



# HOLY WEEK AT SJF



Sun ☩ 02 April	<b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am 10.30am	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Mon 03 April	Monday of Holy Week	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 04 April	Tuesday of Holy Week	Confessions 9.00am Mass at 9.30am	For Sarah Dargue RIP
Wed 05 April	Spy Wednesday of Holy Week	Confessions 9.00am Mass at 9.30am	For Susanna Fernandez RIP
Thurs 06 April	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</b>	No Morning Mass <b>8.00pm</b> Confessions from 9pm Night Prayer at 10.20 Watch at the Altar of Repose ends 10.30pm	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Fri 07 April <i>Day of fasting &amp; abstinence</i>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>	11.00am <b>3.00pm</b> 7.00pm	Children's Stations of the Cross Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Stations of the Cross
Sat 08 April <i>(Beginning after nightfall)</i>	<b>HOLY SATURDAY SEASON OF EASTER THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT</b>	No Morning Mass <b>8.00pm</b>	Church cleaning and decorating from 9.00am - Everyone welcome! Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Sun ☩ 09 April	<b>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION</b>	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish

## MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

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To make a donation or to make an offering for a Mass intention go to:  
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton/donate/>

We are a registered charity No: 233699

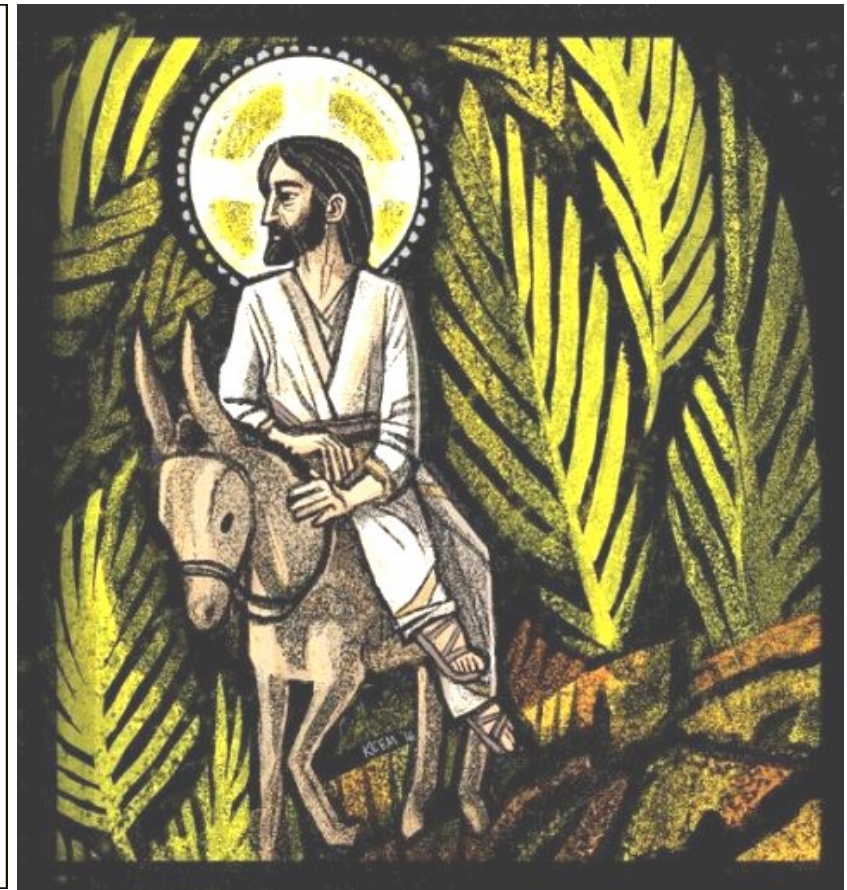


Sunday cycle  
Readings Year A  
Weekday readings:  
for Holy Week  
Divine Office:  
Psalter Week 2

ST JOHN FISHER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2023  
PALM SUNDAY  
OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord!



☩ THIS IS HOLY WEEK ☩



**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER** Don't miss out! Please make it a top priority to come to SJF this Holy Week. Reserve some time to be with the Lord. Suspend errands and jobs around the house, especially on Good Friday. Drop everything and enter into the mystery of the faith. For Catholics, this is the most important time of the year. It is our opportunity to renew our Christian identity, to feed the soul, to stand proud and be counted. The great week begins with **PALM SUNDAY**, Jesus' triumphant arrival into Jerusalem - the Holy City. He came as a King, but he came in great humility, riding on a colt. The crowds welcomed the Lord, they waved palm branches and shouted "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord". A simple journey thus became a procession. At Holy Mass on this day, we join in with the first disciples, we bless palm crosses and welcome Jesus Christ as our King!

