THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 06 April	**5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish For Chrissie Conlon RIP For Nechama Argent RIP
Mon 07 April	Lent Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 08 April	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Mandy's friend - for support and guidance through treatment
Wed 09 April	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Noreen & Joan O'Connell RIP
Thurs 10 April	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Pat & Christina Crumlish and family intentions
Fri 11 April	Lent Feria	Mass at 9.30am Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm	For a private intention
Sat 12 April	Lent Feria	Mass at 10.00am	For Noel Brown RIP & Pat his wife (56th wedding anniversary)
Sun ✠ 13 April	**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish Pro populo - for the people of our parish Pro populo - for the people of our parish

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. **✠ = 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

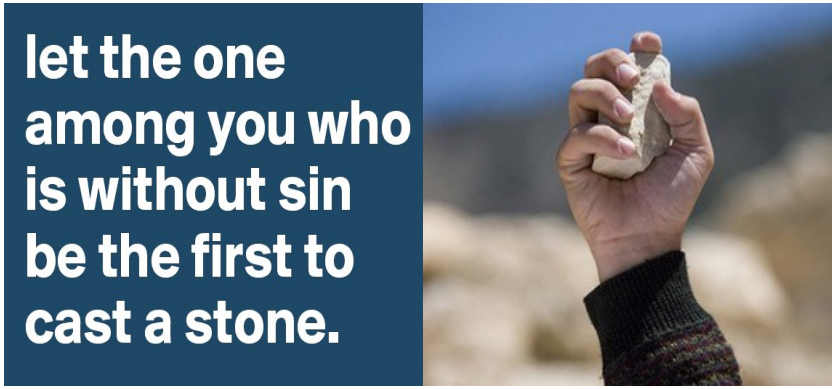
To make a donation or to make an offering for a Mass intention go to:
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton/donate/

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday cycle Readings Year C 5th Week of Lent Psalter Week 1

Sunday 6th April 2025
5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
Weekly Newsletter

HOLY WEEK BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY



The readings for the 5th Sunday of Lent, remind us that God sees us in our weakness and suffering and saves us. The first reading tells us not to look at the past, but to see that a new way is possible. The psalm tells of sorrow turning to joy. In the second reading St Paul explains that we must let go of what we valued, to pursue life in Christ. And in the Gospel, Jesus confronts the crowd who are about to stone the woman, caught in adultery.

It is hard to believe, that stoning still takes place in parts of the world today. It is barbaric and cruel.

These readings call us to change our hearts. We might think our virtue and the Law of God empower us to judge others who don't seem to be getting it right. But in the Gospel, Jesus shows us another way. The woman did indeed break the rules. There is no denial of that. And there is no talk of the circumstances or why she did it. But Jesus believes in second chances, even when the Law does not offer them.

Both the crowd and the woman have strayed from the heart of God and his Law. We often do the same. Like the woman caught in adultery, we might ignore God's commands and do as we please. Or like the crowd, we might use the Law to draw a line between "us" and "them", desiring punishment and suffering for those who don't measure up.

A good chant for this gospel might be "Forgive her - but change me."
Happy Sunday!

WELCOME as we continue on our pilgrimage through this Holy Season of Lent. It's a season of fasting, praying and giving. As we prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter, we are reminded that Lent is not just about what we give up. It's about who we become!

THE VEILING OF IMAGES IN CHURCH The images and statues in church are now veiled and remain covered until the first Mass of Easter. The veiling expresses the Church's sorrow at this time and helps us to focus on the final days and the Passion of Christ, gently reminding us how sin separates us from God. The veils are new this year and are much smarter and more uniform. We are very grateful to the parishioner who made a donation for the new material and to our brilliant seamstress who put it all together.

THIS WEEKEND there is an important Pastoral Letter from Cardinal Vincent. This letter has been agreed for use by every Bishop in England and Wales and concerns the Assisted Suicide Bill which will shortly receive its Third Reading in the House of Commons. You still have time to make your voice heard and oppose assisted suicide becoming law in England and Wales. Use Right to Life UK's simple and easy web form to ask your MP to vote 'no' to assisted suicide at Third Reading. https://righttolife.org.uk/ASvote **or** fill in the Assist Us To Live, Not To Die card available in church .:

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.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: The Secular Clergy Common Fund ('Big M') is looking to appoint a new CEO. It makes grants to our sick and retired priests and looks after two Catholic cemeteries in London. The role is 0.6FTE and offers flexible working and a salary of £50k-£60k pro rata. For further details contact Angela Rowe before the closing date of 28th April: secretary@secularclergy.org.uk

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2025 Please support the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal if you can. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese; His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, expresses his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. You can take a donation envelope, make a donation online or donate in the collection box on the front right hand side of the church. See the poster in the porch for more information. Thank you.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 25TH JULY - 1ST AUGUST
This year, the initial application for a place on the pilgrimage is via online application form Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Nichols is now open via the online form at https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane or train are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by **Wednesday 30th April.** If you do not have access to a computer to register online, we can assist you in the office. Contact us to arrange a time slot. When you come at the pre- arranged time, you'll need to bring with you your GP details, valid Passport, and your EHIC/GHIC Health Insurance card to travel to Lourdes.

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.

COLLECTIONS AT MASS: Loose giving in the plate last weekend was £195.81 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.

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 in person.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2025

12/13 April — **PALM SUNDAY WITH THE BLESSING OF PALMS**
Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday at 5.00pm
Sunday Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am
(No Mass on Monday)

15/16 April — **TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK**
Mass at 9.30am

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

17 April — **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm
Night Watch at the Altar of Repose until 9.00pm

18 April — **GOOD FRIDAY**
Children's Stations of the Cross at 11.00am
The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3.00pm
Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm

19 April — **HOLY SATURDAY**
The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night at 8.00pm (Sunset)

20 April — **EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**
Sunday Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am

Email: shepperton@rcdow.org.uk - Tel: 01932 563116
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton
YouTube: St John Fisher Shepperton



NEW TO ST JOHN FISHER OR NEED TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS? Please fill in a Parish Registration Form which you can find at the back of the church and online. Please feel free to drop it in to Mandy, our Parish Administrator in the office, if you are passing by. Many thanks.

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

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
ANNE PHILOMENA GANDHI RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS APRIL

Margaret Ward, Maurice Ward,
Leila Waterhouse, Edward Reilly,
Christopher Romer, Winifred Smith,
Maureen Keady, William Walsh, Ted Jones,
Anna Semkowicz-Holt, Cecilia Grose,
Fr Anton Cowan, Catherine Monica Clarkin,
Jeffrey Cowen.

ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD