

THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

Sun ✘ 18 Feb	1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	Sat Vigil Mass 6.00pm 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Anne Harris RIP & Patrick Harris RIP For the people of this parish For Kathleen Montgomery RIP 4th anniversary
Mon 19 Feb	Lent Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 20 Feb	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	This Mass is available for your intention
Wed 21 Feb	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary after morning Mass	This Mass is available for your intention
Thurs 22 Feb	THE CHAIR OF ST PETER, APOSTLE	Mass at 9.30am Warm Hub 10-11.30am in the hall	For Mick Cusack RIP
Fri 23 Feb	Lent Feria CAFOD Family Fast day	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass Stations of the Cross - 7.00pm	This Mass is available for your intention
Sat 24 Feb	Lent Feria	Mass at 10.00am FHC Reconciliation 12.00noon	For our First Reconciliation children
Sun ✘ 25 Feb	2ND SUNDAY OF LENT	Sat Vigil Mass 6.00pm 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Maria Turini RIP For the people of this parish For Jenny Mascarenhas RIP

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

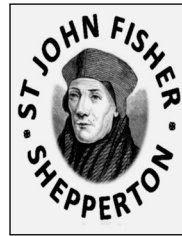
MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER

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Parish Safeguarding: Katrina Lavery sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator 020 7798 9356

We are a registered charity No: 233699

TO MAKE A DONATION or to make an offering for a Mass intention go to:
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton/donate/>



Sunday cycle
Readings Year B
Weekday Readings
Week 1
of Lent

ST JOHN FISHER
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday 18th February 2024 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT - Weekly Newsletter -



This season of Lent, offers a unique opportunity to try new approaches to prayer that can enhance your spiritual journey. Here are a few ideas to consider: expand your prayer repertoire by learning a new traditional Catholic prayer. Whether it's the Act of Contrition, the Memorare (a prayer for help from our Blessed Mother), or the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, incorporating these prayers into your daily routine can bring a sense of reverence and tradition to your Lenten prayers.

Instead of simply reading holy scripture, try engaging with it in a more interactive way. Choose a passage that resonates with you and spend time meditating on its meaning. Reflect on how it might apply to your life and ask God to reveal his message to you through His Word.

In addition to Sunday Mass, consider attending a weekday Mass during Lent. This can provide a quiet and reflective atmosphere for prayer and worship. Take advantage of the opportunity to receive the Eucharist more frequently and allow Jesus to nourish your soul.

Writing can be a powerful form of prayer and reflection. Start a journal where you can pour out your thoughts, feelings, and prayers to God. Alternatively, create a gratitude list to cultivate a spirit of thankfulness during Lent. Write down the blessings and graces you have received, and offer prayers of gratitude for them.

By exploring different ways to pray during Lent, you can deepen your spiritual connection with God and experience a more meaningful Lenten journey. Incorporate these practices into your daily routine and allow them to guide you closer to God's presence.



WELCOME to this Holy Season of Lent. It's a season of fasting, praying and giving. The Church moves into a different mood, with the hanging of purple banners and a change in the Gospel Acclamation. We save the *Alleluia*, the *Gloria*, the flowers and brighter vestments for the celebrations at Easter. In this way we start to be guided on our journey through Lent and helped to examine our lives in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. We are reminded that Lent is not just about what we give up. It's about who we become! How is God calling you this Lent?

THANK YOU to all who attended the Holy Mass here on Ash Wednesday, last week. The congregation numbers at both Masses, morning and evening, were very encouraging to see. It was particularly encouraging to have Altar Servers in the Sanctuary during their half term break - thank you all — you are great!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are a lovely Lenten tradition. In this devotion, we make the journey to Calvary with our Lord Jesus, focusing on how he suffered for us and his interactions with those he met on the way. The Stations will commence in church this Friday 23rd February at 7.00pm and then, each Friday of Lent. If you are looking for something different to do this Lent, come and join us in this quiet meditative encounter with the Lord.

THE CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY will be on Friday 23rd February. Envelopes and prayer cards are available this weekend. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN who are on the First Holy Communion programme. They will be making their First Reconciliation this coming Saturday and will, no doubt have butterflies in their tummies in expectation. What a lovely example they set for us all.

GREAT NEWS: we have been successful in applying to Caritas Westminster for funding for the Warm Hub on Thursday mornings. We have

been awarded £1,200. This will help enormously, not least in assisting us with heating costs. We are very grateful to Caritas, Sister Silvana and Westminster Diocese for placing their confidence in us.

BURNS SUPPER NIGHT: Saturday 24th February in the Church Hall at 7.00pm. An evening not to be missed, good entertainment and a traditional two course Burns Night Supper with a whiskey toast included. Tickets on sale now £20.00 after each Sat Evening and Sunday Mass. This is a charity evening in aid of the SJF Lourdes Fund.

AFTER MASS REFRESHMENTS are available in the hall, following the 10.30am Sunday Mass. Please enter via the outside hall door. We look forward to seeing you there.

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2024 Please support the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal if you can. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese; such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, expresses his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. You can take a donation envelope, make a donation online or donate in the collection box on the front right hand side of the church. Thank you.

LOTTERY BONUS BALL The next 10-week cycle of the Lottery Bonus Ball began on the 10th February and a few numbers may still be available. The cost for the 10 weeks is £20, but each week you have the opportunity to win £25, if your lucky number comes up. All profits go towards the SJF Lourdes fund. If you would like to join in, please contact Katrina as soon as possible on 07921 409402.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE: Friday 1st March at 11.00am at St Mary Magdalene Church, Littleton. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine. Refreshments after the service. All are welcome to attend this ecumenical service of prayer & worship.

HOLY CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME FOR 2024 begins on Thursday 25th April for young people in school years 9 & 10 and who attend Mass here. Registration for the programme will open during Holy Week.

LITTLE CHURCH at the 10.30am Mass. Parents, please encourage your little ones to attend their liturgy. Help us, to help you teach them the faith.

HOLY BAPTISM IS A JOYOUS SACRAMENT We greatly encourage Holy Baptism for babies of families who attend here regularly. It is recommended that Holy Baptism takes place within baby's first year. Baptism leaflets explaining this Holy Sacrament, with important information regarding godparents are available.

IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE: we are currently updating safeguarding certificates for our volunteers who help at SJF with children on our sacramental programmes, in Little Church and for those who come into contact with our children including our sacristans. If your DBS is due to be updated (including those who take Holy Communion to people at home), you will have received renewal forms via email a week ago, from Mandy in our church office. It's most important to return these asap to the office. Please check your spam or contact us if you have not received an email and think that you should have received one. Thank you.

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.

TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK
Loose giving in the collection plate: £274.48p
Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online: £988.83p per week - weekly average for January. 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.

SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
1st Sunday of Lent -18th February
St Joseph -19th March
Palm Sunday-beginning of Holy Week -24th March
Maundy Thursday - 28th March
Good Friday - 29th March
Holy Saturday - 30th March
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection - 31st March
First Holy Communion Mass 4th May (11.00am)

WARM HUB

ON THURSDAYS
10.00am- 11.30am



Free and open to all

No need to book - just come along

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH HALL
SQUIRES ROAD
SHEPPERTON, TW17 0DH

01932 563116
shepperton@rcdow.org.uk



Refreshments available

LIKE PIZZA? YOU'LL LOVE THE DOUGH SHACK They are outside the church every Thursday from 5.00pm. You can pre-order on Thursdays, using the QR code or call direct on 0203 488 3470



FOOD BANK BOX: Your kind donations, can be placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, They go directly to help others locally.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
has been sponsored this week by Juan for private intentions.

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Alan Cook RIP
Janet Sherman-Clark 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,
Susan Jane Connerty-Smith.

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD