

THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

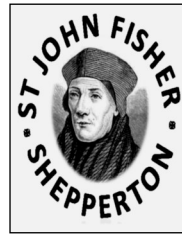
Sun ☒ 22 Oct	29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	Pro Populo - for the people of our parish Pro Populo - for the people of our parish For Michael McBride - for improved health
Mon 23 Oct	feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 24 Oct	feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Victoria - special intentions
Wed 25 Oct	feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary after Mass	For a private intention
Thurs 26 Oct	feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Irene Baker RIP
Fri 27 Oct	feria	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass	For peace in our world - especially in the Middle East
Sat 28 Oct	SS SIMON & JUDE, Apostles	Mass at 10.00am	For Francis Paul Joseph - for healing
Sun ☒ 29 Oct	30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Patrick, May & Bernie Doohan RIP Pro Populo - for the people of our parish For Julian Bacon - for a private 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. ☒ = Holy Day of Obligation

MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

Parish Priest: Fr. Shaun Richards shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk
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St John Fisher Catholic Church, 15 Wood Road, Shepperton. TW17 0DH
Telephone: 01932 563116 **website:** <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton>
Parish Safeguarding: Katrina Lavery sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator 020 7798 9356

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
Lectionary Year 1
Ordinary Time
Week 29

ST JOHN FISHER
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday 22nd October 2023 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Weekly Newsletter



TO WHOM DO WE BELONG? The Holy Gospel for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, presents a scenario where the Pharisees tried to trap Jesus with a question about taxes. They asked if it was right to pay taxes to Caesar. Jesus' response was both astute and revealing: "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." This interaction highlights a distinct separation between earthly obligations and spiritual commitments. Paying taxes, as unpleasant as it might be, is an earthly duty. It's a part of living in a society, and everyone must contribute.

However, Jesus' answer also alludes to a deeper truth. While we owe certain things to our governments or leaders, our ultimate allegiance is to God. Everything we are and everything we have originates from Him.

This passage challenges us to consider where our true loyalties lie. It reminds us that while we have duties in this world, our primary duty is to our Creator. Balancing our earthly and spiritual commitments is key, but remembering to whom we ultimately belong provides clarity in decision-making and action. We belong to God.



WELCOME to Mass today at St John Fisher, especially if you are visiting. This newsletter gives some information for the week ahead. If you are a new parishioner to SJF church, you are very welcome. Please introduce yourself to Fr Shaun.

WHAT A LOVELY TIME WE HAD at the party last Sunday, following the 10.30am Mass. The Hall was full to the brim! Many thanks to Jean Johnston and her merry band of helpers who were amazing in the lovely food and drink they gave us to enjoy. This was in celebration of the Benemerenti medal awarded to parishioner, Gerry O'Malley. Thank you to all involved.

CAFOD: Thank you for your wonderful support for the Family Fast Day Appeal. We raised £577.62 through your generosity. This will make all the difference for those in need.

GOOD NEWS! You may have noticed that the Mass count took place over the past 4 weeks. We are delighted to report a 28% increase on attendance at Sunday Masses compared with 2023. This is excellent news, especially as there was a significant drop off after we reopened, following the pandemic. The increase is also due to new parishioners joining us. If you are new to SJF or have recently returned, you are very welcome here. This is your church and it's great to have you with us.



SLEEP-IN SUNDAY! is next Sunday, 29th October. British Summer Time ends and the clocks fall back one hour, to GMT, so you get an extra hour under the duvet, refreshed and ready for Sunday morning Mass!

THIS COMING NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS. In life we pray for those we love, in death we pray for the repose (the resting) of their souls. During the whole of November, we will remember the faithful departed in our families and amongst our friends. There will be the BLESSING OF THE GRAVES at Sunbury Cemetery on Saturday 4th November at 12.00noon. All Souls sheets to list the names of your departed loved ones, will be available from next week. From this weekend, there is an opportunity to buy a seven day memorial candle for £5, on which to

add the names of your departed loved ones. Candles will burn in the church from All Souls' Day, Thursday 2nd Nov, onward, for the month.

NOVEMBER DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Wednesday 1st: ALL SAINTS: Masses: 9.30am & 7.00pm

Thursday 2nd: ALL SOULS' DAY: Mass: 9.30am

Saturday 4th: Blessing of graves at Sunbury Cemetery at 12 noon.

Sunday 12th: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY: 10.30am: Requiem Mass for the War Dead.

Sunday 26th: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST: King of the Universe.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES in various parishes and jobs working centrally for the Diocese are advertised weekly. You can view vacancies here: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

AGED 18-22 YEARS OLD? Westminster Youth Ministry is developing a training programme for Young Catholic Leaders. Discover your unique calling to build up the Church, Access unique resources to learn and grow in practical skills for leadership and mission. Be quick! Applications close on the 11th November. Visit <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/programmes/upper-room-leadership-programme/> to apply or email youth@rcdow.org.uk for enquiries.

JUST A REMINDER that the 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass and at the 8.30am Sunday Mass, when the bell is rung for the beginning of Mass, we have now reintroduced the saying of the ENTRANCE ANTIPHON. This antiphon can be found at the top of the weekend Mass Sheet.

IT'S A LOVELY GIFT TO HAVE A MASS OFFERED FOR YOUR INTENTIONS: We have dates. To request a Mass intention, in thanksgiving, for a birthday or a wedding anniversary or for someone who is ill or who has died, contact the office. The diocesan recommendation for your offering is £10 or whatever you can afford.

SPELTHORNE SCHOOLS PRAYER GROUP are a friendly group of Christians from a wide range of churches who meet to pray for 25 local nurseries, playgroups and schools. They meet monthly on Friday mornings 10.00am-12noon. For more information:

info@spelthorneschoolsprayergroup.org

A DAY WITH MARY: Westminster Cathedral Saturday 28th October beginning at 9.45am. See the poster in the entrance porch for more details

A CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE 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. This is an important document, but please do not embarrass Fr Shaun by requesting a certificate, if you are not attending Mass here regularly. If you happen to have recently moved into the area, your previous parish priest can provide certification. 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 at: [Admissions Guidance – Diocese of Westminster Education Service \(rcdow.org.uk\)](https://www.rcdow.org.uk/admissions-guidance)

WINTER PROGRAMMES: First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA will be available soon.

ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL is currently advertising for a Headteacher on the ETeach website. If you would like any further information, or are interested in applying, please email admin@ascensioncat.org or contact Nicola Twose (HR Manager) on 0208 325 4630.

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM MASS takes place each Sunday. Children can also pick up a children's activity sheet and children's Mass book from the back of the church. Little Church 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 go into the hall. When the youngsters have completed their own liturgy, they will return to sit with their parents.

MAKING WAVES. Over the past 10 years, Shepperton Marina has developed a thriving, international award-winning successful business. Come and hear about the challenges and progress this renowned local family run business has made in the inland marine world. Wednesday 25 October 6.30pm (pre lecture drink) for 7.30pm talk. Halliford School. Tickets £18 each from Sally Dick or Jim McKeough or on-line at www.sheppertonaurora.co.uk

TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK

Loose giving in the plate: £334.60. Giving via the bank or through the card machine: £330.83; (£832.71 per week - weekly average for September) 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, thank you. We seriously couldn't do all we do, without your support.

FOOD BANK DROP OFF: Thank you if you have been dropping off food donations. You are extraordinarily generous, towards those who live locally, who are struggling at the moment. All of our donations are taken over to the Jubilee Centre for distribution. Thank you again.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP burns continually by the Tabernacle. If you would like to sponsor the lamp for a particular intention it's just £5 for the whole week. Please contact Mandy in the office to sponsor your preferred week

REFRESHMENTS after the 10.30am Mass are in the church hall. You will be very welcome!

PLEASE DO SUPPORT THE DOUGH SHACK if you can - they are supporting us! They are outside the church every Thursday from 5.00pm. You can pre-order on Thursdays, using the QR code (just capture it on your mobile phone) or call direct on 0203 488 3470 or just turn up and order.



THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY

has been sponsored this week for those who are ill and undergoing treatment. May it be successful.

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

ANNIVERSARIES THIS OCTOBER

Frank Nagle, Peter King, Christopher Moran, Kitty Burden, Stella Loftus, Peter Willson, Anna Casey Clarke, Michael Hennessey, John Broadhurst, Suzannah Spiller, John Brett, Jacqueline Restel, Philip Bunce, Patrick Farrell, Ian Mitchell, Joyce Tracey, Kay Pollard

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD