# ✠ HOLY WEEK AT SJF ✠

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| **Sun ✠ 13 April** *With blessing of palm crosses* | **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD** | **5.00pm Sat Vigil**<br>**8.30am**<br>**10.30am** | Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish<br>Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish<br>Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish |
| Mon 14 April | Monday of Holy Week | No Mass at SJF | |
| Tue 15 April | Tuesday of Holy Week | Confessions 9.00am<br>Mass at 9.30am<br>**FUNERAL MASS 11.30AM** | For Daphne Argent's intentions<br>**FOR ANNE PHILOMENA GANDHI RIP** |
| Wed 16 April | Spy Wednesday of Holy Week | Confessions 9.00am<br>Mass at 9.30am | For Kitty Farlie - her 90th birthday |
| Thurs 17 April | **THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM BEGINS**<br>**MAUNDY THURSDAY**<br>**EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** | (No Morning Mass)<br>**7.00pm**<br>Confessions from 8.00 ish<br>Night Prayer at 8.50pm<br>**Night Watch at the Altar of Repose ends 9.00pm** | Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish |
| Fri 18 April *Day of fasting & abstinence* | **GOOD FRIDAY**<br>**THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD** | **11.00am**<br>**3.00pm**<br>**7.00pm** | **Children's Stations of the Cross**<br>Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish<br>**Stations of the Cross** |
| Sat 19 April | **HOLY SATURDAY**<br>**SEASON OF EASTER**<br>**THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT** | (No Morning Mass)<br>**8.00pm** *(at sunset)* | **Church cleaning and decorating from 9.00am - Everyone welcome!**<br>Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish |
| **Sun ✠ 20 April** | **EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD** | **8.30am Mass**<br>**10.30am Mass** | Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish<br>Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish |

**MAKING CONTACT AT ST JOHN FISHER**
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**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

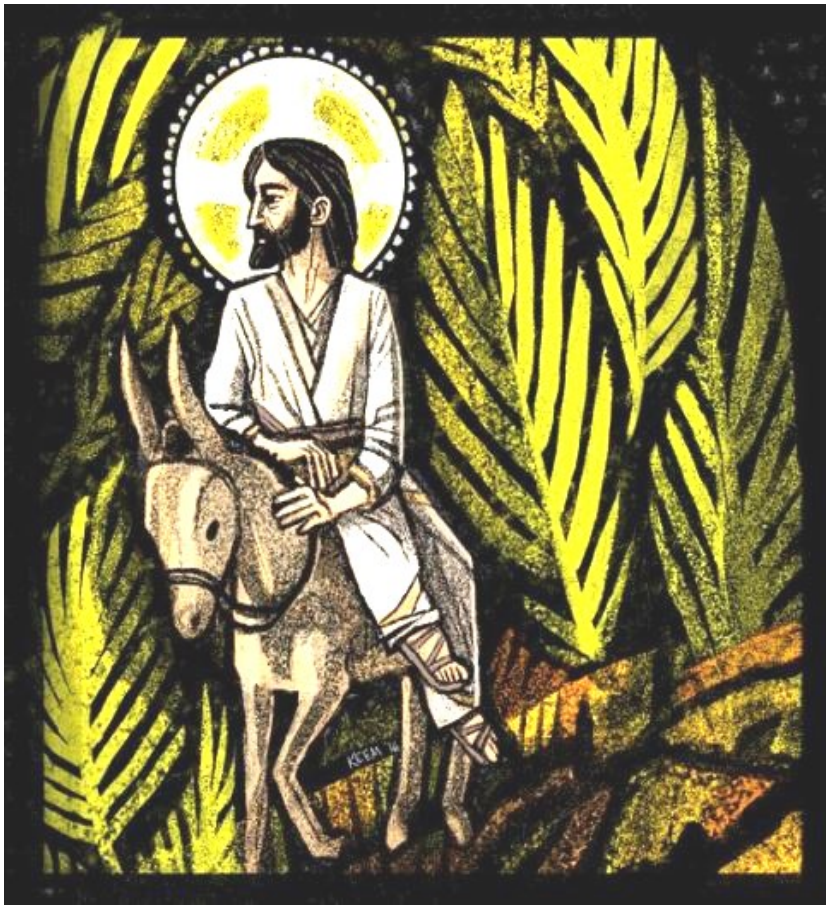
Sunday cycle Readings Year B
Weekday readings: for Holy Week
Divine Office: Psalter Week 2

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

## SUNDAY 13TH APRIL 2025
## PALM SUNDAY
## OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

**Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!**



## ✠ THIS IS HOLY WEEK ✠



## WELCOME TO HOLY WEEK AT SJF

**THIS HOLY WEEK AND EASTER** don't miss out! Please make it a top priority to come to SJF this Holy Week. Reserve some time to be with the Lord. Suspend errands and jobs around the house, especially on Good Friday. Drop everything and enter into the mystery of the faith. For Catholics, this is the most important time of the year. It is our opportunity to renew our Christian identity, to feed the soul, to stand proud and be counted. The great week begins with **PALM SUNDAY,** Jesus' triumphant arrival into Jerusalem - the Holy City. He came as a King, but he came in great humility, riding on a colt. The crowds welcomed the Lord, they waved palm branches and shouted "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord". A simple journey thus became a procession. At Holy Mass on this day, we join in with the first disciples, we bless palm crosses and welcome Jesus Christ as our King!

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** reminds us that the great Paschal Triduum has begun. On the night before he died, Jesus gathered his close friends together in an upper room in Jerusalem. Jesus washed their feet like a servant. He gave them a new commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you". And then he gave them the gift of himself: "This is my Body... this is my Blood". After Supper he went to watch and pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. Our celebration, of the Lord's Supper, beginning at a new time of **7.00pm** on Thursday, is based on these events. At the end of Holy Mass, the Blessed Sacrament of Jesus is taken in procession to the Altar of Repose. This is our Garden of Gethsemane. The Sacrament is placed there and a Watch of silent prayer is kept until **9.00pm**. On this night we have the privileged opportunity of spending some time in prayer with the Lord himself. If you can't attend the Holy Mass, try to stop by, to pray at the Altar of Repose, even for a short while. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), will also be available on this night.

**ON GOOD FRIDAY**, Jesus is condemned to death. He carried his cross to Calvary. He was crucified and he died. Our liturgy, beginning at **3.00pm** is not a funeral service. We recall the solemn events leading up to the death of Jesus. We read the Passion Gospel, we pray and we venerate the cross. We receive the Body of Christ in Holy Communion, reserved from the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, the night before. Good Friday completes the work of Jesus Christ on earth. He cried out as he died: "It is accomplished". It is a cry of victory. We come to the liturgy on Good Friday out of love for him, who died out of love for us. The importance and solemnity of this day are demonstrated through our fasting & abstinence.

**HOLY SATURDAY** Throughout this day, Jesus' Body is in the tomb. This is the time to make our final preparations. From **9.00am** onward we prepare the Church for Easter, cleaning & decorating. We then await the First Mass of Easter. The Vigil begins at sunset—**8.00pm** outside the church, the Holy Fire is blessed together with the new Easter (Paschal) candle. The procession into the darkened church begins and slowly, the light of Christ glows ever stronger, to dispel the darkness of the night, as we too move from darkness into the light of Christ. We hear the readings and we sing the psalms. We bless the waters of Easter and renew our Baptismal promises. And the Church erupts with joy. Bells ring out and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is proclaimed. We celebrate the Holy Mass on this most holy night of the year, because death is conquered, the gates of heaven have been thrown open to believers and hope is renewed. We continue the celebrations on **EASTER SUNDAY,** the Day of Resurrection. This is a day of joy & celebration in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ. Holy Mass is celebrated at **8.30am** and **10.30am**. The Christian hope which faith brings, is grounded in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and what he means for us. We may not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future! Holy Week and Easter gives us the opportunity to renew our faith and hope. Come to SJF this Holy Week, invite your families and friends and catch a glimpse of heaven.

**OUR CHURCH** is a friendly place, but it's easy to reach out to those we already know. Over Holy Week and Easter there may well be visitors and people returning after some time away. A smile or a gentle 'hello' can make all the difference and pointing out where Mass sheets are can be invaluable. Thank you.

**MASS TIMES & LITURGIES** during Holy Week vary from our usual times. Please check the back of this newsletter for full details.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN** will be at 11.00am in church on Good Friday.

**GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS** are at 7.00pm

**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.

**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 .

**THE EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES** available from the back of the church contribute, in a small way, to the stipend (salary) of priests working at SJF throughout the year. They are not a personal gift, to the priest. They are however, much appreciated. 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.

**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.

**APOLOGIES** - we are still without toilets, whilst the hall renovations continue.

**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.

**HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS** has appointed Bishop John Sherrington as Archbishop of Liverpool. Bishop Sherrington has been an Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster since 14th September 2011. Bishop Sherrington will become the tenth Archbishop of Liverpool. His installation will take place in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King on Tuesday, 27th May at 12 noon.

**THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY**
is sponsored this week
for Noel Brown 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**