THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 26 Jan	**3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (OF THE WORD OF GOD)	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Margaret Tuck RIP For Shirley - a private intention
Mon 27 Jan	Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 28 Jan	St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church	Mass at 9.30am Finance Committee at 10.00am in the Sacristy	For all victims of the Holocaust
Wed 29 Jan	Feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary follows Mass	For Margareta Day RIP (Birthday)
Thurs 30 Jan	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Elaine
Fri 31 Jan	St John Bosco, Priest	Mass at 9.30am Exposition & Benediction follows Mass	For Tony Hill RIP
Sat 01 Feb	The Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	Mass at 10.00am	For Joe & Julie on their wedding anniversary in thanksgiving
Sun ✠ 02 Feb	**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Marie Mullen RIP Pro populo - for the people of our parish In thanksgiving for Lauryn, celebrating her 2nd birthday on Monday (3rd Feb)

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,

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/

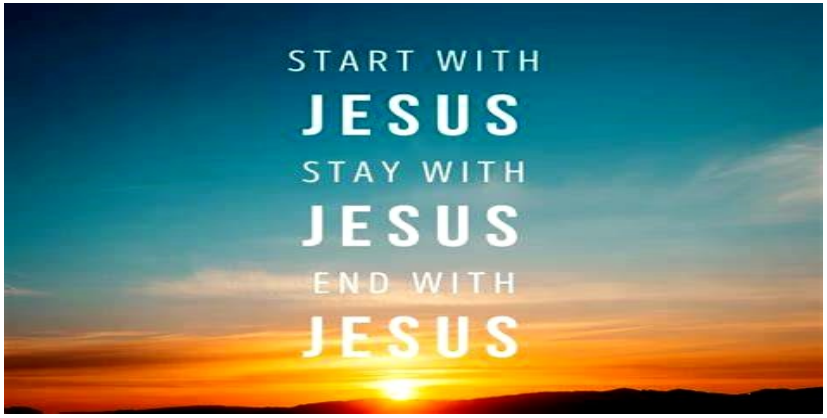
ST JOHN FISHER SHEPPERTON

Sunday cycle
Readings Year C
Weekday Year 1
Psalter Week 3

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Sunday 26th January 2025
3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
- Weekly Newsletter -



After our brief excursion last week into Saint John's Gospel, we are back on track this week with Saint Luke - who we will follow for the rest of the year. Today is about beginnings: the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. It begins with the Word of God, in the synagogue. Jesus reads from the Old Testament, as we do every Sunday, and tells the people that it is fulfilled in him. Everything that God has said to his people, through his prophets, comes together in Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God. Today is an ideal time to think about reading the Holy Scriptures in a new way. A Divine way. Try out this new, Divine way of reading the Holy Bible, you might be surprised by the results.

LECTIO DIVINA - DIVINE READING

Find a little time to be by yourself. Start by placing yourself in the presence of God by asking the Holy Spirit to open your mind.
Lectio: Read a scripture passage. Read it again, more slowly, noticing any word or phrase which stands out. Read it again if necessary.
Meditatio: Think about the word or phrase which stood out. If helpful, write your thoughts down.
Oratio: Listen to God. Is there a reason this word or phrase is significant to me right now? What emotions am I feeling?
Contemplatio: Is God calling me to do something? To be patient? To action in my community? To forgive someone? To ask for forgiveness? Now make a commitment to act on your contemplation.
Finish by thanking God for this time spent in prayer. Or close with a traditional prayer, such as an Our Father or a Glory Be.

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.

BURNS SUPPER NIGHT: Saturday 1st February in the Church Hall at 7.00pm. An evening not to be missed, good entertainment and a traditional two course Burns Night Supper with a whiskey toast included. Tickets on sale now £20.00 after each Sat Evening and Sunday Mass. This is a charity evening in aid of the SJF Lourdes Fund.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY: Mon 27th January is the day we remember the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, and the millions of people killed under Nazi Persecution, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. 27th January 2025 marks the 80th anniversary since the liberation of liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. On HMD, we all have a role to play to ensure that we learn the lessons of the past, to create a safer, better future.

NEXT SUNDAY THE CHURCH CELEBRATES THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, an ancient celebration also called Candlemas. On this day, candles are blessed in many parishes. These candles remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World. The feast is celebrated on February 2, forty days after Christmas. It recalls the day when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to present him to God. If you would like your own candles blessed , bring them along to Mass next weekend.

JOE DELAHUNTY RIP: The Funeral Service for the repose of Joe's soul will take place on Friday 7th February at 1.00pm. Please do pray for Joe and his family at this difficult time.

JUBILEE YEAR INFORMATION Make a Pilgrimage to a Sacred Jubilee Site. In our Diocese of Westminster, the following sites have been decreed as Jubilee Churches:

Westminster Cathedral
St Gregory the Great, South Ruislip
St Mary & St Joseph, Poplar
Corpus Christi, Covent Garden
The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden
Our Lady, Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK At 2.00pm on Saturday 8th February at Westminster Cathedral, the Cardinal will be celebrating the annual Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes, including Anointing of the Sick. This is a beautiful Mass attended by thousands each year from across the Diocese. If anyone is interested in attending, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the porch and we will be in touch with more details. The Cathedral is easy to reach via train, but we can organise transport for anyone who may struggle with public transport. Lourdes Group **Additionally**… If you would like to attend this Mass to be anointed, please order your tickets via Mandy in the Parish Office. Tickets are in three categories: Wheelchair users who require anointing; walking sick who require anointing; those assisting the sick, who do not require anointing. Please be clear in your request which ticket/s you would like Mandy to order for you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - CLASS OF 2025. Parents please ensure that your children complete their homework each week and do please take an interest in their workbooks. We greatly appreciate the work of our catechists who give their time voluntarily, assisting parents (the first educators), in teaching the faith to our youngsters.

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM SUNDAY MASS. We start in Church and the children go off to the hall for their own teaching. When the children return to the church 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

UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS A very Happy New Year from the Lourdes group. We just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone for their continuous support with the Lourdes Fundraising. We couldn't do it without you. We have a challenge this year to raise money without the use of the hall – we are going to have to get creative. So, if anyone has any unwanted Christmas gifts or leftover chocolates and bottles, please consider donating them to the Lourdes group – we are planning a massive tombola for the Shepperton Fair later this year. If you have any items to donate there will be a box in the porch for the next couple of weeks. Thank you again. Katrina.

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.

THE JUBILEE FOOD BANK WRITES: Dear Father Shaun, Please could you pass on our huge thanks to all for the kind Christmas donations and indeed your support throughout the year. We managed to pack and deliver 56 hampers to local families going through tough times. 2024 has been very busy.. We have supported 77 households over the year. More than half of these have children . Referrals have come from schools, social workers, housing associations , doctors etc. 780 food packages have been sent out in total, each one comprising fresh and cupboard food. This wouldn't be possible without the help of the local community, schools and churches. We feel blessed and encouraged to work together with you, as we show God's love in a practical way.
I hope you had a good Christmas. God bless you in the New Year.
Ruth and the team at Jubilee Church.

COLLECTIONS AT MASS: Loose giving in the plate last weekend was £214.44 Our weekend loose offertory collection continues for all who do not use a bank standing order or who do not use the card machine. December Online, Contactless and Standing Orders averaged £1,166.65 per week. Whatever way you support our work here at SJF, thankyou so much, we couldn't do it without you.

CONGRATULATIONS to baby Leo Douglas Thomas who received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this weekend. We pray for Baby Leo and give thanks to his parents for bringing him to the faith.
Deo Gratias - Thanks be to God

DATES FOR THE DIARY:
Next Sunday 2nd February: THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD: (Candlemas) usual Masses.
Wednesday 5th March: ASH WEDNESDAY: Masses at 9.30am & 7.00pm — Lent begins
Saturday 8th March: First Reconciliation: 12.00 noon. (For First Holy Communion Children)
Sunday 9th March: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

HAVE A MASS OFFERED FOR YOUR INTENTIONS: It may be helpful to know that the Mass bookings for Sundays are booked up months in advance and therefore if you require a specific date in the year, you may want to consider speaking to Mandy in the office (Wednesday and Thursday mornings), asap. Weekday Masses are much easier to book. 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, to please add your name and contact details so we can advise when the Mass will be offered. We will do our very best to accommodate your preferred date.

ST RICHARD REYNOLDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE, TWICKENHAM VACANCIES: The college is currently looking for:
Teacher of Religious Education, Teacher of French
Teacher of PE (Girls) and Part-time Art Technician
For more information, view their website or contact recruitment@srrcc.org.uk
or phone 020 8325 4630.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
is sponsored this week for
Margaret Doherty

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
JOE DELAHUNTY RIP
FOR MANDY MOLLENTZE RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS JANUARY
Ellen Mary Walsh, Anne Atfield, John Gregson, Arthur Mitchell, Francis Kane, Charles Butterworth, Michael Thompson, Michael Tinsley, Margaret Anderson, Marina Schwartz, Mario Coppi, Margaret Walker, Marion Dollery, Robert Ekkel, Tony Hill, Frances Reynolds, Jarek Jedrzejowski.
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD