THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

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)
Mon 10 Feb	St Scholastica, Virgin	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 11Feb	Our Lady of Lourdes World Day of the Sick	Mass at 9.30am	For Richard George Law RIP
Wed 12 Feb	Feria	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary follows Mass	For Stephen Marriage RIP (5th anniversary)
Thurs 13 Feb	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	
Fri 14 Feb	St Cyril, Monk & St Methodius, Bishop Patrons of Europe	Mass at 9.30am Exposition and Benediction follows Mass	For Imran Khan RIP and his family at this difficult time.
Sat 15 Feb	The Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	Mass at 10.00am	For Kevin Doyle RIP & Nuala Doyle RIP
Sun ✠ 16 Feb	**6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Margaret Hobbs RIP For Mandy Mollentze RIP

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
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 CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday cycle
Readings Year C
Weekday Year 1
Psalter Week 1

Sunday 9th February 2025
5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
- Weekly Newsletter -



In the first reading for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, the prophet Isaiah has a vision of God's holiness. He sees the Lord on a throne with angels around Him, singing praises. The scene is full of awe and majesty. This vision reminds us of God's greatness and the importance of honouring Him in our lives.

Isaiah's reaction to this vision is one of unworthiness. He feels unclean and inadequate before God. He says, "Woe is me! For I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips." This humility is crucial in our relationship with God. Recognizing our unworthiness helps us understand the need for God's forgiveness and mercy.

In the Gospel reading, Peter also feels unworthy. After witnessing the miraculous catch of fish, he falls at Jesus' knees and says, "Depart from me for I am a sinful man, O Lord." Peter's reaction is similar to Isaiah's, showing that encountering God's greatness often makes us aware of our own sins.

When we feel unworthy, we should remember that God still calls us. Isaiah and Peter were both chosen despite their feelings of inadequacy. God does not call the perfect; He perfects the called. Our response to God's holiness should be one of humility, repentance, and readiness to serve, just like Isaiah and Peter. What will your response be, to God's call to you?

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.

HALL RENO' The renovation will get underway with a complete strip out of electrics etc. on Monday 17th February for a 14 weeks build. Some of the existing chairs and tables will be replaced. If you are interested in some of the blue plastic chairs or the small square tables in the hall let us know in the office.

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN … Ash Wednesday falls on 5th March. From next week we shall be collecting your old Palm Crosses - for burning, ready to make the ash for Ash Wednesday. Do you have any palm crosses at home? Look out for the collection basket at the back of the church next week. Thank you.

KEEPING THE FAITH! Life is both busy and challenging. Our strength so often comes from our practice of the faith, but getting to Mass on Sundays, the Day of Resurrection, our Holy Day of Obligation can be difficult. If you can't make your usual Mass time, think about coming to one of the other Sunday Masses - we are fortunate to have three Masses to choose from: Sat Vigil for Sunday at 5.00pm, Sunday at 8.30am and Sunday at 10.30pm. It's great when you are here, but you are missed you when you are not.

A DAY WITH MARY is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 1st March (9.45am to 5.00pm). Further information is available at **https://www.adaywithmary.org/** or **https://eventcatholic.com/**

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.

WESTMINSTER WAY PILGRIM WALK
Available online are resources to walk the 'Westminster Way', including a Leader's Guide and Pilgrim Passport. This pathway takes pilgrims through Central London, in the steps of the saints as 'beacons of hope'. Starting at English Martyrs, Tower Hill and ending at Westminster Cathedral, pilgrims are invited to look closely at different expressions of sainthood and the saints who embody them. Find out more at https://rcdow.org.uk/jubilee-2025/westminster-way/.

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, they are especially for them

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.

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 is a box in the porch for the next few 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.

CANONISATION OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS The Diocese of Westminster welcomes very warmly the news that Blessed Carlo Acutis will be canonised by Pope Francis in Rome on 27th April. Blessed Carlo's bonds with Westminster run deep. Born at the Portland Clinic in 1991, he was baptised in Our Lady of Dolours, Fulham Road. His grandparents, Carlo Acutis and Maria Perlowska, were married in Westminster Cathedral in 1963.



Carlo used to describe the Eucharist as a 'highway to heaven'. 'The more we receive Jesus,' he used to say, ' the more we become like Jesus.' Carlo is an inspiration not only to the young but to all generations in his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. But the young have, quite rightly, a special claim on him. For he will be the first millennial saint to be canonised. He is of their generation and era. He was only fifteen when he died. A genius with the computer, he harnessed this new technology to the creation of a remarkable website which presents Eucharistic miracles from across the globe. There is something deeply fitting about Pope Francis' choice to canonise Carlo during the Jubilee of Teenagers next April, in St Peter's Square, Rome. Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us. **Please take home with you a Blessed Carlo Acutis Prayer Card** available now at the back of the church.

COLLECTIONS AT MASS: Loose giving in the plate last weekend was £240.79 Our weekend loose offertory collection continues for all who do not use a bank standing order or who do not use the card machine. 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

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 code above. Just scan it with your mobile phone.

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)

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

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
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