



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



All Masses are public and are also streamed online via **YouTube: St John Fisher Shepperton**

Sun ✘ 02 May	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm (Sat Vigil) 8.30am 10.30am	Pro Populo - for the people of the parish Pro Populo - for the people of the parish Germano & Luzia Fernandes RIP
Mon 03 May	SS PHILIP & JAMES, Apostles	No Mass at SJF - Fr Shaun off duty	
Tues 04 May	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	Mass 9.30am	For all victims and survivors of abuse
Wed 05 May	Easter feria	Mass 9.30am	For the people of India, praying for relief from the ravages of the pandemic
Thur 06 May <small>Local Elections</small>	Easter feria	Mass 9.30am	For local government
Fri 07 May	Easter feria	Mass 9.30am	Canon Michael McCoy RIP
Sat 08 May	Easter feria	Mass 10.00am	For those suffering in Uganda
Sun ✘ 09 May	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm (Sat Vigil) 8.30am 10.30am	For Maureen Bernardinis RIP For Veronica Sreenan RIP (anniversary) For Eileen Rowntree

The Holy Father's prayer intentions for the month of May. The World of Finance: Let us pray that those in charge of finance, will work with governments, to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

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**St John Fisher Church is, with the whole Diocese of Westminster, a registered charity.
Our registered charity number is: 233699**

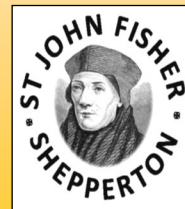


Sunday cycle
Readings Year B

Weekday readings
5th week of Easter

Divine Office
Psalter Week 1

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
OF ST JOHN FISHER**



Sunday 2nd May 2021

**5TH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**



Last week it was sheep: this week, the vine. Jesus offers us another (agricultural) image to explain the mystery of his offering of himself and our belonging to him, our being part of him, which comes about through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. This is the period of Mystagogy, when the newly Baptised are helped to see what life in Jesus Christ really means. Today this comes out strongly for all of us, with two of the three readings emphasising the moral aspects of life in Christ. It is not simply enough to "belong" to Jesus: our belonging must be shown by the works we do and by the fruits we bear - while remembering that we cannot produce fruit, except in him.

LITTLE CHURCH - FOR OUR YOUNGSTERS

Have you ever seen a vine, where grapes come from? If not, you might have helped to look after some plants? You perhaps already know, that they need water and sunlight to grow. They also need the dead leaves or branches to be trimmed, to let good ones grow. This is what Jesus is telling us in today's Gospel - that all together we are like a plant in him. Each of us is like a leaf or branch that is part of the big plant! God the Father looks after this plant (which we could also call the Church family): anyone who gets "cut off" from this plant won't be able to grow - this happens when we ignore or say "no" to God. So we should make sure we stay "connected to Jesus." How do we do this? By thinking about Jesus, by praying quietly every day, by doing good things in Jesus' name, by being God's children in what we think, what we say and what we do.

WELCOME TO SJF. The Sunday Masses at 8.30am and 10.30am are becoming busy again, but the Sunday Vigil Mass, on Saturday evening at 6.00pm, still has plenty of space. If you are feeling anxious about returning, please consider attending a weekday Mass, Tuesday - Friday at 9.30am or Saturday morning at 10.00am instead. These Masses are very quiet at the moment, but are an easier route back to worshipping again. When attending on a Sunday, please arrive in good time - this helps our volunteer door stewards enormously. If we have used all our space, you will be asked to stand in the entrance area or outside. The toilets are not open for use at the moment. All Masses can also be viewed on line, live or at a later time for your convenience, via *You Tube*: St John Fisher Shepperton.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(For those not able to receive Holy Communion)
My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION 2021

Registration forms are available in church and on line to print off at: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton/sacramental-prep/> Registration is for Catholic children in school year 3 and above, whose families usually attend Mass here. A parents meeting with catechists, Jean and Pir will be this Sunday 2nd May following the Mass at 10.30am. The first class will be on Tuesday 4th May. Further details are on the registration form.

WE HAVE MISSED YOU! It is good to welcome back to the parish office, Nathalie, our Administrator and Traci, our Book keeper, who have been on furlough for most of the pandemic. They will be returning this month.

PAPAL FLAG: Our Papal flag, flying since Easter Sunday, in celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord, will remain aloft for the duration of Eastertide, until Pentecost Sunday.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH: Check out information here <https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/news/st-joseph/>

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER UPDATE: Thank you to all who have contributed so far for our new statue, in honour of the husband of the BVM. If you would like to contribute, simply pop your donation into an envelope and write on the front 'statue donation'. If you are able to *Gift Aid* your donation, please use a special blue donation envelope available from the back of the church, completing the slip on the front.

HOLY BAPTISM. We are currently working through the list of families awaiting Holy Baptism for their children. Most will now have dates in their diary. If you are still waiting for a date, please contact us. Parents should be attending Mass at SJF before requesting this important Sacrament for their children.

There are three short videos which are great for helping parents to prepare (whilst we are not meeting for preparation in person). These videos are also helpful to those who want to understand their own Baptism more fully. Video 1 - The Delivery Room. Video 2 - Soul Bath. Video 3 - Letters to your children, your hopes and dreams for them. Each video is about 5 mins long: the link is here: <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/baptism/starting-point-program-view.html>

PRIEST TRAINING FUND – THANK YOU

Thank you to all who contributed to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. We raised an approximate amount of £280. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and for those in formation for our diocese, preparing to serve in our parishes. Thank you.

GETTING THE JOB: A vaccine confidence webinar has been organized for the Dioceses of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster - for those who are unsure about getting vaccinated. It's on Sat. 15th May at 10.00am. It will feature a panel of eminent medical experts and share the latest information on the COVID19 jab. There will be an opportunity to ask questions anonymously. To join the webinar go to: <https://zoom.us/j/99627319556> Use the Passcode: 546617. The Holy Father, Pope Francis and the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have all endorsed the vaccines and encourage us all to get the jab, not just for ourselves, but for the wellbeing of our families and friends and nation too.

THY KINGDOM COME 13th – 23rd May Taps into the Pentecost Novena, traditionally prayed by Catholics from Ascension to Pentecost, for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit. *Thy Kingdom Come* offers us the opportunity to pray alongside our brothers and sisters from other Christian denominations, for people to come closer to Christ. We can do this using the prayers of our own tradition, by going to Mass, or exploring other Catholic forms of prayer. It is hoped that this will inspire and enable practicing Catholics to pray for evangelisation – specifically praying for five members of their family or friends to come closer to Christ – as they pray '*Thy Kingdom Come*' from the Ascension to Pentecost.

Pentecost Novena: A beautiful way to prepare ourselves for the joy of Pentecost. This resource is available as a download, booklet, or podcast: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/thy-kingdom-come/pentecost-novena/>

Journey with Mary: This special playlist has been created for us to journey with Mary from Ascension to Pentecost. What would we say, or share with Mary? <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/thy-kingdom-come/journey-with-mary/>

Praying for 5: During the novena, which 5 friends, family members or neighbours, (who may be away from the Church, or have yet to discover the love of Jesus), would you pray for. Simply do so throughout the days of the novena and ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for them.

For Families: There are some delightful resources to help families, particularly those with young children praying *Thy Kingdom Come*. To explore what is on offer please click below; <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/cheekypandas>

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY, via live-stream from Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 15th May at 3.00pm. The Cardinal will be celebrating a live-streamed Mass for all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2021. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy/parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date,

full postal address and email (or telephone number if no email), and these details will be sent to those organizing this celebration. An Order of Service can be downloaded from the Cathedral website prior to the event.

www.westminstercathedral.org.uk

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES to the Registration of Marriages come into force in May. These changes are the biggest since 1837. From 4th May Marriage Certificates will only be issued by our Local Registration Office and not by the Parish Priest or other authorised persons. We will also be required to return all but one of our Marriage Registers to the Registration Office. We will no longer issue copies of Marriage Certificates for past marriages here either. This means that the couple will no longer sign the Marriage Register at the time of the wedding, neither will the Priest or the witnesses sign it. Instead, the couple will supply a 'Marriage Schedule', in advance of the wedding. This will be a single form and it is this, which will need to be signed by the couple, the authorised person and the witnesses at the time of the wedding. Once signed, the Priest or other authorised person will return the form to the Registration Office. The Registration Office will then issue the Marriage Certificate. The marriage ceremony itself does not change and the consent to marriage, made by the couple, does not change either.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

is sponsored this week by
Mr Andrew Lobo — in thanksgiving

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

(and for all who have died as a result of the pandemic)

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, Kathleen Johnson

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD

