



## THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun 18 Dec ✕	4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Paddy Joe Reynolds RIP For the intentions of the Mullahey Family Margaret Bigwood (nee Peggy Harris) RIP
Mon 19 Dec	Advent feria	No Mass at SJF today	
Tue 20 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Reg Day RIP (birthday remembrance)
Wed 21 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Noel Brown RIP (birthday remembrance)
Thur 22 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Laura Reynolds RIP
Fri 23 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Ivo de Melo in celebration of his birthday
Sat 24 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 10.00am	For the intentions of Alexander Swan
Sat 24 Dec	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>  	FAMILY VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS 6.00PM  CAROLS & READINGS FROM 9.30PM  CHRISTMAS MASS OF THE NIGHT 10.00PM	Pro Populo - for the people of this parish    Pro Populo - for the people of this parish
Sun 25 Dec ✕	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>  	MASS OF THE NATIVITY 8.30AM (Said)  MASS OF THE NATIVITY 10.30AM (With carols)	For Lynn & Walerian Szczelkun RIP  Pro Populo - for the people of this parish

### MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

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 Book keeper: Traci Blundell (Mon) [sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk)  
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Parish Safeguarding: Katrina Lavery [sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
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To make a donation: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton/donate/>  
 Registered Charity No: 233699



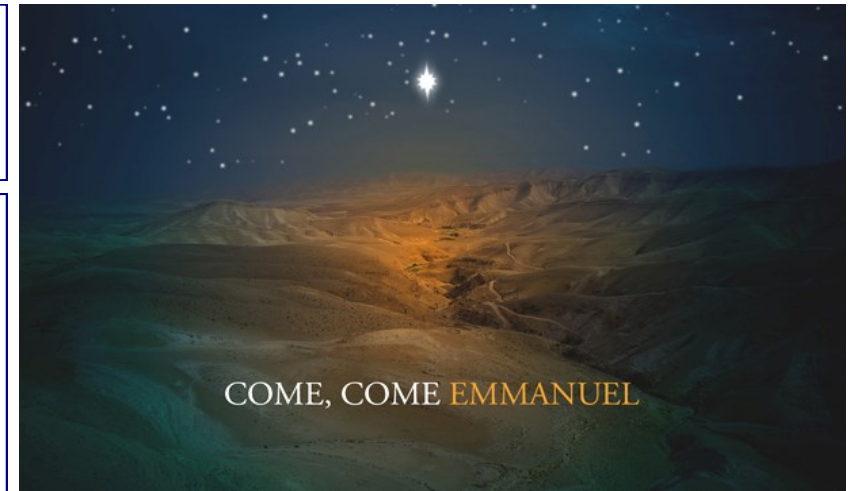
Sunday cycle  
Readings Year A  
Weekday readings

Advent 4  
Divine Office  
Psalter Week 4

ST JOHN FISHER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

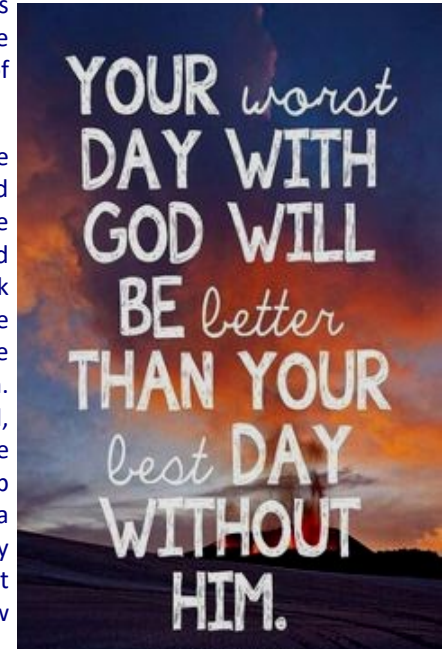


Sunday 18th December 2022  
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



This weekend we enter a new stage of Advent. Having spent much time on the Second Coming, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord's First Coming. Today we focus on the characters of Mary and Joseph, and hear of the circumstances surrounding the conception of the child Jesus, and the reaction of Joseph.

This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the promise that the Messiah would come from that line. The link between the First Reading and the Gospel is quite explicit today, since Matthew actually quotes Isaiah. Joseph, descendant of King David, is invited to take his place in the great story of God's relationship with the Chosen people. There is a great sense of a timeless mystery reaching its focal point, as that which was promised long ago, now takes flesh in the womb of Mary.





**WELCOME to St John Fisher, Shepperton for this last week of Advent.** This weekly newsletter gives some information for the week ahead. If you are new to SJF church, you are very welcome! All Masses at SJF are live streamed on YouTube.

**GOING AWAY FOR CHRISTMAS?** May God speed you on your journey. Return back safely and refreshed. If you happen to be visiting St John Fisher or you are a returning Catholic after some time away, you are very welcome. It's good to have you with us.

**CHILDREN, WE NEED YOU FOR THE NATIVITY** at the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass: If you have children who would like to dress up and take part this year, please let Jean Johnston, one of our catechists, know this weekend. If you are unsure who Jean is, let Fr Shaun know and he will pass on your details. The Vigil Mass takes place at 6.00pm on Christmas Eve, but children will need to arrive in good time to practise.

**WE WELCOME** Shelagh Shewell who has now started as Parish Administrator in the office. Shelagh works on Wednesday & Thursday mornings. Please keep Shelagh in your prayers in her new role, supporting us. It is great to have Shelagh with us.

**REFRESHMENTS** are available after the 10.30am Sunday Mass. In the church hall. Do please join us. Thank you to those on the rota who prepare refreshments. You are appreciated. **TOILETS** are also available in the church hall. Please access them via the outside hall door.

**CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE GREENO CENTRE** The annual sign up, pledge board is in the entrance porch for offers of food and gifts. Thank you to those who have already made a pledge. The Christmas day lunch is open to anyone who may be facing a difficult Christmas ahead. Traditionally the focus has been on single people, but this has been widened to also include couples and families who may be in need of companionship and cheer. Please let Fr Shaun know if you would like to go.

**DICTIONARY CORNER:** Peter & Nene Wyld are collecting English Dictionaries and thesauruses for a school district in the Nueva Ecija region of the Philippines. Please bring in any new or previously loved English learning books to the collection basket in the porch, if you have them to spare. The closing date is 10th January 2023. Thank you.

**ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE, SUNBURY - Job Opportunities:** Premises Team Leader to join the Premises Team and a Teaching Assistant to work in their SEND Department. For further information, please go to our school website: <https://www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk/information/employment-opportunities>

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

**UPDATE WARM HUB:** Thank you to all who have offered to help. We now need to collate your offers. The Warm Hub begins in the Church Hall on Thursday 5th January 2023 from 10.00am until 1.00pm - with set up time and clear away time required as well. Please now sign up on the sheet at the back of church - we need to do this speedily to avoid a last minute rush and to know who is doing what. With your help we will be providing a warm space for any local people who may be struggling to keep their homes heated all the time. We will provide refreshments as well. Thank you.

**HELPING OTHERS WITH FOOD BANK DROP OFF:** Thank you if you are able to bring some non perishable food for our Food Bank Box. Your kind donations, placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, are going directly to help local people via the Jubilee Food Bank. Thank you to all who have helped over the past year. You are generous and kind.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP** - if you would like to sponsor the Blessed Sacrament Lamp, for a week during 2023, the diary is now open. To sponsor costs just £5. Just let Shelagh in the office know your preferred week and your intention.

**LITTLE CHURCH AT THE SUNDAY 10.30AM MASS** is especially for youngsters who have not made their First Holy Communion i.e. children under the

## CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN FISHER

### SATURDAY 24TH DEC - CHRISTMAS EVE

Morning Mass of Advent 10.00am

Family Vigil Mass of Christmas 6.00pm

Carols and Readings begin at 9.30pm

Christmas Mass of the Night 10.00pm

### SUNDAY 25TH DEC - CHRISTMAS DAY

Mass of the Nativity 8.30am & 10.30am

Wed 28th Dec Mass at 9.30am

### SATURDAY 31ST DEC - NEW YEAR'S EVE

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Vigil Mass at 6.00pm

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

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Morning Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am

Wed 4th Jan & Thurs 5th Jan Mass at 9.30am

### FRIDAY 6TH JAN -THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Masses at 9.30am & 7.00pm

Sat 7th Jan Mass at 10.00am

### SUNDAY 8TH JAN -THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sat Eve Vigil Mass for Sunday at 6.00pm

Morning Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am

age of seven. Children start off in church and then return to sit with their parents.

**HOLY BAPTISM IS A JOYOUS SACRAMENT** We greatly encourage Holy Baptism for babies of families who attend here. It is recommended that Holy Baptism takes place within baby's first year. Baptism leaflets explaining this Holy Sacrament, with important information regarding God parents are available from the church porch table.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION 2023

Registration is open for Baptised children in school year 3, whose families attend here. In preparation for the First Holy Communion programme, children should know by heart, The Lord's Prayer and be able to make the sign of the cross. We look forward to receiving in the office, your completed registration forms ASAP.

**WESTMINSTER** Diocesan Annual Report and Accounts are available to read here: <https://rcdow.org.uk/about-us/>

**SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE AND SWITCH ON YOUR HEART AND MIND TO THE LORD**

### TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK

Loose giving in the plate: £234. 07

Giving via the bank: £725 (weekly average/Nov)

Our weekend loose offertory collection continues for those who do not have a bank standing order or who do not use the card machine. Whatever way you support our work here at SJF, thanks, we couldn't do it without you.

**A CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE** is what it says — it confirms, for the purposes of a Catholic school application, that a family are regular at Mass, as practising Catholics. Certificates can be requested by Catholic families whose children are Baptised. Please don't leave your request until the last moment - especially over Christmas and New Year This is an important document, please do not embarrass the parish priest by requesting a certificate, if you are not attending Mass here regularly. Applications for children who are not Catholic or non practising, can still be made for Catholic schools without a certificate, under different admission criteria. Full details on eligibility for certificates can be found on school websites and at: Admissions Guidance – Diocese of Westminster education Service ([rcdow.org.uk](http://rcdow.org.uk))

### THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY

has been sponsored this week for all who find the time leading up to and including Christmas a difficult period.

### PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

#### 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, Fr Dominic Byrne, Gavin Boyle.

#### ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD