

## THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun 05 Feb ✘	5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm Sat Eve Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Peggy Agg RIP For Lucian Farcasi RIP (Birthday) For the intentions of the Joseph Family
Mon 06 Feb	St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs	No Mass at SJF today	
Tues 07 Feb	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Pauline Trainer RIP
Wed 08 Feb	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For the Intentions of Lucia Jones
Thurs 09 Feb	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Max and Horace Fernandez (twins), in celebration of their 90th birthdays
Fri 10 Feb	St Scholastica, Virgin	Mass at 9.30am	For our new parishioners at SJF
Sat 11 Feb	Our Lady of Lourdes (World Day for the Sick)	Mass at 10.00am Holy Baptism at 11.00am	For all parishioners receiving medical treatment at this time Amaury Thorge Julian Bacquey Riesch
Sun 12 Feb ✘	6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm Sat Eve Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Sheila and Ted Doran RIP For the people of this Parish For Stephen Marriage RIP (4th anniversary)

✘ = 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

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**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  
Year 1  
Divine Office  
Psalter Week 1

ST JOHN FISHER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



## SUNDAY 5TH FEB 2023 WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The readings for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time focus on evangelization and service. The first reading tells us that when we care for those in need, the darkness in our lives will turn to light. The second reading helps us remember that we do not rely on our own wisdom when we speak and act, but on God. And the Gospel tells us that we should boldly spread the Light of Christ throughout the world.

The reading from Isaiah tells us that being devoted to God means taking care of those who need our help the most. The list of actions which we should take are closely related to the Corporal Works of Mercy. Worshipping God also means using the gifts we have been given to work for a just society.

We should do more than just pray for people. We are called to act. When we do this, then the darkness of society will be overcome with light. Malicious speech, hate, and condemnation will be less visible when our acts of love shine.

The Gospel also uses the image of light. The good things we do glorify God, for the Light of Christ is shining through us. This is how the Kingdom of God grows.

Jesus also tells us that when salt loses its flavour, then it is no longer really salt. Similarly, if we are all talk, but we don't understand the message of Christ crucified, then we are missing a crucial characteristic of Christians. When people see our good works, then people can encounter Christ through us.



- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

**WELCOME to St John Fisher, Shepperton.** 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 YouTube.

**PALM CROSSES... IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR** when we ask you to return any palm crosses that you may not wish to keep. These will be burned to make the ash for use on Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Look out for the basket at the back of the church, to return your Palms.

**COMING SOON WEEKLY DURING LENT:** an evening get together & discussion, for all who wish to renew their faith in the Season of Lent. More details will be available next week.

**YOU ARE INVITED** to a private tour of Westminster Cathedral on the evening of Thursday 2nd March. The evening will begin with Mass in the Cathedral at 5:30pm followed by a tour of the Cathedral conducted by the Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral finishing around 8pm. There is no charge for the tour & children are welcome. There will also be an opportunity to join the Friends to hear about their work and attend future events in the Cathedral. Membership of the Society of Friends is open to all, and the society provides an important social and community hub for the Cathedral offering a programme of talks, tours, social activities and online events. It costs from just £30 a year to join and members are kept in touch with news and exclusive events via a bi-annual newsletter and social media. If you wish to enjoy this unique opportunity, to have an exclusive tour of the Cathedral please register your interest on the list in the porch.

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE:** After several years as our PSR, Katrina is stepping down and we therefore need to appoint a new Representative ASAP. This is an essential voluntary role in the church. If you might be interested, please speak with Fr Shaun. We offer our thanks and enormous gratitude to Katrina for her work over the years.

**CONTACTING THE OFFICE?** Please be patient when contacting our church office, whilst we await the appointment of a new Administrator.

**THE CATENIANS** are a worldwide network of Catholic men who support each other and their families. Our local group meets monthly at Warren Lodge Hotel in Shepperton. Bernard Lavery will speak briefly at the end of the weekend Masses about the work of the group and how you might get involved.

**HAVE YOU NOTICED?** The trees along the side wall of the church and those in the front garden have been pruned back and now look a lot neater. Many thanks to two of our parishioners who have generously covered the full costs involved.

**REFRESHMENTS** have resumed again after the 10.30am Sunday Mass— you will be most welcome. The hall for refreshments and access to the toilets is via the outside door, along the side of the church.

**SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**  
Ash Wednesday beginning of Lent- 22nd February  
1st Sunday of Lent - 26th February  
St Patrick -17th March  
St Joseph - 20th March  
First Reconciliation (FHC class) 25th February  
The Annunciation of the Lord - 25th March  
Palm Sunday – Holy Week commences 2nd April  
Maundy Thursday - 6th April  
Good Friday - 7th April  
Holy Saturday - 8th April  
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection - 9th April  
St George - 24th April

**EVERY BABY IN THE WOMB HAS A RIGHT TO LIFE: A Petition to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth.** In 2021, abortion campaigners brought forward an amendment to a Government Bill that would have introduced abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth (including sex-selective abortion). This amendment did not go to a vote, but the abortion lobby is expected to make another attempt to introduce this extreme abortion law change shortly. This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would introduce one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. Right To Life UK is running a petition to ask the Prime Minister to do everything in his power to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth. Please add your name to the petition here: <https://righttolife.org.uk/signthepetitiontorishi>

**THANK YOU** to two parishioners who have answered our call, in recent weeks for more counters. This will enable others, who have been collection counters for some time, to step down.

**PATRICK CRONIN RIP:** The date for the Funeral Mass for Patrick has now been set for 11.30am on Thursday 9th March. We continue to pray for the repose of dear Patrick's soul and we pray also for Shirley his wife and the whole family at this time.

**LITTLE CHURCH** is each Sunday at the 10.30am Mass. Beginning in Church, the children go off for their own liturgy at the beginning of Mass. Children, we enjoy you being with us! Thank you to our church catechists who prepare for our little ones week by week.

**CHILDREN'S MASS CARDS AND MISSALS** are available at the back of the church to help our little ones to pray and to learn the Mass. Parents please encourage your children to use these as you support them on their Christian journey.

**PARENTING FOR FAITH** - a new online course starting for those with Babies and Toddlers over 5 weeks from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 23 via Zoom starting at 8:00pm . There is a £5 registration fee. <https://www.celebratetrust.org/parentingforfaith>

**BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP** - if you would like to sponsor the Blessed Sacrament Lamp, for a week, the diary is open. To sponsor costs just £5 for a whole week. Just let the office know your preferred week and your intention. Additionally, if you would like a Mass offered for your intentions, the diocesan guideline is £10 or whatever you can afford. All your offerings directly support the work of your church. Thank you.

**REVISED: THE WARM HUB IN FEBRUARY** continues to meet on Thursdays at the new times of 10.00am until 11.30am. Do come along, it's a good opportunity to meet with others in the church hall. It's absolutely free and it will be warm! Thank you to all who have helped out so far. A new sign up sheet is now available for volunteer helpers at the back of the church.

**HELPING OUR NEIGHBOURS - 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 for your generosity.

**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.

**THE ROSARY GROUP** meets every Wednesday after the 9.30am Mass. You are welcome to come along to pray with us. It's a great opportunity to learn how to pray the Rosary.

**TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK**  
Loose giving in the plate: £245.96  
Giving via the bank: £735.08 (weekly average/Dec)  
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.

**CAR PARKING:** The roads around the church can get very congested at the weekend Masses, especially at the 10.30am Mass. If you are driving to Mass, please consider using our free car park, at the rear of the church hall. This will help our neighbours with the congestion too.

**SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE AND SWITCH ON TO THE LORD, AND SEE THE POSSIBILITIES, THE LORD HAS IN MIND FOR YOUR LIFE**

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY**

is sponsored this week by Sally Dick, for her family.

**PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED**

For Patrick Cronin RIP

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS FEBRUARY**

Canon George Groves, Peter Madyslam, Sarah Sharratt, Fr Michael Groarke, Mary Pitfield, Fr Ron Aylward, Bernard Bunce, Nora Harris, Raymond Restel, Anne Quinn, Terry Sharratt, Brenda Jones, Patrick Harris, Barbara Hughes, Stephen Marriage. Samuel William Elliott.

**ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD**