THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 16 Mar	**2ND SUNDAY OF LENT**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For young Francis Paul - in thanksgiving Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Patrick Cronin RIP
Mon 17 Mar	ST PATRICK, Bishop, Patron of Ireland	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 18 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Mary Alani RIP
Wed 19 Mar	**ST JOSEPH**, Spouse of the BVM Patron of the Diocese	Mass at 9.30am	For Daphne - with Birthday greetings
Thurs 20 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Fr Tom Quinn RIP (Birthday)
Fri 21 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm	For Carl Barton RIP
Sat 22 Mar	Lent Feria	Mass at 10.00am	For healing for Francis & Orlando
Sun ✠ 23 Mar	**3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Sir Thomas Pilkington RIP For Gavril Pista RIP (Birthday)

Holy Rosary Prayers: on Wednesdays following 9.30am Mass - suspended during refurbishment
Exposition and Benediction is usually on Friday morning - suspended during refurbishment
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 16th March 2025
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
Weekly Newsletter

Sunday cycle
Readings Year C
2nd Week of Lent
Psalter Week 2

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH



In the first reading, Abram is called by God to leave his home and kin and go to an unknown land. In an act of great trust, he obeys. He does not know what lies ahead, but he walks in faith. We must also walk in faith, especially during our Lenten journey. His faith is a result of his encounter with God.



In the Transfiguration of the Lord, Peter, James and John also encounter God. They experience the divine presence in the transformed Jesus Christ. "The appearance of his face was altered and his clothing became dazzling white" are a reference back to Moses' appearance after receiving the Ten Commandments.

The Transfiguration of the Lord also foreshadows his Resurrection. In his appearance to Mary of Magdala at the tomb, he also had bright white clothes. And clearly something was significantly different about his appearance, for Mary not to recognize him.

WELCOME to SJF in this Holy Season of Lent. It's good to have you with us. Lent is a season of fasting, praying and giving. The Church moves into a different mood, with the hanging of purple banners and a change in the Gospel Acclamation. We save the *Alleluia*, the *Gloria*, the flowers and brighter vestments for the celebrations at Easter.

CAFOD THANKS: Thank you to all who took part in the Family Fast Day, last Friday. Donation envelopes are at the back of the church to support this worthwhile Catholic Charity. Please deposit your donations in the **Grey bucket** at the back of the church. Thank you to all who have supported this so far.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are a lovely Lenten tradition. In this devotion, we make the journey to Calvary with our Lord Jesus, focusing on how he suffered for us and his interactions with those he met on the way. The Stations are in church on each Friday of Lent at 7.00pm If you are looking for something different to do this Lent, come and join us in this quiet meditative encounter with the Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR HOLY FATHER, POPE FRANCIS, as he continues with his treatment for bilateral pneumonia at Rome's Gemelli Hospital. Pope Francis has expressed his deep appreciation for the prayers rising from the hearts of the faithful across the world. "I feel all your affection and closeness, and at this particular time, I feel as if I am 'carried' and supported by all God's people. Thank you all!"

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM SUNDAY MASS is currently suspended until after the hall refurbishment works have been completed. Please encourage your children to use the Children's Mass sheets, Mass cards and Missals during the Mass. Thank you.

ALL MASSES are live streamed at SJF, 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 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. Thank you.

FCAP - FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL. A group of Christians working within aviation who want to meet others in the industry to encourage one another in faith. Meetings are initially on Zoom on 17th March, 22nd April, 8th May, 24th June and 11th July. FCAP leaders are: Ben: benfcap@gmail.com or Adrian: adrianfcap@gmail.com. They look forward to hearing from you .

HEAR THE REPAIR CAFÉ at St Margaret's Parish, Twickenham, talk about how their volunteers offer a warm welcome with a cuppa, whilst they repair items, from electrical appliances to bikes and cuddly toys. Monday 24th March, 7.00pm to 8.00pm (online). Caritas Westminster are hosting this event, under the umbrella, Care in Creation and it is open to anyone interested in finding out more. To join online phone 07803 634240 or email for further info': stephencurran@rcdow.org.uk Could we run a Repair Café here at SJF? Would you be interested in helping to set one up in this Jubilee Year?

COLLECTIONS AT MASS: Loose giving in the plate last weekend was £305.46 Our weekend loose offertory collection continues for all who do not use a bank standing order or who do not use the card machine. This February, total collections, including Standing Orders and card machine giving totalled £857.08 weekly. Whatever way you support our work here at SJF, thankyou so much, we couldn't do it without you.

DATES FOR THE DIARY:
Sunday 13th April: PALM SUNDAY
Thursday 17th April: MAUNDY THURSDAY
Friday 18th April: GOOD FRIDAY
Sunday 20th April: EASTER SUNDAY

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

ARE YOU INTERESTED… in becoming our new Caritas Parish Representative? If you have a heart for social action and are interested in becoming the bridge between the Diocese and St John Fisher Parish, please speak to Fr Shaun. Maybe you have helped with our Food Bank collections or our Warm Hub? Interested? Curious to know more?

A MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS will be celebrated in Westminster Cathedral by Bishop Paul McAleenan on Saturday 5th April at 2.00pm. This Mass welcomes parents and families who continue to suffer the grief and sorrow of the death of their child, and who might find some comfort in attending.

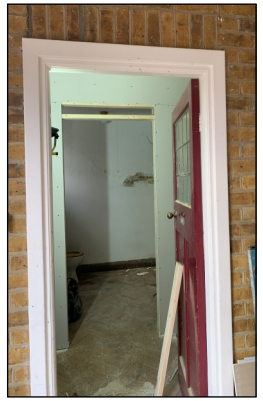
ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY at Westminster Cathedral, Sat 17th May at 2:30pm. The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025 their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic Marriage. Please give our church office 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.

STROKE AWARENESS SEMINAR: at The Burlington, 68 Manygate Lane, Shepperton, Tuesday, 8th April**,** from 11:00 to 12:00**.** Seminar Highlights: Understanding Stroke, FAST Test, Stroke Prevention, Impact of Stroke, Supporting Stroke Survivors. Stay informed and gain knowledge on stroke from the Stroke Association. Places are limited but free. Please call Kirsty Ford, Admissions Manager: 01932 220338.

OUR CHURCH EXTERNAL NOTICEBOARDS for both the hall and the church are looking very weathered and also require updating. We are looking at costs for renewal but good hand sign writers are in great demand. Do you know of a sign writer? Please let us know in the office. This would be really helpful. Thank you.

THE HALL RENO' CONTINUES. The new sacristy stud wall is in place (see photo) and has now been plaster boarded creating the new sacristy space and hallway. Progress is being made with the new heating system, benefiting both the hall and the church. The new space for the accessible toilet has been created from the old men's toilet area expanding out toward the hall entrance area (see photo). Please continue to keep the renovation and our contractors in your prayers as they continue to make progress. Many thanks.





Without prayer, fasting is just dieting.
Without prayer, almsgiving is just social work.
Prayer connects us with our loving God

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
is sponsored this week for Velcy Fernandes, for a speedy recovery

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
ANNIVERSARIES THIS MARCH
Denis Ryan, E.J. Cane, Kathleen Sweet, Rose Ryan, Fr Charles Connor, John Ohlson, Victoria Roberts, Patricia Macklin, Mary O'Sullivan, James O'Sullivan, Lynn Guevara, Maureen Mitchell, Eileen Tams, Helen Bool, Brian Duffy, Matthew Sawyer, Jane Bermingham, C.V. Pepper, Mary Cotter, Joy McQuade.
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD