

# THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

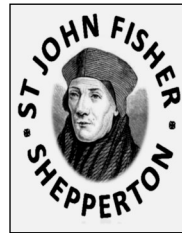
Sun ☩ 05 Nov	<b>31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>6.00pm Sat Vigil</b> <b>8.30am Mass</b> <b>10.30am Mass</b>	Pro Populo - for the people of our parish For Winnie Lockwood RIP For C V Pepper RIP ( Birthday)
Mon 06 Nov	feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 07 Nov	feria	Mass at 9.30am	For the souls of the faithful departed
Wed 08 Nov	feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary after Mass	For Eileen & Matthew Rowntree RIP
Thurs 09 Nov	THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA	Mass at 9.30am	For Fr Michael Tuck in celebration of his 60 Years in Priestly Orders
Fri 10 Nov	St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass	For the souls of the faithful departed
Sat 11 Nov	St Martin of Tours, Bishop	Mass at 10.00am	For Bob & Bridget Keating RIP
Sun ☩ 12 Nov 	<b>32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <b>REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY</b>	<b>6.00pm Sat Vigil</b> <b>8.30am Mass</b> <b>10.30am Mass</b>	For Francis Paul Joseph for healing Pro Populo - for the people of our parish Requiem Mass For the War Dead

**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](mailto:shaunrichards@rcdow.org.uk)  
**Administrator:** Mandy Howick (Wed & Thurs mornings 9-1) [shepperton@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepperton@rcdow.org.uk)  
**Book keeper:** Traci Blundell (Monday) [sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk)  
**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](mailto: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 31

ST JOHN FISHER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



## Sunday 5th November 2023 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Weekly Newsletter



Jesus, in his time, was a devout Jew, who didn't shy away from addressing his concerns with religious leaders, much like Malachi, in the first reading. Jesus emphasized the importance of faithfulness among leaders, as their actions could influence others.

Jesus, urged leaders to stay true to their beliefs. He wanted them to avoid leading people astray. This lesson applies to leaders today as well: be genuine in faith, lead by example, and nurture your connection with God's love.

In essence, the readings remind us that faith isn't just a private matter; it's about how we treat others and the authenticity we bring to our relationships. True faith shines through in our actions, care for one another, and our commitment to living by the values we profess. When we are humble before the Lord, and with each other, he will lift us up.

### A PRAYER FOR ISRAEL & GAZA

God of peace, bearer of hope,  
we seek your help for the peoples  
of the Middle East.  
Quiet the clamour of war  
and guide us towards peace.  
Where there is hatred and division  
sow seeds of calm and openness.  
Where there is destruction help us to  
rebuild. Where children are crying  
bring an end to tears.  
Shelter your peoples and protect them  
Guide them and keep them from harm.  
Show us how to break down the barriers  
of history and fear and breathe whispers  
of hope. Amen.

(Linda Jones /CAFOD)

**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.

**THANK YOU** to all who made the effort to attend Mass on the Holy Day of All Saints last Wednesday. The changeable weather made your efforts to get to Mass doubly impressive.

**ALL SOULS' SHEETS**, to list the names of your departed loved ones, are available from the back of the church to complete and return. Please put these in the basket in front of the altar.

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY** - A Requiem Mass for the War Dead will be celebrated on Sunday 12th Nov at 10.30am. A two minute silence will be kept at the end of the intercessory prayers. ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPIES are now available at the back of church, for a donation to this honourable cause. We thank Bernard Troop who has organised these again for us this year.

**SEVEN DAY MEMORIAL CANDLES** are available for £5, on which to add the names of your loved ones. These candles will burn during the whole month of November, in the church to the left of the lectern. Pick up a names label from the Repository shop by the church entrance, to complete and return to the office or sacristy.

**BE PREPARED:** So often in the holy scriptures we are told to be prepared. During November we remember those who have died, but this is also a good time to prepare or update our own affairs. Many people use this month to make or to revisit their Will and to leave written instructions of their funeral wishes. This is an opportunity to be prepared, to make a note of favourite hymns and bible readings and to consider the type of funeral service you would like, be it a Mass or a Liturgy of the Word, burial or cremation. It is important to remember that secular music and poems are not permissible at services in Catholic Churches. This is not the Catholic Church being difficult, but ensuring that the Words of God contained in the Holy Bible and sacred music and hymns always take precedence. Preparing our affairs is not a morbid thing to do, it's a loving act which takes the burden away from those we leave behind. If

you appreciate St John Fisher Church, your church, you might also consider leaving a gift in your Will, in thanksgiving and in memory of your life shared here and in support of our continued work. Further Information is available at the back of the church to take away to assist you.

**S.J.F LOTTERY BONUS BALL** The Lourdes team have a new fundraiser that anyone can get involved in – The Lottery Bonus Ball. For just £2 a week you can pick a number of your choice, between 1 and 59, and if that number comes up as the bonus ball of the National Lottery on a Saturday evening you will win £25. We will be running this game on a 10-week rotation, so you will need to sign up for the full 10 weeks. The first rotation will begin on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December so sign up quick to get your favourite number! You can sign up after the Masses or alternatively you can contact Katrina on 07921 409402.

**SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION**  
Today's second collection is for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. Please give generously and help ensure our sick and older priests are financially supported, having given us a lifetime of dedicated service. They have Baptised us, welcomed us into the church, and offered comfort and prayer at times of sorrow. Now we have a chance to give back and ensure they have peace of mind during their senior years, when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility. Please give generously using the envelopes in the church. You can also donate online at [www.rcdow.org.uk/](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/) donations - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online. You may also wish to consider becoming a Patron of the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. If so, please take a leaflet home today. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

**THINGS ARE MOVING ON**  
Pre - Covid we developed plans to refurbish the church hall, toilets and kitchen and create some additional new space. The diocese are now on board, assisting us to move the project to the next stage, with a possible first phase start in Spring 2024. Plans are still being modified, but as soon as they are available, parishioners will be able to see them. In the meantime, it would be helpful if we could gather together a small team, to look at ideas for fundraising, specifically for our

refurbishment. If you are interested in helping with this, please could you contact Mandy in the office. Mandy works on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We need your help - thank you.

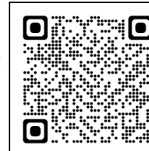
**POCKET DIARIES FOR 2024** are now for sale in the Repository Shop for just £3.00.

**GIVE US OUR DAILY BREAD** During the past months, many people have been struggling to make ends meet. Thank you if you are able to bring some non perishable food for our Food Bank Box. This is a good deed done. Your kind donations, which can be placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, are going directly to help others locally via the Jubilee Food Bank Please keep up the good work and help if and when you can. Many, many thanks

**GOOD NEWS!** We are delighted to report a 28% increase on attendance at Sunday Masses compared with 2022. 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.

**HOLY COMMUNION** can be received by Catholics at Mass, either on the tongue or in the hand and you may kneel or stand to receive. If you are receiving in the hand, please make your hands a safe place to receive the Body of Christ. One hand firmly under the other, to make a throne and with hands raised to avoid the risk of dropping the Host. When receiving Holy Communion, we are not receiving a symbol of Jesus, but the Body of Christ in Sacramental form. This is why receiving Holy Communion is a holy moment with the Lord himself. This is why we also proclaim "Amen" at the moment we receive Holy Communion, affirming our faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in Holy Communion.

**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.



**IT'S A LOVELY GIFT TO HAVE A MASS OFFERED FOR YOUR INTENTIONS:** To request a Mass intention, in thanksgiving, for a birthday or a 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. You can now Gift Aid your offering by using the Blue Envelopes from the back of the church.

**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.

**TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK**  
Loose giving in the plate: £271.68 Giving via the bank or through the card machine: £3330.83; (£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.

**PARISH WEB:** Our web site can be viewed here: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton>

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY**  
has been sponsored this week by Andy McBride for a private intention

**PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED ANNIVERSARIES THIS NOVEMBER**  
Reginald Atfield, Kathleen Homewood, Dennis Turner, Christina Salt, Winifred Ray, Janet Parsons, Maureen Bernardinis, MaryAnge Pepper, Kieran O'Sullivan, Richard Caplis, Brian Hayes, Bridget Keating, Mary Weathers, Caroline Pegley, Winifred Lockwood, Joan Colnbrook, Peter Pollard, Norman Parsons, June Ryan.  
**ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD**