THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 08 Sept	**23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**6.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo for the people of the Parish For Philip Nash RIP For Pauline Fanti - 80th Birthday
Mon 09 Sept	Feria	**No Mass at SJF**	
Tue 10 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Frances Wesson RIP
Wed 11 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary follows Mass**	In thanksgiving for favours received
Thurs 12 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Jenny Wald RIP
Fri 13 Sept	St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor	Mass at 9.30am **Exposition & Benediction follows Mass**	For David Andrews RIP
Sat 14 Sept	THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	Mass at 10.00am	For Lucian Farcasi RIP (3rd anniversary)
Sun ✠ 15 Sept	**24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**6.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Elsbeth Paul – a birthday thanksgiving Pro Populo for the people of the Parish *This Mass is available for your intentions*

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 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
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Parish Safeguarding: Mandy Howick (until appointment is made) 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 Year 2 - Wk 23
Divine Office Wk 3

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 8th September 2024
23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Weekly Newsletter



What shows us the presence of God? In the Biblical world it was miracles - signs, which pointed towards the emergence of a new kingdom, the Kingdom of God. This had been prophesied from of old: it was said that One would come, and also that certain things would be associated with this Messiah which would display the perfection of the Kingdom God wanted to establish.

Jesus, in both his preaching and his miracles, proclaims that the Kingdom of God is at hand, in his own person. He fulfils the prophecies of the past, as he displays to the people of his own time, and to us, the nature of God's Kingdom: in it, all, diseases and afflictions are abolished: so opening the man's ears tells us two things: first that Jesus is God, present in our midst, and secondly that he calls us into a Kingdom where all is perfect.

Lord, open our ears to hear your voice
and our hearts to receive your healing.
Help us to treat everyone with love and respect.
Guide us to live out our faith in all that we do.
Amen.

WELCOME TO MASS AT SJF
IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU WITH US

ALL REGULAR MASSES AT SJF are live streamed via *YouTube* for those who are incapacitated by ill health, or away and want to keep up to date with SJF. Just go to *You Tube* and type in the search box:' St John Fisher Shepperton' And of course, we always look forward to seeing you at Mass in person.

SAT EVE VIGIL MASS AT 6.00PM: If you attended the Saturday evening Vigil Mass last weekend you will have heard me raising the possibility of moving the 6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass back one hour to start at 5.00pm. This option would allow for other clergy nearby, in the Deanery to cover the Mass here in my absence but also enable me to cover Masses on Saturday evening for neighbouring parishes. Currently most Masses locally have similar start times which prevents priests covering Masses elsewhere. The lack of available clergy to offer Mass cover across the diocese and the high costs are increasingly difficult to meet. If you attend the 6.00pm Mass, please let me know what you think to the possibility of an earlier start. If we do decide to change the start time, this would not begin until the clocks move back one hour to Greenwich Mean Time, in October. Please let me know your thoughts so that we can arrive a decision together. Thank you to those parishioners who have already emailed or spoken to me so far. Fr Shaun

WATCH OUT FOR THE POSTIE: We have sent out letters this past week to parishioners who usually Gift-Aid their weekly donations to the Church. Your Gift Aid has helped us to reclaim £9,332.00 from the Inland Revenue for the tax year ending April 2024, without any cost to you, so thank you, you are brilliant! Because of data protection, we send most of the letters out via Royal Mail. This is because we are no longer permitted to simply put letters at the back of the church for parishioners to collect.

CONGRATULATIONS to baby Lily Isabelle Shanks and baby Phoebe Rae Harmer, both of whom received the wonderful Sacrament of holy Baptism this weekend. We pray for them and for their families at this blessed time.

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 including the requirement for Catholic godparents are available from the church porch table.

WELCOME BACK LITTLE CHURCH! We hope you have had a good summer break. Do please encourage your children to attend Little Church at the 10.30am Sunday Mass. And when the children return to the church during the 'offertory' encourage them to use the Children's Mass sheets, Mass cards and Missals, which are available for our youngsters from the back of the church. They are especially for them.

YOU ARE REALLY HELPING: Thank you for bringing in non perishable food for our FOOD BANK BOX, by the church entrance. Your contributions are going to local people who need some extra support.

CAR PARK UPDATE Thank you for the good number of offers of help to clear the car park of weeds. For anyone who may be available to help, please come to the car park and join Fr Shaun at 11.00am next Saturday morning, 14th September It should take no more than an hour. Please bring some gardening gloves if you have them… there are some gigantic nettles!

IT'S ALL IN THE NUMBERS: if you like number crunching, our diocesan finance team have kindly produced some information for you to view on Income and Expenditure at SJF for last year (2023). This information was taken from the Financial Statement we submitted to the Diocese previously. You can see the information displayed on the noticeboard by the church entrance.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
is sponsored this week,
in memory of Gertrude Mulvany RIP
Eternal rest grant to her O Lord

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Gil Lincoln RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS SEPTEMBER
Fred Manning, Christina Maksymiuw, Clive Ross, Winifred Sissons, Claude Ross, Michael O' Reilly, Sheila Thompson, Thomas Smith, Robert Blues, John Maloney, Fr John B Elliott, Dorothy Ormes
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD

LOOKING AHEAD: Usually in January we begin the First Holy Communion Programme for our children. This year, having guided our children with great kindness and care over many years, Jean and Pir stepped down from teaching. I made a request in preparation a year ago for new catechists but without success. So we are now in a tight situation. If you are a parent of a child who has made their FHC, you will know how important our catechists are and how important our FHC programme is. Could you consider becoming a catechist/teacher yourself? We need two people parents or otherwise. If you would like to know more, please come and have a chat. We can offer you bags of support and encouragement. Thank you. Fr Shaun

EUCHARISTIC FESTIVAL Saturday 14th September, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Cardinal Nichols invites everyone to a Eucharistic Festival in the Cathedral, starting with Mass at 12:30pm and finishing around 4pm. The afternoon will include Adoration, Rosary, Confessions and a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as homilies from Fr Alan Robinson, Rector of the Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament. A relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis, whose Canonisation has recently been announced, will also be present.

COULD YOU BE A PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE? The diocese will provide a thorough training programme, so you will be well supported and DBS paperwork is administered via our parish office so administration is much less. If you are interested in knowing more please chat with Fr Shaun.

REFRESHMENTS are available after the 10.30am Sunday Mass - in the church hall. You will be most welcome. The hall & access to the toilets is via the outside door, along the side of the church.

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.

HAVE A MASS OFFERED FOR YOUR INTENTIONS: To request a Mass intention, in thanksgiving, for a birthday, wedding anniversary, for someone who is ill or who has died, please contact Mandy in the office. (Wednesday and Thursday mornings). The diocesan recommendation for your offering is £10 or whatever you can afford. It's helpful, if you are making a written request with an envelope posted or given to Fr Shaun at Mass, please add your name and contact details so we can advise when the Mass will be offered.

COLLECTIONS AT MASSES LAST WEEK Our parish relies only on the support of its members. So weekend loose money offertory collection is really important and continues for those who do not use a bank standing order, use the card machine or make your offering on-line. Please assist the collectors, by passing the collection bags down the bench (pew) when handed to you. SJF is self supporting, with no other assistance from the Diocese (or government except for Gift Aid). Your kind donations support absolutely everything we do, so whatever way you support the good works here at SJF, thank you. We seriously couldn't do all we do, without you. Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £234.74. Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online averaged £1,025.83 per week during July. As always - you are brilliant!

LATINO EXTRAVAGANZA: St Michael's (Ashford) are holding a Latino Party Extravaganza on 14th September 7.00-11.00pm. There will be Latino music, food and dance plus a raffle and bingo! Tickets: £15 per adult, kids 6-11 years £5. For tickets please call St Michael's Parish Church on 01784 252230 or Rome De Cruz on 07801 979959. A poster with more information can be found at the church entrance.

