

## THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun 19 Feb ✕	7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm Sat Eve Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For the intentions of Celine Carville For the people of this Parish For the intentions of Fiona
Mon 20 Feb	Feria	No Mass at SJF today	
Tues 21 Feb	Feria	Apologies there is no Mass today at SJF	
Wed 22 Feb	ASH WEDNESDAY ✕	Mass at 9.30am Mass at 7.00pm	For the people of this Parish For Frances Williams RIP
Thurs 23Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For the people of Turkey and Syria
Fri 24 Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For the holy souls who have no one to pray for them
Sat 25 Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 10.00am  First Reconciliation at 12.00noon for FHC children	For a private intention
Sun 26 Feb ✕	1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	6.00pm Sat Eve Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Cidalia Alexandre RIP For the people of this Parish For a private business intention

**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. ✕ = Holy Day of Obligation

### 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 3

ST JOHN FISHER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



## SUNDAY 19TH FEB 2023 WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Love your enemies. These are words we associate so clearly with the teaching of Jesus and the way of life the Gospel calls us to. But it may be a surprise to some people to hear that these words come first from the Old Testament, from the mouth of Moses himself. Moses was speaking the Lord God's instruction for the community of the people of Israel in flight from Egypt in their long sojourn in the wilderness.

God's instructions were about how that community had to work without grudges, resentment or vengeance, but with love and forgiveness and tolerance.

When Jesus comes with the message of the Kingdom of heaven, it is the same instruction for a perfect, God-guided society, which depends on how each of us lives with others. The wisdom of this world, which Saint Paul mentions in the Second Reading, will not teach us this: the world will believe in vengeance and friendship only for your friends.

Each of us must ask how we can embrace the apparent folly of Jesus' teaching: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

LET YOUR  
FAITH  
BE BIGGER  
THAN YOUR  
FEAR

**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.

**A PASTORAL LETTER FOR LENT** from Cardinal Vincent Nichols will replace the usual homily at the Masses this weekend.



**ASH WEDNESDAY IS THIS WEEK 22ND FEB**

marking the beginning of Lent. It is also a day of fasting for those in good health from 18 years, up to the age of retirement (1 regular meal and 2 smaller meals are permitted). Ash Wednesday is also a day of abstinence from meat. Masses with the imposition of ashes for all will be at 9.30am & 7.00pm. Please let others know who might not be at Mass this weekend.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** every Friday in Lent at 7.00pm in church, starting Friday 3rd March.

**WEEKLY DURING LENT: TOP UP YOUR KNOWLEDGE:** an evening get together & discussion, for all who would like to renew their faith during Lent. Five Thursdays beginning 2nd March at 7.30pm ending by 8.45/9.00pm. If you are interested, please let Fr Shaun know, so that he can manage numbers. We will be following the Sycamore film course: Wk 1 - The existence of God, Wk 2 - Who is Jesus? Wk 3 - The Holy Spirit, Wk 4 - The Church and Wk 5 - The gift of faith.

**THE CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY** will be on Friday 3rd March. In preparation, envelopes and prayer cards will be available from next week.

**HOLY BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS TO** Jacob Tobenna Aduayi who received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Saturday. We wish him many blessings as he continues his pilgrimage of faith. Please pray for him and for his family.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION:** Our class of 2023 will be making their First Reconciliation (Confession) next Saturday at 12noon - please pray for them. Parents please ensure your children have completed their study books, ready for Jean and Pir and Fr Shaun. Thank you.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE:** Friday 3rd March at 10.30am at St Nicholas Church Shepperton. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Taiwan. Refreshments after the service. All are welcome to attend this ecumenical service of prayer & worship.

**APOLOGIES:** our large blue votive candles which we burn by the Shrine of Our Lady are on order. We hope to have them in stock by next weekend. Small candles are still available.

**FOOD BANK DROP OFF:** Thank you if you have been dropping off food donations. You have been extraordinarily generous in your giving to the food bank in recent months. Your kindness is greatly appreciated by local people who are struggling at the moment

**CAFOD SYRIA -TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL**  
CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our brothers and sisters affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

**REFRESHMENTS ARE AVAILABLE** after the 10.30am Sunday Mass — in the church hall. 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.

**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. 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.

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.

**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.

**THE THURSDAY HUB** is open every Thursday in the church hall and will now continue into March from 10.00am until 11.30am. Do come along, it's a good opportunity to meet with others. It's absolutely free and it will be warm! Thank you to all who have helped out so far. A sign up sheet is available for volunteer helpers at the back of the church.

**SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**  
Ash Wednesday beginning of Lent- 22nd February  
First Reconciliation (FHC class) 25th February  
1st Sunday of Lent - 26th February  
St Patrick -17th March  
St Joseph - 20th March  
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  
First Holy Communion Mass - Sat 13th May

**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.

**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.

**TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK**  
Loose giving in the plate: £258.87  
Giving via the bank: £840.08 (weekly average/Jan)  
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. Many thanks.

**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY** Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 13th May 2023 at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass 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 2023. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Shaun your details if you wish to attend: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). Thank you and congratulations.

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY**  
is sponsored this week for the children and young people of St John Fisher Church

**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**