

THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun 04 Dec ✘	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For David Boyce RIP Pro Populo - for the people of this parish For the intentions of Jim McKeogh
Mon 05 Dec	Advent feria	No Mass at SJF today	
Tue 06 Dec	Advent feria	Apologies No Mass at SJF today	
Wed 07 Dec	St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor	Mass at 9.30am	For Kay Pollard RIP
Thur 08 Dec	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, Patron of the Diocese	Mass at 9.30am	For Marisa Henderson RIP & Keith Holgate RIP
Fri 09 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For the intentions of Patrick Ruddy who is ill
Sat 10 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 10.00am	For the Fyffe Family, in their grief at this time
Sun 11 Dec ✘	3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	Pro Populo - for the people of this parish For Kevin & Laura Corneille RIP For deceased members of the Pepper, Medley and McDonnell families RIP

✘ = Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Rosary Prayers: on Wednesdays following 9.30am Mass

Exposition and Benediction is on Friday morning, directly after the Mass.

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

Prayer Request Box: at the back of the church. Prayers are offered during the praying of the Holy Rosary, on Wednesdays after the 9.30am Mass.

A Mass for your intentions: in thanksgiving, for a birthday, wedding anniversary or for someone who is ill or who has died, please contact the office. The diocesan recommendation for your offering is £10 or whatever you can afford. **Sponsoring the Blessed Sacrament Lamp** for your intentions is just £5 for a whole week.

MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Richards shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk

Administrator: Shelagh Shewell (Wed & Thurs AM) shepperton@rcdow.org.uk (from 14th Dec)

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Parish Safeguarding: Katrina Lavery 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 cycle
Readings Year A
Weekday readings

Advent 2
Divine Office
Psalter Week 2

ST JOHN FISHER
CATHOLIC CHURCH



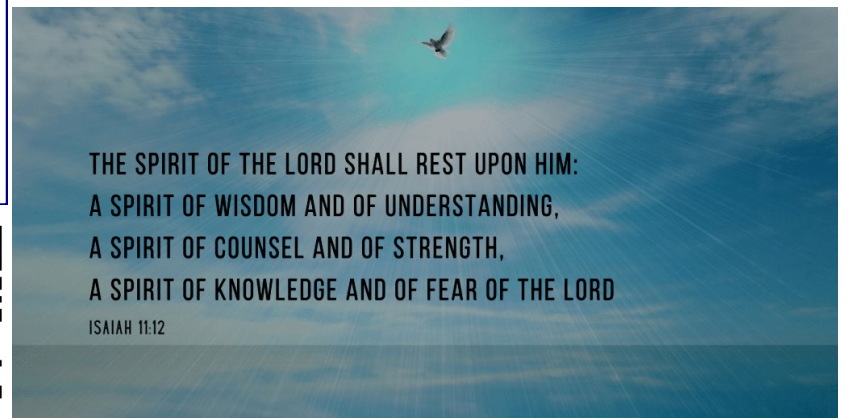
Sunday 4th December 2022 WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Throughout the first three weeks of Advent, our focus is very clearly on the End of Time, and the Second Coming of the Lord - not on the run up to Christmas, (this will come in the last week).

So if we view Advent as a Season solely preparing for Christmas, the readings today will make little sense and neither will the figure of John the Baptist who appears today. The Baptist's role today, is to preach to us, as he did of old, and to prepare us for the (second) coming of the Lord.

Everything is very specific today: what is being preached is not an event, but the person of Jesus Christ. Isaiah promises him, John welcomes him, Paul invites us to imitate him. We are given a thumbnail portrait of the Messiah, which will be helpful to us when we arrive at Christmas, where the Lord is revealed, as the child in a manger!





WELCOME to St John Fisher, Shepperton this Advent. This 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 our YouTube Page.

DURING ADVENT ... At the Holy Mass, The Gloria is omitted (with the exception of feast days). We save this beautiful song, sung by the angels in heaven, for the great celebration at Christmas. We also move to the new liturgical Year A for Sunday Mass readings and Year 1, for weekday Mass readings. During this Holy time of preparing, why not spend some additional time in prayer, in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction is every Friday after the 9.30am Mass. The gentle Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is available on Saturday evenings from 5.30pm and by arrangement.

SJF MAGAZINE - SPECIAL EDITION, OUT NOW

This 'St Bernadette Special' is available in the entrance porch to take away. Many thanks to Katrina Lavery, who designed and edited the magazine and to parishioners who contributed in any way.

UPDATE: CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE GREENO CENTRE the annual sign up, pledge board (returning following the pandemic), courtesy of Sally Dick is in the entrance porch for offers of food and gifts. If you are able to support this worthy event, please see the list to look at options. Additionally, 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 on Christmas Day. Please let Fr Shaun know if you would like to go.

GREAT IDEA! Parishioners, Peter & Nene Wylde are collecting English Dictionaries and thesauruses and similar for a school district in the Nueva Ecija region of the Philippines. So please bring any usable (new or used) even mini, pocket or crossword, English learning books to a collection basket which will be in the porch from next week up to the 10th January 2023, when they will take them to the school district themselves. If you wish them to be collected, please contact them directly on: petermnp@hotmail.com

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION 2023

Registration is now open for Baptised children in school year 3, whose families usually attend Mass 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.

COMING SOON-WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK 2023: copies are hot off the press and will be available from the repository shop as soon as they are delivered. The liturgical calendar for the year is included, together with every Catholic church, school, Bishop, Priest & Deacon, working in the diocese. This is an excellent reference book for Catholics, but possibly not a bedtime read... unless you are an insomniac!

WARM HUB UPDATE: Great news, we have been awarded a grant of £1000, from Caritas, Westminster, to kick start our Warm Hub project which we will begin in January. We'll be opening our church hall for local people to drop in. We are aiming for maybe one morning a week, possibly Thursday, 10.00am-1.00pm? This will provide a warm space for local people who may be struggling to keep their homes heated all the time. We hope to provide refreshments, soup, cake etc. We will be coordinating with other local churches, opening their spaces too. This will all be very dependent on you and the response we get. If you think you might like to help with this, please contact the office, or speak with Fr Shaun directly. Thank you.

TOILETS are available in the church hall. Please access them via the outside route. Thank you.

REFRESHMENTS are available after the 10.30am Sunday Mass. Do please join us, you are welcome.

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

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.

HOLY BAPTISM IS A JOYOUS SACRAMENT We greatly encourage Holy Baptism for babies of families who attend SJF and have made their spiritual home 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 in church.

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

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

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(For those not receiving 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.

TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK

Loose giving in the plate: £318.03

Giving via the bank: £733 (weekly average/Oct)

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.

OUR DAILY BREAD: Thank you if you are able to bring some non perishable food for our Food Bank Box. Your kind donations, which can be placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, are going directly to help local people via the Jubilee Food Bank. Thank you.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY

has been sponsored this week by Anne-Marie Obertelli for Annabel Obertelli, in preparation for making her First Holy Communion next year.

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The Blessed Sacrament Lamp was sponsored last week by Anne-Marie Obertelli for Elsa de Cruz on her birthday

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