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** reminds us that the great Paschal Triduum has begun. On the night before he died, Jesus gathered his close friends together in an upper room in Jerusalem. Jesus washed their feet like a servant. He gave them a new commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you". And then he gave them the gift of himself: "This is my Body... this is my Blood". After Supper he went to watch and pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. Our celebration, of the Lord's Supper, beginning at 8.00pm on Maundy Thursday, is based on these events. At the end of Holy Mass, the Blessed Sacrament of Jesus is taken in procession to the Altar of Repose. This is our Garden of Gethsemane. The Sacrament is placed there and a Watch of silent prayer is kept until 10.30pm. On this night we have the privileged opportunity of spending some time in prayer with the Lord himself. If you can't attend the Holy Mass, try to stop by, during the evening, to pray at the Altar of Repose, even for a short while. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), will also be available on this night.

**ON GOOD FRIDAY**, Jesus is condemned to death. He carried his cross to Calvary. He was crucified

and he died. Our liturgy, beginning at 3.00pm is not a funeral service. We recall the solemn events leading up to the death of Jesus. We read the Passion Gospel, we pray and we venerate the cross. We receive the Body of Christ in Holy Communion, reserved from the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, the night before. Good Friday completes the work of Jesus Christ on earth. He cried out as he died: "It is accomplished". It is a cry of victory. We come to the liturgy on Good Friday out of love for him, who died out of love for us. The importance and solemnity of this day are demonstrated through our fasting & abstinence.

**HOLY SATURDAY** Throughout this day, Jesus' Body is in the tomb. This is the time to make our final preparations. From 9.00am onward we prepare the Church for Easter, cleaning & decorating. We then await the First Mass of Easter. The Vigil begins at 8.00pm outside the church. The Holy Fire is blessed together with the new Easter (Paschal) candle. The procession into the darkened church begins and slowly, the light of Christ glows ever stronger, to dispel the darkness of the night. We hear the readings and we sing the psalms. We bless the waters of Easter and renew our Baptismal promises. And then finally, the Church erupts with joy. Bells ring out and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is proclaimed. We celebrate the Holy Mass on this most holy night of the year, because death is conquered, the gates of heaven have been thrown open to believers and hope is renewed.

**EASTER SUNDAY**, the Day of Resurrection. This is a day of joy & celebration in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ. Holy Mass is celebrated at 8.30am and 10.30am. The Christian hope which faith brings, is grounded in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and what he means for us. We may not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future! Holy Week and Easter give us the opportunity to renew our faith and hope. Come to SJF this Holy Week, invite your families and friends and catch a glimpse of heaven.

**ALL MASSES** at SJF are live streamed. Via *YouTube*. Whilst live streaming cannot replace our physical presence at the Holy Mass, streaming offers a link with SJF for those who are incapacitated with ill health.



**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.

**CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS** on Good Friday at 11.00am. Any children wishing to take part, please sign the list at the back of the church.

**OUR CHURCH** is a friendly place, but it's easy to reach out to those we already know. Over Holy Week and Easter there may well be visitors and people returning after some time away. A smile or a gentle 'hello' can make all the difference and pointing out where Mass sheets are can be invaluable. Thank you.

**THE EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES** available from the back of the church contribute, in a small way, to the stipend (salary) of priests working at SJF throughout the year. They are not a personal gift, to the priest, but are much appreciated.

**MASS TIMES & LITURGIES** during Holy Week vary from our usual times. Please check the back of this newsletter for full details.

**LITTLE CHURCH** will be on holiday for Easter Sunday, but will be back the following week.

**THURSDAY HUB** is now on a break for two weeks and will reopen on Thursday 20th April in the church hall from 10.00am until 11.30am. We shall look forward to seeing you then.

**FOOD BANK DROP OFF:** Thank you if you have been dropping off food donations. You are extraordinarily generous.

**WOULD YOU** like to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III in our church on Coronation weekend? Would you be interested in leading a group or being part of a team to make it happen? Let us know in the office and we can get the ball rolling.



**TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK**

Loose giving in the plate: £245.51  
Giving via the bank: £663.83 (weekly average/Feb)  
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. Apologies for the malfunction of the card machine last weekend, the internet went kaput!

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2023** We are currently inviting parishioners to join the Westminster Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. There is a place for everyone on our pilgrimage, from young families, youth, adults, the elderly, frail and those with medical conditions. The dates are Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July. There is a register of interest sheet in the porch, if you would like more information please sign up or speak to Katrina (07921 409402) or Bernard (07802 268550).

**LOURDES FUNDRAISERS:** Marathon and Family Fun Day – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Come and walk or run alongside Fran, our Marathon runner. Fran will be completing 26 one-mile laps of Laleham Park... if you fancy completing a mile or more, please grab a sponsor form from Katrina (07921 40902). If you don't fancy the marathon, grab a picnic, and come and enjoy the company. Quiz Night – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May The Lourdes team will be hosting a Quiz night on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Tickets are £10. To sign up see the sheet in the porch. There will be a bar available, bring your own snacks. Doors open at 7.00pm, quiz starts at 7.30pm

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

is sponsored this week for Baby Lauryn in thanksgiving for her birth and wellbeing.

**PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED**

SUSAN CONNERTY SMITH RIP

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS APRIL**

Margaret Ward, Maurice Ward, Leila Waterhouse, Edward Reilly, Christopher Romer, Winifred Smith, Maureen Keady, William Walsh, Ted Jones, Anna Semkowicz-Holt, Cecilia Grose, Fr Anton Cowan

**ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD**