THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 24 Aug	**21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For Helen Diekmann RIP - anniversary For Ciaran Moran RIP
Mon 25 Aug	Feria	**No Mass at SJF**	
Tue 26 Aug	Feria	**II**	
Wed 27 Aug	St Monica	**Holy Rosary at 10.00am**	
Thurs 28 Aug	St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	**II**	
Fri 29 Aug	The Passion of St John the Baptist	**II**	
Sat 30 Aug	Feria	**II** (Usual evening Vigil Mass at 5.00pm)	
Sun ✠ 31 Aug	**22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil 8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass**	For Brian Biggins RIP Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For Juliet Da Costa—intentions

Masses locally, telephone for details:

St Michael's, Ashford 01784 252230

St Anne's, Chertsey 01932 562375

St Ignatius, Sunbury 01932 783507

Please also check church websites for any holiday updates. If you need a Priest urgently, please do contact other local Catholic Priests

Holy Rosary Prayers: Wednesday morning
Exposition and Benediction is currently suspended but will resume on Fridays in September.
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**

HAVE A HOLY MASS OFFERED for your intentions: speak to Mandy in the office (Wed or Thurs AM) to book your date. If you are making a written request please add your name and contact details.

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

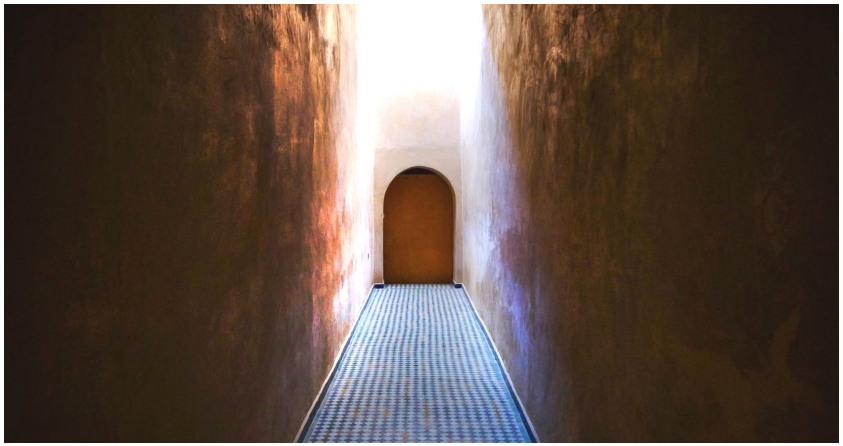
Parish Safeguarding: Mandy Howick (until appointment is made) sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator 020 7798 9356

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/

Sunday cycle Readings Year C
Weekday readings: Year 1
Lectionary Year 1
Ordinary Time
Week 21
Psalter Week 1

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 24th August 2025
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Weekly Newsletter



This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 13:22–30) invites us to reflect deeply on the question: *"Will those who are saved be few?"* Jesus responds not with numbers, but with a challenge: *"Strive to enter through the narrow door."* It's a call to intentional discipleship, to live our faith not as a passive identity but as an active journey of love, humility, and service.

The narrow door is not about exclusion—it's about transformation. It reminds us that the path to the Kingdom is not always easy, but it is open to all who seek God with sincerity and perseverance. The Gospel also surprises us with the image of people coming from east and west, north and south, to recline at the table in the Kingdom of God. It's a beautiful vision of unity, diversity, and hope, demonstrating how universal the Catholic Church is.

Let us ask ourselves this week:

- Are we striving daily to follow Jesus more closely?
- Do our lives reflect the values of the Gospel?
- How can we help others find their way to the narrow door?

May we be encouraged to walk together in faith, supporting one another as we journey toward the fullness of life in Christ.

Happy Sunday!

WELCOME TO ST JOHN FISHER, SHEPPERTON.

This newsletter gives some information for the week ahead. If you are new to SJF church, it is great to have you with us, you are very welcome! Do please introduce yourself. All Masses at SJF are live streamed via YouTube: 'St John Fisher Shepperton'. Whilst live streaming cannot replace our physical presence at the Holy Mass, streaming offers a link with SJF for those who are incapacitated through ill health.

FR SHAUN is on annual leave but will be returning on Tuesday 2nd September. We welcome Fr Tony Convery who will celebrate Mass for us this weekend.

REFRESHMENTS are available after the 10.30am Sunday Mass: Thank you to all who have joined the rota. All toilets and baby changing facilities are also now open for use.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! If you are preparing to go away, we wish you a safe journey and a restful break. If you happen to be listed on a church rota for any particular ministry, please help us, by arranging cover with someone else on your rota. If you are finding this difficult, contact Mandy in the church office or Daphne in the Sacristy. This will help us enormously with the smooth running of the Masses and for all that we do together. Thank you in advance. Enjoy your time away and may God's speed be with you on your return.

HOLY BAPTISM is a joyous Sacrament We greatly encourage Holy Baptism for babies of families who regularly attend Mass here. It is recommended that Holy Baptism if at all possible takes place within baby's first year. Baptism leaflets explaining this Holy Sacrament, are available on the porch table **.**

SOMETHING SPECIAL TO LOOK FORWARD TO …

Sunday 5th October 4.00pm – 6.00pm in St. John Fisher Church. The Spelthorne Orchestra will be performing a concert for all the family to enjoy. All proceeds will go to the Church Hall Renovation and Lourdes funds. Please save the date!

BLESSED CARLOS ACUTIS: BBC 1 Songs of Praise: Sunday 24th August at 1.15pm

This Sunday afternoon's Songs of Praise has the theme "Modern Day Miracles" in which Aled Jones explores the mystery of miracles and whether they can still happen in our modern world. Aled meets Anna, a close family friend of Blessed Carlo Acutis who shared his faith by creating an online exhibition of miracles before he tragically died at the age of just 15.

Hymns will include "O Bread of Heaven" from St George's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Southwark.



THE VATICAN has announced that Blessed Carlo Acutis' canonisation will be held on 7th September, alongside Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. This follows the initial postponement on the announcement of Pope Francis' death. The canonisation of these two young saints, one from the early twentieth century, the other the first twenty-first century saint, is an occasion of great joy, especially given Bl Carlo's connections to the Diocese of Westminster. 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. In welcoming the initial announcement, Bishop Nicholas Hudson expressed that Bl Carlo's grandparents, 'would have been deeply moved, surely, to know that two thousand people gathered in this same Cathedral to venerate the relic of their grandson.'

The following events are being held, to give people a chance to celebrate the canonisation:

Canonisation in Rome -

Bishop Nicholas will lead a delegation from the Diocese to be present at the Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis in St Peter's, Rome, on Sunday 7th September .

Mass of Thanksgiving -

Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Canonisation of St Carlo Acutis in Our Lady of Dolours church, Fulham Road, on Saturday 13th September at 3.00 p.m.

Eucharistic Festival -

There will be a Eucharistic Festival on Saturday 11 October with Cardinal Vincent Nichols in Westminster Cathedral including Veneration of a Relic of the newly canonised St Carlo Acutis. More details about this will be forthcoming in due course. Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us.

ASSISTED SUICIDE UPDATE! The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September. Right To Life UK has launched an *Easy Action* tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. **Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds!**

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM SUNDAY MASS will resume on 7th September. For now, please encourage your children to use the Children's Mass sheets, Mass cards and Missals during the Mass which are available next to the regular Mass sheets, at the back of the church. Thank you.

FOOD BANK DROP OFF: Thank you if you have been dropping off food donations. You are extraordinarily generous, towards those who live locally, who are struggling at the moment.

COLLECTIONS AT MASSES: Last weekend loose collections: £284.06. Standing orders/online & card donations for the month of June were £993.33 per week. Whatever way you support the continuing work we do here at SJF, thank you. We seriously couldn't do all the good things we do without your support.

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 HOLY ROSARY for those who wish is now prayed in church on Wednesday mornings - see back page for details. If you would like to know how to pray this lovely devotion - just come along and you will be guided. You will be most welcome.

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

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 and drop it into the office here.

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the month of September. The cost is just £5 for the whole week. Please contact Mandy in the Parish Office for available dates

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina's Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August 2025 from 10:30 am to 4pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957 594 646 for more information.

ST ANDREW'S BAPTIST CHURCH SHEPPERTON: Administration Position – VACANCY. Any interested applicants should submit their CV's and expression of interest to Bob Noble, Church Secretary, Email bob.noble@hotmail.co.uk before 31st August. Further details can be asked of Ray Williams, Church Treasurer on 07597904795.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
is sponsored this week for
all who are undergoing medical treatment
at this time

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
MARGARET GANE RIP & BRIAN BIGGINS RIP

ANNIVERSARIES THIS AUGUST

Max Maksymiuw, Annie Reilly, Patricia Collins, James Patrick Dyer, Joan Delahunty, Alf Pitfield James Sangster, Betty Mitchell, John Pegley, Michael Hayes, Fedor Jan Putter Florence Kershaw, Liokadia Hughes, Frances Rosa Grant, Patricia Leale, Lt Col Kevin Ryan MBE William Roberts, Audrey Willson Joan Heffernan, Anne Harris, Jake Harvey Latter, Fr Tom Quinn. Anna Gammond, Helen Diekmann.

Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord