THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 29 Dec	**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass**	For Denis Miranda RIP Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Vincent O'Toole RIP
Mon 30 Dec	6th Day in the Octave of Christmas	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 31 Dec	7th Day in the Octave of Christmas	Mass at 9.30am	For Reg Day RIP
Wed 01 Jan 2025	**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**	**MASS AT 12.00 NOON**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish
Thurs 02 Jan	St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen	No Mass at SJF	
Fri 03 Jan	Christmas Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Sat 04 Jan	Christmas Feria	Mass at 10.00am	Praying for healing for Francis and Orlando and for their families at this time.
Sun ✠ 05 Jan	**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass**	For Alice Cane RIP anniversary Pro populo - for the people of our parish For the Semple Family - in thanksgiving

Holy Rosary Prayers: on Wednesdays following 9.30am Mass
Exposition and Benediction is usually 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
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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

ST JOHN FISHER · SHEPPERTON ·

Sunday cycle Readings Year C
Weekday Readings Christmas

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Sunday 29th December 2024
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
- Weekly Newsletter -



Jesus, Mary and Joseph are presented in this weekend's Gospel as a faithful Jewish family. They are participating in the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, an event shared each year with family and friends. When Jesus is found, Luke describes him as seated in the Temple in the midst of the Jewish teachers. Although he is young, Jesus seems not to need any teaching about his Jewish tradition. In his dialogue with these learned teachers, Jesus astounds them with his insight and understanding. Jesus is a child of Israel. His Father is God.

May the birth of the Saviour bring joy to your hearts and peace to your lives, now and for 2025

WELCOME to St John Fisher, Shepperton. This newsletter gives some information for the week ahead. If you are new to SJF church, or if you happen to be visiting, or you are a returning Catholic after some time away, you are very welcome. It's good to have you with us. All Masses here are live streamed, offering a valuable link for those who are incapacitated and unable to get to Mass. If you are unwell, just go to *You Tube* and type in the search box: 'St John Fisher Shepperton'. But as always we enjoy having you with us here in person.

HAVE YOU SPOTTED? … the Papal flag has been raised in celebration of the birth of the Saviour. Merry Christmas to you all.

THANK YOU… to the dedicated army of angels who have been preparing the church for us all to enjoy this Christmas. Thank you to our sacristans, cleaners, laundry ladies, flower arrangers, church decorators, tree arrangers, festoon light hangers. Thank you also to our musicians and singers and altar servers. Even in the busyness of your own home preparations, you have made time for the Lord and his Church. You are all wonderful!

THANK YOU for the many Christmas cards and gifts received from parishioners over the past days. Your kind words in cards and generosity are very humbling. Thank you. As I approach my sixth anniversary in January as your Parish Priest, I am blessed by such kindness.

GREAT NEWS: Our hall renovation will get underway on 17th February for 14 weeks. There will be some mobilisation of the contractor in the car park beforehand. We understand that parking will remain available for parishioners, with a space cordoned off for the contractors. We will have more information following a pre-start meeting at the end of January.

IMPORTANT ROTAS! Over the forthcoming Christmastide, if you are signed up for the ministry of reading or are an extraordinary minister of the eucharist thank you! If however you are unable to make your commitment, please do swap with another on the rota and let us know, so that we don't have gaps at this extra busy time of the year. Thank you.

AND THE CHRISTMAS PRIZE DRAW WINNERS ARE… 1st Prize - number 00440 - Nikki C.G
2nd Prize - number 001521 - Fred & Mary G
3rd prize - number 00362 - Berangere B
4th prize - number 001181 - Christine P
Congratulations to our winners and to all who supported the Prize Draw, through the buying or selling of tickets, to those who generously donated our prizes and to Jill who manged it all on our behalf. The Prize Draw raised a whopping £1,453.00 for our Hall Renovation. Thank you all!

THE WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK for 2025 is now available in the Repository, priced £5.50

REFRESHMENTS are available as usual in the hall after the Sunday 10.30am Mass. Come and join us.

MANDY MOLLENTZE RIP: The Funeral Mass for the repose of the soul of Mandy will take place on Friday 24th January at 11.30am. Please do pray for Mandy and keep Antoinette and the family in your prayers at this difficult time.

LITTLE CHURCH IS ON HOLIDAY… but will return on Sunday 5th January for The Epiphany of the Lord and the arrival of the three Kings! Have a great Christmas and remember to keep on saying your prayers to Jesus who loves you very much!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025: Registration has now closed, just a reminder to parents to ensure children know 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. This will ensure that all our children begin their preparation for FHC at the same level.

ST RICHARD REYNOLDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE VACANCY. The college is currently looking for a teacher of Religious Education. For more information, view our website. Please contact recruitment@srrcc.org.uk
or phone 0208325 4630 for more information.

BE FAMILIAR… with our church and church hall exit doors and routes. You may have been coming to SJF for many years or are at SJF for the first time. It's always a good idea to look around to see where your nearest exit route is, in the event that we ever need to evacuate our building at short notice. Thank you.

2025 JUBILEE YEAR Since 1300, when Boniface VIII initiated the first Holy Year, initially occurring every hundred years, then adjusted to every fifty years, and eventually settled at every twenty-five years, the celebration has been regarded by God's holy and faithful people as a unique grace. It is marked by the forgiveness of sins, notably through indulgence, which is a full expression of the mercy of God. Pope Francis has decided that the Jubilee of 2025 will have the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope'.
As resources are made available we will have more to share with you for the months ahead

FROM THE JUBILEE PRAYER Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. Amen

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.

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 requirements for Catholic godparents, are available from the church porch table.

PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE AND SWITCH ON TO THE LORD, AND SEE THE POSSIBILITIES, THE LORD HAS IN MIND FOR YOUR LIFE IN 2025

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD: MASS, NEW YEAR'S DAY AT 12.00 NOON



As we begin the New Year, we place ourselves under the protection of the Mother of God, who is also our mother. May she help us to keep and ponder all things, unafraid of trials, in the joyful certainty that the Lord is faithful and knows how to change crosses into resurrections. (Pope Francis)

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.

PARISH WEB: Our web site can be viewed here: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton or if reading online just click here: Roman Catholic Parish of Shepperton – Church of St John Fisher (rcdow.org.uk)

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

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
is sponsored this week for
Lorna Troop RIP

FINALLY, BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR