hope, with the roll out of the two new vaccines. Please pray at home for an end to the spread of the virus and for the safe distribution of the vaccine. Please also pray for all who are in hospital and those who are sick at home, who have tested positive, including members of the clergy across our Diocese. Thank you. Fr Shaun



AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (For those not able to receive 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.

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 past year.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS: The end of year accounts are in the final stages of preparation. Thank you to Traci, our Bookkeeper, for preparing the accounts and to our Finance Committee for their time, effort, support and scrutiny. We hope to give you some indication soon as to how we have managed during 2020 and the impact that Covid has had (and continues to have), on our finances.

'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>

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.

A CHALLENGING TIME FOR MANY MARRIAGES: During the pandemic, there is so much uncertainty around health, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing, the list is endless. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change and managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen, to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings even more challenges. *Retrouvaille* is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about *Retrouvaille*, or to register for the next programme, a virtual weekend commencing on 25th- 28th February 2021 Call or text 0788 7296983 Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

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

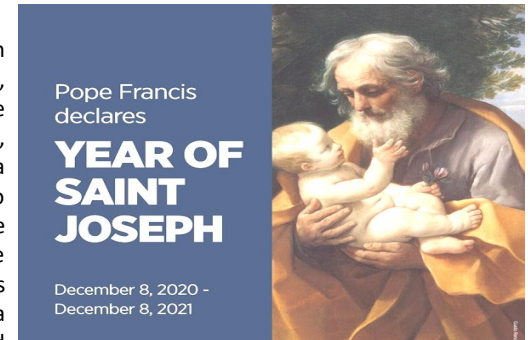
THANK YOU for the many Christmas cards and gifts that I (and George, my Labrador) have received from parishioners over Christmas. In the

surreal times we all find ourselves in, your kindness and generosity have been very comforting. Thank you. Fr Shaun.

CAFOD WESTMINSTER is looking for volunteers, who care about global poverty, to help us inspire others to act here, so we can tackle poverty and injustice across the developing world. Are you a people-person who would relish involving and encouraging others? Are you a good communicator who would enjoy speaking about CAFOD in a Parish or School? Please get in touch on westminster@cafod.org.uk or 020 8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of the CAFOD online information sessions.

GOOD NEWS: We may have some good news to report here next week. Keep watching this space!

READ ALL ABOUT IT - EARLY! If you would like to receive this newsletter directly into your email box, as soon as it's available, simply email us at: Shepperton@rcdow.org.uk In the subject box just write 'EMAIL NEWSLETTER' and we'll do the rest.



PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED Reg Day, Lorna Troop

(also for those who have died as a result of the pandemic)

ANNIVERSARIES THIS JANUARY
Ellen Mary Walsh, Anne Atfield, John Gregson, Arthur Mitchell, Francis Kane, Charles Butterworth, Michael Thompson, Michael Tinsley, Margaret Anderson, Marina Schwartz, Mario Coppi, Margaret Walker, Marion Dollery, Robert Ekkel, Tony Hill.

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD