

THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✘ 03 Dec	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Denis Miranda RIP Pro Populo - for the people of our parish For Gavin Boyle RIP (2nd anniversary)
Mon 04 Dec	Advent feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 05 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Andrew & family - Special Intention
Wed 06 Dec	Advent feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary after Mass	For members of the Miranda & Peiris family - RIP
Thurs 07 Dec	St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor	Mass at 9.30am Funeral Mass - 11.30am	For Keith Breslin RIP For Austin Jennings RIP
Fri 08 Dec	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Patron of the Diocese	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass	For Zeferina Piedade Mascarenhas RIP & Conceicao Menino Dias RIP
Sat 09 Dec	Advent feria	No morning Mass at 10.00am today Sat Vigil Mass 6.00pm	Pro Populo - for the people of our parish
Sun ✘ 10 Dec	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Margaret Bigwood RIP (1st anniversary) For Patrick Cronin RIP (1st anniversary)

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

Administrator: Mandy Howick (Wed & Thurs mornings 9-1) shepperton@rcdow.org.uk

Book keeper: Traci Blundell (Monday) 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>

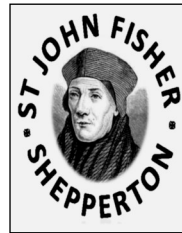
Parish Safeguarding: Katrina Lavery sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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 B
Weekday Readings
Lectionary Year 2
Ordinary Time
Advent 1

ST JOHN FISHER
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday 3rd December 2023 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Weekly Newsletter

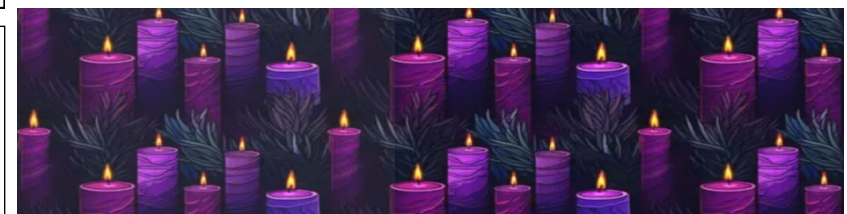


Advent opens with a great cry, and a great promise: "Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down". This is the cry, of a people who need God. The Master who is coming, is the promise, not to breed fear, but to answer our cry. Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that he is coming back.

We are encouraged to treat every day as the day when the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear, for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love, for a Master who always treats us with love and mercy. Nevertheless, we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live, until tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today!

PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Dear Lord, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, to listen to your voice and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you, as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth this Christmas. Amen.





POPPY APPEAL Thank you for your support over the past weeks for the Poppy Appeal, for those in the Armed Forces Community. SJF raised £100.24p for the appeal. The total amount raised locally was £7185.14p Thank you to all concerned and special thanks to Bernard Troop, who makes it all happen, year by year, so seamlessly.

SO THAT YOU KNOW... there will be no Saturday Mass at 10.00am this coming Saturday 9th Dec. The Sat Evening Vigil Mass at 6.00pm is as usual.

A DAY WITH MARY in Hounslow Parish, Saturday 9th December. Check out the poster by the church entrance for full details.

DO TAKE A LOOK at the Repository after Mass. We have some Christmas items available: cards, children's books, rosaries, diaries and some chocolate treats — knitted with love by Margaret Gane. Just deposit cash for your items in the wall box next to the card machine. Thank you.

LOURDES GROUP: CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT Come and join us on the 15th December in the Church Hall for a Christmassy evening of live music and festive readings. Enjoy a complimentary glass of mulled wine and some delicious canapes and soak up the Christmas cheer. This heart-warming event is open to all, so please invite your friends and family. Tickets are £15 for adults and £5 for children.... We may even have a special visitor and a few surprises in store. For tickets contact Katrina on 07921 409402 or email at katrinalavery80@gmail.com.

STOP THE 14-DAY LIMIT ON EXPERIMENTING ON EMBRYOS BEING REMOVED The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) is pushing to remove the 14-day limit for experimenting on embryos, despite 97% of submissions from the general public to their consultation objecting to these plans. Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website that makes it easy for you to email your MP asking them to oppose a change to legislation that, if passed, would pave the way for the removal of the 14-day limit. Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/14days to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds. On this 1st Sunday of Advent, please pray for all parents expecting a new child, that they might be blessed with a safe and healthy pregnancy. Lord hear us.

WELCOME to St John Fisher, Shepperton, and to the 1st Sunday of Advent. This newsletter gives some information for the week ahead. If you are new to SJF church, you are very welcome! All Masses here are live streamed, offering a valuable link with SJF for those who are incapacitated through ill health, enabling them to be closer to us.

DURING ADVENT ... At the Holy Mass, The Gloria is omitted (with the exception of feast days). We save this beautiful song, sung by the angels in heaven, for the great celebration at Christmas. We also move to the new liturgical Year B for Sunday Mass readings and Year 2, for weekday Mass readings. During this Holy time of preparing, why not spend some additional time in prayer, in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction is every Friday after the 9.30am Mass. The gentle Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is available on Saturday evenings from 5.30pm and by arrangement.

DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS you collected an amazing amount of used and old coins and bank notes. Mary's Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity in response to this initiative. We raised a terrific £1,107.50 which means Mary's Meals will be able to feed 57 children one good meal every school day for a whole year, because of your support. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. God bless you all.

THE FUNERAL MASS FOR Austin Jennings will take place here this coming Thursday 7th December at 11.30am. Please pray for the repose of Austin's soul and remember also Eileen his wife and the whole family in their sorrow at this time.

CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY 24TH DEC - CHRISTMAS EVE

Vigil Mass for Sunday at 6.00pm on Sat night
Morning Masses of Advent at 8.30am & 10.30am

VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS AT 6.00PM
Carols and Readings begin at 9.30pm
CHRISTMAS MASS DURING THE NIGHT AT 10.00PM

MONDAY 25TH DEC - CHRISTMAS DAY

MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD AT 8.30AM
MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD AT 10.30AM

Tues 26th Dec & Wed 27th Dec- No Masses
Thurs 28th Dec Mass at 9.30am - The Holy Innocents
Fri 29th Dec Mass at 9.30am - St Thomas Becket
Sat 30th Dec Mass at 10.00am - 6th Day in the Octave of Christmas

SATURDAY 30TH DEC

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
Vigil Mass for Sunday at 6.00pm

SUNDAY 31ST DEC - NEW YEAR'S EVE

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
Morning Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am

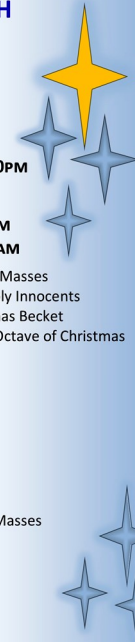
Mon 1st Jan to Sat 6th Jan - No morning Masses

SATURDAY 6TH JAN

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Vigil Mass for Sunday at 6.00pm

SUNDAY 7TH JAN

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Morning Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am



A CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING (for use at home)
Lord God, we praise you for the light of creation – sun, moon and stars; we praise you for the light of Israel – Law, Prophets and Scripture; we praise you for Jesus Christ our everlasting light. As we light our tree, may our hearts be filled with joy, and may all who delight in this tree be brought to the light of knowledge and the joy of Salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH AT THE GREENO CENTRE: If you would like to attend, Fr Shaun can help you to book your place - just ask. The Greeno may also be able to help with transport on the day, if needed. Additionally, the usual *pledge board* is in the church entrance for parishioners to sign up your kind pledges.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY It's that time of the year when we start preparing for the short nativity story, for the 6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. If your child would like to take part in acting or reading, please let Jean Johnston know asap. There is also a sign up sheet at the back of church.

NOW OPEN: First Holy Communion Registration for 2024. Forms are available at the back of the church for Baptised children in school year 3, whose families attend Mass here. In preparation for the programme, commencing Tuesday 9th January, children should know by heart, The Lord's Prayer and be able to make the sign of the cross. Thank you.

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM 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, before returning to their parents.

TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK
Loose giving in the plate: £181.58 Giving via the bank or through the card machine: £801.67 per week - weekly average for October. 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.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP burns 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.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
has been sponsored this week for the intentions of Andy McBride

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED AUSTIN JENNINGS RIP

ANNIVERSARIES THIS DECEMBER

Lynn-Marie Szczelkun, Herbert Bishop, James Loftus, Dominic Dyer, Alice Cane, Maurice Dodd, Robert Tams, Terry Ryan, Francis Curley, Lillian Maloney, John Cunningham, Sheila Barrett, Daniel Hodgson, Wilbert West-Watson, Alan South, Marina Schwartz, John Byrne, Sheila Passey, Mary McCarthy, Denis Miranda, Lorna Troop, Reg Day, Fr Dominic Byrne, Gavin Boyle, Patrick Cronin, Maureen Greta Pearce.

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD