

THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ☒ 28 April	5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am 10.30am	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For James (Peter) McDonough For Alan Cook RIP
Mon 29 April	ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, Virgin & Doctor of the Church. Patron of Europe	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 30 April	Easter Feria	Mass at 9.30am FHC class 5-6pm	<i>This Mass is available to book for your intentions - please contact the office</i>
Wed 01 May	St Joseph the Worker	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary after morning Mass	For Mandy Mollentze - intentions
Thurs 02 May	St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	Mass at 9.30am Confirmation course 7pm	<i>This Mass is available to book for your intentions - please contact the office</i>
Fri 03 May	SS. PHILIP & JAMES, Apostles	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass	For Jack Mulvany RIP
Sat 04 May	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS (National Mass of the feast)	FHC Mass at 11.00am	For our children receiving their First Holy Communion
Sun ☒ 05 May	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Maureen Bernardinis RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For Jim and Edie Farrell 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:
5th Week of Easter
Divine Office:
Easter 5

**ST JOHN FISHER
CATHOLIC CHURCH**



Sunday 28th April 2024 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER Weekly Newsletter



Last week it was sheep: this week, it's the vine. Jesus offers us another (farming/agricultural) image to explain the mystery of his offering of himself and our belonging to him, our being part of him, which comes about through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. This is the period of mystagogical formation, when the newly Baptised are helped to see what life in Jesus Christ really means. Today this comes out strongly for all of us, with two of the three readings emphasising the moral aspects of life in Christ. It is not simply enough to "belong" to Jesus: our belonging has to be shown by the works we do and by the fruits we bear - whilst remembering, importantly, that we cannot produce fruit that will last, except with him.

STOP PRESS... Pope Francis has appointed Mgr. James Curry as an Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Westminster and Titular Bishop of Ramsbiria (Ramsbiriensis). Cardinal Vincent Nichols said: 'I express my warmest thanks to Pope Francis for the appointment of Mgr. James Curry as an Auxiliary Bishop for service in this Diocese. His appointment, I am sure, will be widely welcomed. I welcome it myself, with gratitude to him for his generous response. He brings to this role a long experience of life in the Diocese and the pastoral wisdom of many years of priestly ministry.'

'Please keep Bishop-elect Curry in your prayers. Appointment as a bishop is a call to service in a new and demanding way. Let us accompany him with our prayers as he prepares for his Episcopal Ordination.'

Bishop-elect Jim Curry, has been serving as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Victories in Kensington since 2008. The Episcopal Ordination will take place on Tuesday 18th June 2024 at 12 noon in Westminster Cathedral.

☒ ALLELUIA - HE IS RISEN ☒

HAPPY EASTERTIDE WELCOME TO MASS!

LITTLE CHURCH IS AT THE 10.30AM MASS. There are also Children's Mass sheets, Mass cards and Missals, especially for our children. Parents, please assist your little ones in learning the words of the Holy Mass. This will help them to grow in confidence and in faith.

LITTLE CHURCH - FOR OUR YOUNGSTERS

Have you ever seen a vine, where grapes come from? If not, you might have helped to look after some plants? You perhaps already know, that they need water and sunlight to grow. They also need the dead leaves or branches to be trimmed, to let good ones grow. This is what Jesus is telling us in today's Gospel – that all together we are like a plant in him.

Each of us is like a leaf or branch that is part of the big plant! God the Father looks after this plant (which we could also call the Church family): anyone who gets "cut off" from this plant won't be able to grow – this happens when we ignore or say "no" to God. So we should make sure we stay "connected to Jesus." How do we do this? By thinking about Jesus, by praying quietly every day to Jesus, by doing good things in Jesus' name, and by being God's children in what we think, what we say and what we do.

FHC MASS NEXT SATURDAY MORNING just a reminder to our parents and children that the First Holy Communion Mass begins promptly at 11.00am - please arrive in very good time, ready for a little practice. This is a wonderful celebration. Come prepared to sing well and pray hard. The usual 10.00am Mass will not take place but the weekend Masses are as usual. We are praying for you all in this happy Eastertide.

FOR YOUR DIARIES: Saturday Night is Music Night Saturday 22nd June 7.30pm. Please come and support this social/fund raising event in aid of the refurbishment of the hall fund. There will be musicians and singers from SJF Parish performing songs including pop/rock music, country & western, folk and Irish. More details will follow in future newsletters. Watch this space!

REPOSITORY SHOP: We now have new stock of First Holy Communion cards, Confirmation cards and Mass intention cards. Please do have a look. Apologies, but we have had to increase the price of all our cards to £1.20. We hope that you will still find this competitive, compared to other places. Thanks for supporting your church.

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, LONDON, is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, in Norfolk on Saturday 1st June 2024 from 11 am to 4:30pm. The Recollection Day will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Stations of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Please call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria

HOLY CONFIRMATION - CLASS OF 2024 HAS BEGUN. Please pray for our Confirmandi and catechists. If you are interested in their course - you can see some information on the Confirmation Notice Board at the back of the church next to the confessional box. A reminder to our Confirmandi - your next Thursday meeting is in the church at 7.00pm, due to the hall being used as an election Polling station.

FOOD BANK DROP OFF: Thank you if you have been dropping off food donations. You are extraordinarily generous to local people in need.

GIFT AID WEEKENDS 11th/12th May and 18th/19th May Firstly, many thanks to all of you for your generosity in giving financially to our Parish. 'Gift Aid' is a Government scheme that allows the Parish to reclaim tax on donations made by UK tax-payers. It effectively adds 25 pence to every Pound that you give (at no extra cost to yourself). If you are a UK tax-payer, all you need to do is complete a simple form, saying that you are a UK tax-payer, and that the total tax you pay is more than the amount the parish will reclaim on your donations. Last year 2022/23 our main gift aid claim-back was £8,555.36 This is free money from the government for St John Fisher Church. If this is something you could consider doing, or if you would like to know more details, there will be parishioners in the porch over the above weekends, who will be more than happy to talk to you about Gift Aid.

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

TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK

Weekend collections: £289.58

Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online averaged £844.08p per week during March. Our weekend loose offertory collection is also important and continues for those who do not have a bank standing order or who do not use the card machine. Whatever way you support our continuing work here at SJF, thank you. We seriously couldn't do all we do, without your support.

CAN YOU SPONSOR THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP?

There are still spaces available to book intentions/sponsors for the candle lamp burning next to the Holy Tabernacle for the current year. If you would like to sponsor the Blessed Sacrament Lamp, the cost is just £5 for a whole week. Just let us know your preferred week and your intention in the office. Additionally, if you would like a Mass offered for your own intentions, or for the repose of the soul, or for a birthday or in thanksgiving, the diocesan guideline is £10 or whatever you can afford. All your offerings directly support SJF.

SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

First Holy Communion Mass: Sat 4th May at 11am

The Ascension of the Lord : Thurs 9th May:

Masses at 9.30am & 7.00pm

Pentecost Sunday: 19th May: 6.00pm Saturday

Vigil Mass and 8.30am & 10.30am on Sunday

Holy Confirmation Mass: Thurs 13th June: 7.00pm

REFRESHMENTS ARE AVAILABLE after the 10.30am Sunday Mass - in the church hall. You will be most welcome. The hall for refreshments and access to the toilets is via the outside door, along the side of the church.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 19TH - 26TH JULY

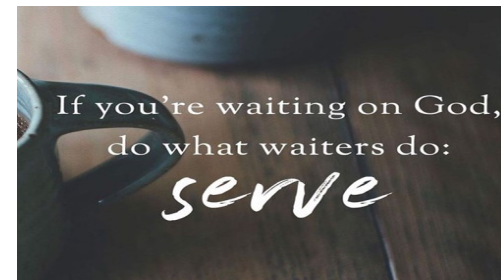
Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798

9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available. There are also many volunteering opportunities. Please apply by 30th April.

IT'S A KINDNESS when Mass has ended to ensure that your seat area is left clean and tidy, ready for other parishioners coming to the next Mass. It's particularly helpful to lift the kneelers so they are not walked on and so others can get in and out of the benches easily. A waste bin is available for any rubbish at the entrance. Thank you for helping to look after our lovely Church, you are brilliant!

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 (capture it on your mobile phone) or call direct on 0203 488 3470 or just turn up.



THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY

is sponsored this week for
Jim and Edie Farrell RIP.

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Christopher Robert Wylde RIP

Fr John Warnaby RIP

Fr Michael Daley RIP

Terence Birchall RIP

ANNIVERSARIES THIS APRIL

Margaret Ward, Maurice Ward,

Leila Waterhouse, Edward Reilly,

Christopher Romer, Winifred Smith,

Maureen Keady, William Walsh, Ted Jones,

Anna Semkowicz-Holt, Cecilia Grose,

Fr Anton Cowan, Catherine Monica Clarkin,

Jeffrey Cowen.

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD