THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 08 Dec	**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Aimee Diekmann RIP (anniversary) For Margaret Bigwood RIP
Mon 09 Dec	**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BVM**	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 10 Dec	Advent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Owen Lee RIP
Wed 11 Dec	Advent Feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary follows Mass	For Mandy Mollentze RIP
Thurs 12 Dec	Advent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Sylvaine Emily Chouard RIP
Fri 13 Dec	St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr	Apologies no Mass at SJF today	
Sat 14 Dec	St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church	Apologies no Morning Mass at SJF today	
Sun ✠ 15 Dec	**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Ainsley Godfrey RIP (4th Anniversary) Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Pauline Lynch RIP (Birthday)

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 4.15pm - 4.45pm or by arrangement.
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**
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: 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/

ST JOHN FISHER SHEPPERTON

Sunday 8th December 2024
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Weekly Newsletter

Sunday cycle
Readings Year C
Weekday Readings
Advent 2
Divine Office Wk 2

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH



First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

The prophet is filled with hope and joy as he assures the Israelites in exile that God will bring them back to the holy city of Jerusalem. They are suffering very much because they are far from their homeland. But their return will be such a joyful event that even the mountains, the valleys, and the forests will do what they can to make the journey easier

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

St Paul makes two things clear. The first is his great love and affection for the Philippians, who have helped him in his ministry. The second is his hope that they will continue to become more and more like Christ. Paul is looking forward to the Second Coming of Christ and he wants to make sure that all Christ's followers will be ready to receive him when he comes.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

St Luke wants us to realize that John, chosen by God, is much more important than any worldly ruler, because he is the herald who announces the Lord's coming. John urges the people to be baptized as a sign of their repentance for their sins. When they do this, they will make the path straight for Christ to come into their lives. Then all flesh "shall see the salvation of God."

WELCOME TO MASS AT SJF
IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU WITH US AS WE CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF ADVENT

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' But as always, we look forward to seeing you in person.

MANDY MOLLENTZE RIP: You may have heard through the grapevine that dear Mandy (Amanda), a faithful servant of the Lord, has died. Mandy was, up until her illness, a daily Mass attender here. We await details for her Funeral Mass at SJF. Please pray for Mandy's soul and keep Antoinette and the family in your prayers at this difficult time. "Go forth Christian soul, inherit the kingdom prepared for you, since the foundation of the world." Amen.

POPPY APPEAL THANKS: Thank you for your support for the Poppy Appeal. SJF raised £95.37p for the appeal. The total amount raised locally was approximately £6505.00p Thank you to all concerned and special thanks to Bernard Troop, who makes it all happen, year by year, so seamlessly.

CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE GREENO CENTRE: The Community Christmas Day Lunch is back again, its 34th Year. Thank you for your continuing support. The annual Pledge Board for vegetables, tombola and monetary donations is at the back of the church. We appreciate anything that you can contribute - please sign up if you possibly can.

A CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING (for use at home)
Lord God, we praise you for the light of creation – sun, moon and stars; we praise you for the light of Israel – Law, Prophets and Scripture; we praise you for Jesus Christ our everlasting light. As we light our tree, may our hearts be filled with joy, and may all who delight in this tree be brought to the light of knowledge and the joy of Salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANK YOU to an anonymous parishioner who kindly covered the cost of our Christmas Advertisement in *Shepperton Matters*. If you happen to have a copy, it's on page 26.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY: Sunday 15th December at the 10.30am Mass. Families are invited to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their Christmas Cribs at home, to be blessed here.

IT HAS BEEN RATHER BUSY…

BEETLE DRIVE THANKS: We had enormous fun at the Beetle Drive last week - something certainly to be repeated in the future. The event raised £817.48 for the Hall Reno.' Many thanks if you came and supported the evening and special thanks to Jill Fortune and the fundraising team who planned the event - it was excellent.

MUSIC EVENING THANKS: The Music Evening which took place in November was another great evening in aid of the Hall Reno'. The *Name That Tune* quiz during the evening, took us back to our younger years. Many thanks to our great musicians and singers, and particular thanks to Chris Smyth who organised the evening raising £345. Thank you all.

LAST WEEKEND TO BUY YOUR TICKETS: for the Christmas Prize Draw 1st Prize, Harrods Hamper, 2nd Prize, Daines & Gray turkey (or other meats up to the value of £100). 3rd Prize, bottle of vintage port. A bonus 4th Prize, of a computer games package. Tickets are £5 for a book of five or £1 each, available at the end of all Masses. Counterfoils and monies should be returned to the office PLEASE by **Sat 14th Dec latest**, to be included in the Prize Draw. All proceeds will go towards the hall renovation. Thank you to our sellers, buyers and prize givers.



'THE BIG BEANZ CHALLENGE' took place last weekend and was great fun. You can see the film on the link below or scan the QR code. Just scroll down to the Live Stream button to view. To all who donated to the challenge, thank you for your support. The current total stands at around £2,705.00 Thank you, this is brilliant! It's still possible to make a donation online if you would like. Thank you to Keiron who compered, to the ten bean bucket throwers, to Aidan and Paul for the filming technology and to Gerry for ensuring we didn't cover the whole of the hall in baked beans! Fr Shaun's Big Beanz Challenge – Roman Catholic Parish of Shepperton

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025: Registration forms are now available for children who worship at SJF. Closing date for registration is Christmas Eve. The programme starts Tuesday 14th January 2025 with a duration of 14 weeks. Attendance every week and at Mass should be the priority over other activities. The First Reconciliation (confession) will take place in church on Saturday 8th March at 12.00noon. The First Holy Communion Mass will be on Saturday 10th May at 11.00am. It's important to ensure our children begin at the same level. Children should know therefore how to make the sign of the cross, know by heart, the Our Father (Lord's Prayer) and know the Hail Mary before classes begin.

FINAL CALL FOR TOMBOLA ITEMS PLEASE: The Lourdes team have booked their stall for the Big Tree Night on the 11th Dec and are looking forward to getting festive with the rest of the Shepperton community. Please leave your tombola items in the porch box marked "Lourdes". Thank you for your generosity.

LOURDES GROUP: CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT Come and join us on Friday 13th December at 7.00pm in the Church Hall for a Christmassy evening of live music and festive readings. Enjoy a complimentary glass of mulled wine and some delicious canapes and soak up the Christmas cheer. This heart-warming event is open to all, so please invite your friends and family. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for children…. We may even have a special visitor and a few surprises in store. For tickets contact Katrina on 07921 409402 or email at katrinalavery80@gmail.com.

LAST WEEKEND the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £254.21 Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online throughout October averaged £988.96 As always, thank you.

LITTLE CHURCH! Do please encourage your children to attend Little Church at the 10.30am Sunday Mass (maybe even go along with them).

REFRESHMENTS are available as usual in the hall after the Sunday 10.30am Mass.



THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
is sponsored this week for the repose of the soul of Patrick Farrell RIP

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
FOR MANDY MOLLENTZE RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS DECEMBER
Lynn-Marie Szczelkun, Herbert Bishop, James Loftus, Dominic Dyer, Alice Cane, Maurice Dodd, Robert Tams, Terry Ryan, Francis Curley, Lillian Maloney, John Cunningham, Sheila Barrett, Daniel Hodgson, Wilbert West-Watson, Alan South, Marina Schwartz, John Byrne, Sheila Passey, Mary McCarthy, Denis Miranda, Lorna Troop, Reg Day, Fr Dominic Byrne, Gavin Boyle, Patrick Cronin, Maureen Greta Pearce, Margaret Bigwood.
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD