



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

Sun ☒ 12 Dec	<b>3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> Gaudete Sunday	<b>6.00pm Sat Vigil</b> <b>8.30am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	For Sheila Doherty RIP For Philip Gilheaney RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Mon 13 Dec	St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 14 Dec	St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor	APOLOGIES, NO MASS TODAY	
Wed 15 Dec	Advent feria	Mass 9.30am	For May and Louie McKeogh RIP
Thur 16 Dec	Advent feria	Mass 9.30am	For Pauline Lynch RIP
Fri 17 Dec	Advent feria	Mass 9.30am	For the young people of Uganda, for their employment and education
Sat 18 Dec	Advent feria	Mass 10.00am	For Keith Boardman RIP
Sun ☒ 19 Dec	<b>4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>6.00pm Sat Vigil</b> <b>8.30am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For Ainsley Godfrey RIP For Reg Day RIP (birthday)

**Holy Rosary Prayers:** on Wednesdays following 9.30am Mass

**Exposition and Benediction:** on Fridays 10.00am –10.30am (Eucharistic Adoration)

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation:** (Confession) Saturdays at 5.30pm, or on request

**Prayer request box:** for your prayers, to be offered during the praying of the Holy Rosary, is now situated at the back of the church. Prayers are offered on Wednesdays after the 9.30am Mass.

### MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Shaun Richards [shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk)  
**Administrator:** Nathalie Hasted [shepperton@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepperton@rcdow.org.uk) (Wed & Fri AM)  
**Book keeper:** Traci Blundell [sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk) (Mon)

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**Parish Safeguarding:** Katrina Lavery [sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
**Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator** 020 7798 9356

To make a donation: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton/donate/>  
**Registered Charity No: 233699**



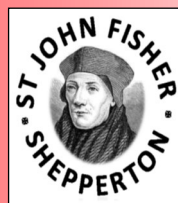
## Sunday 12th December 2021 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Gaudete Sunday - Rejoice!

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year C  
Weekday readings  
Advent 3  
Divine Office  
Psalter Week 3



This Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday, Rejoice Sunday. This comes from the readings we hear today, and it underlines an important point. In the Gospel, we hear John the Baptist telling different groups what to do - they must repent and change their lives. We might think of this as a rather joyless thing, something which is hard and unrewarding. We might feel very comfortable with the status quo, it's working for us. The message of this Sunday is that repentance and changing our lives to welcome Jesus is something richly joyful. When we are planning to welcome anyone we love to our homes, we set about cleaning and preparing for their visit with enthusiasm - nothing is too much trouble for someone we care for greatly. Even scrubbing the bath or polishing the furniture can be a happy and joyful thing! The message of this Sunday is that preparing to welcome the Lord - even though it may involve hard work - is something utterly joyful, because of our love for Him, and His love for us. Happy Gaudete Sunday!

ST JOHN FISHER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



### Advent Prayer

GOD OUR FATHER  
HELP US KEEP WATCH  
AND STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH  
AS WE WAIT FOR THE COMING  
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.  
WAKE US UP  
AND FIND US READY  
TO SERVE AND PRAISE HIM.  
AMEN.



## THANK YOU FOR COVERING UP



**WELCOME!** This newsletter gives some information for the week ahead. There are also weekly sheets available in church for children called 'LOOK' to take away. Children's Mass cards and Missals are also available. You can pray the Mass with us on-line if you are house bound or away, just go to You Tube and type 'St John Fisher Shepperton' into the search area or use this link here: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/C3GaZfMCIYH\\_QOMndxN91BhA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/C3GaZfMCIYH_QOMndxN91BhA)

**THIS WEEKEND CHRISTMAS SIP, SUP AND SHOP** takes place after the Sunday 10.30am Mass only, 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. Drop into the hall for a catch up and a chat, for tea, coffee, hot chocolate, mulled wine, mince pies, cakes and biscuits. Whilst you're there, browse our Christmas stock. Thank you to parishioners who have organized this for us.

**FR DOMINIC BYRNE RIP:** It was announced this week with enormous sadness, that dear Father Dominic, Parish Priest at St John Fisher from 2001-2007, died in hospital on Monday. We pray for Fr Dominic's family, and for parishioners of St Theodore of Canterbury, Hampton-on-Thames, at this time. Mass was offered for the repose of his soul here on Saturday morning. Funeral arrangements: Fr Dominic will be received into St Theodore's, on Sunday 19th Dec at 6.00pm. There will be Mass at 6.30pm celebrated by Bishop Nicholas Hudson. On Monday 20th Dec, Fr Dominic will be brought to Westminster Cathedral for the Funeral Mass at 12.30pm with Cardinal Vincent presiding. We pray for Fr Dominic, giving thanks for his ministry and witness to the Gospel, here and across the Diocese. Eternal rest grant to him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL APPLICATIONS.** A Certificate of Catholic Practice is exactly what it says: that you are practising the faith and attending Mass here regularly. Fr Shaun will also need to see a copy of the Baptism certificate before issuing a certificate. If your child was Baptised outside of St John Fisher. Full details on eligibility for Certificates of Catholic Practice can be found on school websites and also at [www.rcdow.org.uk](http://www.rcdow.org.uk)

**APOLOGIES:** There will be no Mass at SJF this coming Tuesday morning. The regular schedule continues for the rest of the week.

**LITTLE CHURCH:** We invite children who are in year four at school and below, to attend Little Church at the 10.30am Sunday Mass.

**THE PANTO GROUP WRITE:** We have been plotting, planning, rehearsing and warming up our vocal cords for the past few months, putting together a fantastic performance that we hope you will all enjoy. We have, however decided that we are going to make you wait a little longer than usual and hold our live performances later on, instead of January. Don't be too down-hearted... It will be worth the wait. More details to follow in the New Year.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP** - if you would like to sponsor the Blessed Sacrament Lamp, for a week during 2022, the diary is now open. To sponsor costs just £5. Just let the office know your preferred week and your intention.

**AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**  
(For those not receiving Holy Communion or at home)  
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.

**THANK YOU** if you have returned your Synod Questionnaire - the basket for returns is at the back of the church.

**FOOD BANK BOX:** Thank you for bringing in non perishable food for our Food Bank Box, by the entrance. Your contributions are going to local people who need some extra support.

**CHRISTMAS GIVING ENVELOPES:** These will be available from next week. They are an opportunity for you to make a Christmas gift, not to the clergy, but to St John Fisher Church, in thanksgiving for the blessings you have received in this Holy place over the past, challenging year.

**CONTACTING THE OFFICE:** Please be patient if you are contacting the Parish Office. Nathalie, our Administrator, is away unwell. It might take a little longer to respond to your enquiries.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION 2022:

Registration forms are available from this week. Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a wonderful step on our children's journey of faith. This is also a serious undertaking. Registration is open for Baptised children who are in school Year 3 and over, whose families regularly come to Mass here. Those who live outside our boundary (unless they are regular in attendance at SJF), should register in their own Parish Church. Parents please ensure your children know the Our Father and Hail Mary by heart, for the start of the programme in January. This will give our children a great start.

**A CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING - FOR WHEN YOU PUT UP YOUR TREE!** Lord God, we praise you for the light of creation – sun, moon and stars; we praise you for the light of Israel – Law, Prophets and Scripture; we praise you for Jesus Christ our Everlasting Light. As we light up our tree, may our hearts be filled with joy, and may all who delight in this tree, be brought to the light of knowledge and the joy of Salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A GOOD READ** There's a new book out in relation to the history of St Mary Magdalene Church, Littleton. It's called "Mysteries of Littleton Church" and can be bought through this link: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Mysteries-Littleton-Church-Will-Hardy/dp/0954128516>  
It's also possible to get a copy by contacting the author, Will Hardy, who lives on Wood Rd at [hardy132@btinternet.com](mailto:hardy132@btinternet.com) You might recall that prior to the Reformation, St Mary Magdalene, Littleton was the local Catholic Church.

**GREENO FESTIVE BAGS:** Money Angels required. Can you help with financial support? Please contact Jon or Caroline on 07760 234563 or email: [christmasgreeno@gmail.com](mailto:christmasgreeno@gmail.com) Thank you

## TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK

Loose giving in the plate £94  
Giving using offertory envelopes £176  
Giving by bank standing order £500 (weekly average)  
Card machine - contactless giving £60  
(The card reader is now sited by the church entrance)  
Thank you, for supporting your church.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE DIOCESE:

for details go to: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>



## FRIDAY 24TH DEC - CHRISTMAS EVE

Morning Mass of [Advent](#) 9.30am

Family Vigil Mass of Christmas 6.00pm  
Carols and Readings begin at 9.00pm  
Christmas Mass of the Nativity [9.30pm](#)

## SATURDAY 25TH DEC - CHRISTMAS DAY

Mass of the Nativity 8.30am & 10.30am

## SUNDAY 26TH DEC - BOXING DAY

Mass of The Holy Family 8.30am & 10.30am

Tues 28th through to Fri 31st Dec

Mass at 9.30am

## SATURDAY 1ST JAN - NEW YEAR'S DAY

Mass of Mary, The Holy Mother of God at 12.00noon (no morning or evening Mass)

## SUNDAY 2ND JAN - 2ND SUN AFTER THE NATIVITY

Mass at 8.30am & 10.30am

No Masses: Mon 3rd, Tue 4th, Wed 5th Jan

## THURSDAY 6TH JAN -

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** Mass at 9.30am

No morning Masses: Fri 7th Jan & Sat 8th Jan

## SUNDAY 9TH JAN - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sat Eve Vigil Mass for Sunday at 6.00pm  
Morning Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am

## THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP

is sponsored this week for the special intentions of Mary Warnock

## PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Fr Dominic Byrne, Gavin Boyle, June (Jane) Ryan

## 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, Lorna Troop, Reg Day.

## ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD