

# THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

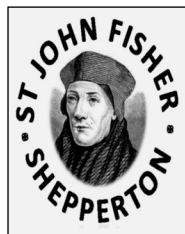
Sun ☒ 03 Mar	<b>3RD SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	Sat Vigil Mass 6.00pm 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For the people of this parish For Patricia Garrett on her 80th Birthday For Patrick Cronin RIP
Mon 04 Mar	Lent Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 05 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Maureen & Chris Smyth - a special intention
Wed 06 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary after morning Mass <b>Funeral Mass 11.45am</b>	For Margaret Cook RIP <b>For the repose of the soul of Alan Cook</b>
Thurs 07 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am Warm Hub 10-11.30am in the hall	For Matthew Rowntree RIP
Fri 08 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass Stations of the Cross - 7.00pm	For the Holy Souls
Sat 09 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 10.00am	For a private intention
Sun ☒ 10 Mar	<b>4TH SUNDAY OF LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY</b>	Sat Vigil Mass 6.00pm 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For the people of this parish For Patricia Barr - a special intention For Margaret Rodgers who is ill

**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 Office:** Telephone: 01932 563116 Email: shepperton@rcdow.org.uk  
**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  
**Address:** St John Fisher Catholic Church, 15 Wood Road, Shepperton. TW17 0DH  
**website:** <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton>  
**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 3  
of Lent

ST JOHN FISHER  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



## Sunday 3rd March 2024 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT - Weekly Newsletter -

Today's Gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Lent takes place in the Temple in Jerusalem - considered the most holy place for the Jewish people. This was the place of sacrifices and worship of God, who was believed to be really present in the Temple.

The presence of the merchants and money changers had turned the Temple into a market-place, which was not only disrespectful but also a distraction from the true purpose of the Temple. Jesus recognized this and was filled with a righteous anger that compelled him to drive out the merchants and money changers.



We are called to reflect on this Gospel reading and ask ourselves if and how we might have turned our own lives into a market-place. Do we prioritize material possessions and worldly pursuits over our relationship with God? Like the merchants and money changers, do we allow distractions and temptations to take over our lives, causing us to lose sight of what is truly important?

These are good questions to ask during this Season of Lent. The Temple in Jerusalem was a vision, a prophecy, of the true Temple which is the Body of Christ. As Catholics, we believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist, and that every time we participate in the Holy Mass, we are entering into the presence of God.

As we approach the Eucharist with reverence and awe, just as the Jewish people approached the Temple in Jerusalem, we strive to make our own bodies and hearts a worthy dwelling place for Christ, so that we may be a true reflection of his love and mercy to the world. Happy Lent!



**WELCOME** as we continue on our pilgrimage through this holy Season of Lent. It's a season of fasting, praying and giving. As we prepare for the events of 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?

**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Shaun the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

**WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR** will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's retelling of the St John Passion on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at Westminster Cathedral. The Cathedral are offering parishioners an opportunity to buy your tickets at a discount of 30%. Discounted tickets are available at the following link, using the password : **SJP30**  
<https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F00602BD7A81B4F?did=sjp30>  
 The Choir directed by Master of Music, Simon Johnson, will be accompanied by a period Baroque Orchestra and joined by outstanding soloists: James Gilchrist and William Thomas. This is a wonderful chance to hear the Cathedral's superb choir performing one of the greatest pieces of Easter music ever written.

**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 continue every Friday during Lent at 7.00pm. If you are

looking for something different to do this Lent, come and join us in this quiet meditative encounter with the Lord.

**WHAT'S MISSING?** The Mass sheet for this weekend gives us a shorter form of the First Reading, which lists the Ten Commandments. Bizarrely, the shorter form misses out one of the Ten Commandments - can you guess which one?

**OUR DONATION CARD MACHINE:** has now been updated so that you can select a specific area for your donation... **Weekly Giving; Candles; Mass Offerings** or **Repository Shop**. Once you select one of these options you will be able to choose the amount you would like to give in the normal way. Please do select the Gift Aid option too if you are able. Many thanks for your kind donations to our Church. You keep us going so that we can continue to do all the things we do.

**ARE YOU A CANDLE MAKER?** We have a large amount of partly used candles which we usually send away for recycling. If you make your own candles or can make use of these, do please let Daphne or Ken know in the Sacristy.

**LENT FAITH SHARING GROUP** hosted by Frances, at home on Walton Lane. Every Thursday during Lent 7.00-8.30pm. Come and have a chat and a cup of coffee. For details, phone Frances on: 07808 175184. You'll be made most welcome.

**VOLUNTEERING FAIR:** Caritas Volunteer Service will hold a Volunteering Fair on Saturday 9th March, 3pm – 5pm, at Westminster Cathedral Hall. If you are considering volunteering and want to explore possible roles, go to:  
<https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/volunteering-fair-2/>

**CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2024** Please support the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal if you can. All funds raised go towards projects across 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.

**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.

**WARM HUB**  
**ON THURSDAYS**  
**10.00am-11.30am**



Free and open to all

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

No need to book - just come along

01932 563116  
 shepperton@rcdow.org.uk

Refreshments available

**SUMMER INTERNSHIP 2024** If you are looking for an internship this summer, then look no further. Xavier Teach South-east is proud to offer non-funded and funded internship programmes which provide those interested in teaching with the ideal opportunity to explore life in the classroom. For further information please contact Angelina Daniel at St Paul's Catholic College, Sunbury - [adanield@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:adanield@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk)

**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 soon.

**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.

**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: £252.11p  
 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:**  
 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)

**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.

**SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE AND SWITCH ON YOUR HEART AND MIND TO THE LORD THIS LENT**

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

**PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED**  
 Alan Cook RIP  
 Janet Sherman-Clark RIP  
**ANNIVERSARIES THIS MARCH**  
 Denis Ryan, E.J. Cane, Kathleen Sweet, Rose Ryan, Fr Charles Connor, John Ohlson, Victoria Roberts, Patricia Macklin, Mary O'Sullivan, James O'Sullivan, Lynn Guevara, Maureen Mitchell, Eileen Tams, Helen Bool, Brian Duffy, Matthew Sawyer, Jane Birmingham, C.V. Pepper, Mary Cotter, Joy McQuade.  
**ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD**