

THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✘ 05 May	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am 10.30am	For Maureen Bernardinis RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For Jim and Edie Farrell RIP
Mon 06 May	Easter Feria Bank Holiday	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 07 May	Easter Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Wed 08 May	Easter Feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary follows Mass	For Kathleen McGuinness RIP
Thurs ✘ 09 May	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)	Mass at 9.30am Mass at 7.00pm Confirmation course - 7.30pm start this week due to Mass	For Eileen Rowntree RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Fri 10 May	Easter Feria	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass	For Patrick Mulvany RIP
Sat 11 May	Easter Feria	Mass at 10.00am	For Mark Callanan - undergoing medical treatment
Sun ✘ 12 May	7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass	For Dave Joslyn RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For Sheelagh Horne & Tim Aherne 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

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:
6th Week of Easter
Divine Office:
Easter 6

ST JOHN FISHER
CATHOLIC CHURCH



Sunday 5th May 2024
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Weekly Newsletter



On recent Sundays we have been exploring our relationship with the risen Lord Jesus – we have seen ourselves as sheep of his flock and branches of his vine. But today he presents to us a wonderful new image and title – we are his friends. The friendship of Jesus is a gift that we cannot overvalue: like true friends he wants to be close to us, to share our lives, our worries and our celebrations. He wants to help us when we need help. The friendship of Jesus explains the cross – no one could have greater love than to put themselves in the place of a friend facing danger or death. Jesus does this for us. How do we respond to the friendship of Jesus? By simply doing what he asks of us - by following his teaching and keeping his commandments.

FOR OUR LITTLE CHURCH YOUNGSTERS

It's great to have friends! They listen to us, and help us, and stick up for us, and do things for us when we are struggling. This is what Jesus wants to do for you and for me! To be our friend. If someone wants to be your friend you have to let them – we choose our friends. So we have to say "yes" to the friendship of Jesus, and let him into our lives. We do this by thinking about him, praying and by being kind. This is the start of our friendship with Jesus.

✘ ALLELUIA - HE IS RISEN ✘

**WELCOME TO MASS AT SJF
IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU WITH US
IN MARY'S MONTH OF MAY**

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FHC CHILDREN who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday, this weekend, 15 youngsters including 4 older children. Enormous thanks to Jean and Pir, and to Christine and Angela (Sacramental Programme for older children), our wonderful catechists who prepared our youngsters. FHC certificates to commemorate this wonderful achievement will be awarded to our young people next weekend. Please continue to keep our children in your prayers in this joyful Eastertide.

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.

THE MONTH OF MAY: As is the custom, our church image of the Blessed Virgin Mary, will be crowned with flowers during the opening hymn at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday. May is a special month for honouring the Blessed Virgin Mary and the tradition of crowning her during this time has deep roots in Catholic devotion, dating back to ancient times. Mary, the Mother of God, holds a special place in Christian devotion. May our Blessed Mother pray for us and for all whom we love.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD is this coming Thursday, 9th May. Masses here will be at 9.30am and 7.00pm. On this holy day of obligation, please do your very best to attend Mass, wherever you may be. I will also be celebrating Mass at St Paul's College at 1.15pm on Thursday. Fr Shaun

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!

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.

REPOSITORY SHOP: We now have new stock of 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.

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.

PLEASE... ASK YOUR MP TO STOP ABORTION UP TO BIRTH BEING INTRODUCED. Diana Johnson and Stella Creasy have tabled amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill that would make extreme changes to our abortion laws. Both amendments would make it more likely that babies are aborted for any reason, up to birth. Please take action: To oppose the abortion up to birth amendments in Parliament. Email your MP via this link: www.righttolife.org.uk/uptobirth The letter is generated automatically for you but you can edit it if you wish. It takes about 30 seconds to do, but long enough to save a vulnerable life.

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.

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. Class starts at 7.30pm this Thursday, due to the Mass for The Ascension of the Lord, in 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. Saturday 1st June 2024 from 11 am to 4:30pm. All welcome. Please call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria

TOTAL COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK

Weekend collections: £297.83

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.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND — THANK YOU!

Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection. We raised £516.28p which is a wonderfully generous amount to forward to the Diocese. Please continue to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and to the Diaconate. Please pray also for those men who have offered themselves for formation and are in training at this time. The Diocese regularly hold events to foster men's vocations. If you think you might have a vocation, or just want to know more, please speak with Fr Shaun.

SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

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
The Most Holy Trinity: Sunday 26th May
Corpus Christi: Sunday 2nd June.
Holy Confirmation Mass: Thurs 13th June: 7.00pm
Ss John Fisher & Thomas More: Saturday 22nd June: Mass at 10.00am.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE VACANCY: St Paul's is one of the most successful schools in the country and our GCSE and 'A' level results are consistently in the top 10% nationally. We are seeking to appoint a highly motivated and enthusiastic teacher to join our RE Department. Application packs are available at: www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk/information/employment-opportunities. If you require further information regarding the role, please contact Mrs De Rosa at mderosa@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk.

APOLOGIES: there is no Mass here on Tuesday morning this coming week (7th May).

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
Lorna Troop for the repose of her soul.
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Dave Joslyn RIP
Christopher Robert Wylde RIP
Fr John Warnaby RIP
Terence Birchall RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS MAY
Fr John O'Sullivan, Ella Mary Butterworth,
Elsie Curley, Peter Johnson,
Alice (Nita) Manning, Mollie Pugh,
Jeanne Diekmann, Joe D'Souza, Tom Ray,
David Weathers, Bartley Keady, Dorothy Price,
Linzi Geddes, Joan King, Daphne Dodd,
Kitty Brett, Terry Quinn, Kathleen Johnson,
Clive Duveen, Maria Montante
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD