THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

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)
Mon 03 Feb	St Laurence, St Dunstan & St Theodore, Arch-bishops of Canterbury	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 04 Feb	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Francesco Mannini RIP
Wed 05 Feb	St Agatha, Virgin & Martyr	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary follows Mass	For Manus McIlhargey RIP
Thurs 06 Feb	St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	Mass at 9.30am	For Francis and Orlando - for improving health
Fri 07 Feb	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Funeral Service at 1.00pm**	For the Benefactors of our Hall renovation **For the repose of the soul of Joe Delahunty RIP**
Sat 08 Feb	The Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	Mass at 10.00am	For Elizabeth & George Killingbeck RIP
Sun ✠ 09 Feb	**5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Lucian Farcasi RIP (Birthday) Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Alan Cook RIP (1st anniversary)

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 4

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Sunday 2nd February 2025
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
CANDLEMAS
- Weekly Newsletter -



Welcome to Mass as we celebrate Candlemas. This is a significant feast in the Catholic Church, commemorating the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. This event, described in the Gospel of Luke (2:22-40), marks the moment when Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to fulfil the Jewish Law. According to the Law of Moses, every firstborn male was to be consecrated to the Lord, and a sacrifice was to be offered.

During this visit, they encountered Simeon, a righteous and devout man, who had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before seeing the Messiah. Upon seeing Jesus, Simeon took Him in his arms and praised God, proclaiming Jesus as the "A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel" (Luke 2:32). This proclamation is the basis for the tradition of blessing candles on this day, symbolizing Christ as the Light of the world.

In many Catholic communities, including ours, Candlemas is celebrated with the blessing of candles, emphasising the Light of Christ that dispels the darkness of sin and death. The light which we received at our Holy Baptism. It is a day of joy and reflection, inviting the faithful to renew their commitment to following Jesus Christ, who is the true Light of the world.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS to baby Emily Louise Rosemary who received the wonderful Sacrament of Holy Baptism this weekend. We pray for Baby Emily and we thank her parents, Alison and Thomas for bringing her to the faith. Deo Gratias, Thanks be to God.

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

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK At 2.00pm next 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, this is your last opportunity to reserve your tickets via the church 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 us to reserve for you. Thank you.

THANK YOU for your Christmas Crib offerings . These totalled £171.60 and have now been sent off to the Catholic Children's Society for the wonderfully good works which they do.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 17th May 2025 at 2:30pm. The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025 their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic Marriage. Please give our church office your details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email). We will then arrange for your invitations to be sent.

GOOD AT READING? We are looking out for more readers to join the rota to have the privilege of reading at the 8.30am Sunday morning Mass. We send out the readings to our readers in advance via email so you would have plenty of time to practise. If you are interested, please speak to Daphne our Sacristan or to Fr Shaun.

ARE YOU LOOKING TO FILL SOME TIME AND WANT SOMETHING TO DO? We are looking for a volunteer to help Traci, our Bookkeeper for a couple of hours, on a once in a while basis, to help shred old paperwork and other simple office tasks. If you are interested, and you are available on a Monday afternoon, please contact Traci directly, either at Mass, by phoning the office on a Monday afternoon or by direct email. Thank you: sheppertonbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk

JUBILEE YEAR INFORMATION Make a Pilgrimage to a Sacred Jubilee Site. 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

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

HALL RENO' The renovation will get underway with a complete strip out of electrics etc. on Monday 17th February for a 14 weeks build We will have more information next week.

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 £262.92 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.

PARISH WEB SITE: 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)

DATES FOR THE DIARY:
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.

IF YOU LIKE PIZZA , you'll love the Dough Shack. They are based directly outside the church every Wednesday and will cook your favourite pizza in minutes, whilst you wait. Give them a try. Their menu and prices can be found on the QR (Quick Reference) code above. Just scan it with your mobile phone.

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

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
JOE DELAHUNTY RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS FEBRUARY
Canon George Groves, Peter Madyslam, Sarah Sharratt, Fr Michael Groarke, Mary Pitfield Fr Ron Aylward, Bernard Bunce, Nora Harris, Raymond Restel, Anne Quinn, Terry Sharratt, Brenda Jones, Patrick Harris, Barbara Hughes, Stephen Marriage, Samuel William Elliott, Susan Jane Connerty-Smith, Alan Cook, Arthur "Ken" Johnson.
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD