THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 07 Sept	**23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For the intentions of Rosina Oliver For Orlando and for all children undergoing treatment in hospital
Mon 08 Sept	THE NATIVITY OF THE BVM	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 09 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Francis Paul RIP
Wed 10 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary after Mass**	For all undergoing medical treatment
Thurs 11 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Charlotte Walsh and for her recovery
Fri 12 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Funeral Mass 11.30am**	***This Mass is available for your intentions*** **For the repose of the soul of Brian Biggins**
Sat 13 Sept	St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor	Mass at 10.00am	***This Mass is available for your intentions, just ask in the office***
Sun ✠ 14 Sept	**THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	***This Mass is available for your intentions*** Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For Lucian Farcasi RIP (4th anniversary)

Holy Rosary Prayers: Wednesday morning following the 9.30am Mass
Exposition and Benediction is currently suspended but will resume on Friday 19th 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/

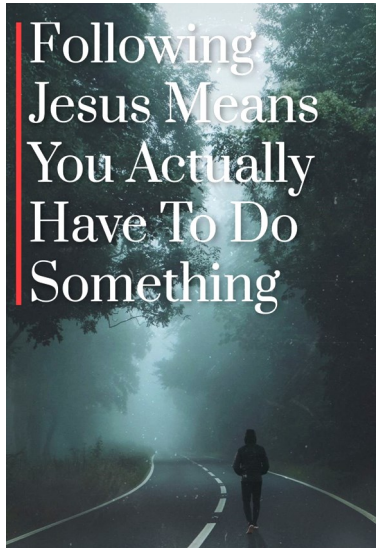
Sunday cycle Readings Year C
Weekday readings: Year 1
Lectionary Year 1
Ordinary Time Week 23
Psalter Week 3

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 7th September 2025
23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Weekly Newsletter



This Sunday the readings in the Holy Bible are difficult to hear. The Gospel starts with a saying which many find hard to understand: must we really hate our family to follow Jesus? The point Jesus is getting at is how far are we willing to go for him and for his Gospel? Do we prefer to make our own crosses, or accept the cross we are given?



If we follow Jesus we will see the word in a different light with different values and this will be uncomfortable for members of our family, friends and work colleagues, who may be living to a different set of standards.

Jesus discourages crowds of sensation seekers and hangers-on who crowd around him. The Lord wants real followers who are truly prepared to say YES rather than yes, but… Jesus is calling believers who are aware of the possible cost; not like the incompetent builder, or the useless king.

Are you prepared to follow Jesus anywhere, whatever it may cost in possessions, family or friends? 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.



September is the month … devoted to the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady. Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows became a standard devotion in the Church around the 14th century. It was revealed to St. Bridget of Sweden that devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary's seven sorrows would bring great graces. The devotion consists in praying seven Hail Marys whilst also meditating on the seven sorrows of Mary which are:

1. The prophecy of Simeon (Lk. 2:34-35)
2. The flight into Egypt (Mt. 2:13-21)
3. The loss of Jesus for three days (Lk. 2:41-50)
4. The carrying of the cross (Jn. 19:17)
5. The crucifixion of Jesus (Jn. 19:18-30)
6. Jesus taken down from the cross (Jn. 19:39-40)
7. Jesus laid in the tomb (Jn. 19:39-42)

Blessed Mary, in a unique way, willingly suffered alongside her Divine Son, as he gave his life to save the world, feeling the sorrow of his passion and death as only a mother can. This devotion is offered during Lent, but especially during September with the memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on the 15th - the day after the celebration of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

CONGRATULATIONS to baby George Jude Ludden who received the beautiful initiation Sacrament of Holy Baptism this weekend. We keep baby George in our prayers and pray for his parents who have set him on a wonderful adventure of faith.

THE RACE IS ON (AGAIN) WITH TORCHES AND TENSION! Dear St John Fisher family, On 20th September at 8pm, Parishioners Connor and Alison will once again lace up their trainers, don their glowing accessories, and head out for the Shine Night Walk London 10K, raising funds for **Cancer Research**. They did this before. Yes, they raised a glorious £875 between them last time. Yes, it brought out a slight — ahem — competitive spark in their marriage (they may or may not have been sneakily checking each other's fundraising pages daily). So naturally… they're doing it all again! And here's where YOU come in. They need your support — spiritually, emotionally, and most importantly, financially. But be warned: If you donate to Alison, you're investing in grace, humility, and the undisputed better walker. If you donate to Connor, well… you're fuelling a man who once tried to overtake someone on a zebra crossing "for the points." Either way, every penny goes to the incredible work of cancer research — supporting people in their time of need. So whether you're Team Wife or Team Husband, you're really Team support. Let the fundraising games begin!

For Connor's **Cancer Research** Giving Page

For Alison's **Cancer Research** Giving Page

THE FUNERAL (Requiem) Mass of Brian Biggins will take place at SJF this coming Friday 12th Sept at 11.30am. Brian and his wife Barbara had moved to Shepperton in recent months to be closer to their daughter Kim Williams and husband Rob who attend our Saturday evening Vigil Mass. We pray for the repose of Brian's soul and keep Barbara, Kim, Rob and the rest of the family in our prayers. *Go Forth Christian Soul, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.*

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM SUNDAY MASS will resume this Sunday 7th September. For those not in Little Church, 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.

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 at this time. Thank you for your continuing kindness to those in need.

UPDATE LET THERE BE LIGHT - MUSIC CONCERT AT ST JOHN FISHER Sunday 5th October 4.00pm – 6.00pm. 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. You can buy or reserve your ticket from this weekend for £10 which incudes a glass of vino. Children go free!

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!

COLLECTIONS… our weekend loose money offertory collection is really important and continues for those who do not use a bank standing order, use the card machine or make your offering on-line. Please assist the collectors, by passing the collection bags down the bench (pew) when handed to you. SJF is self supporting, with no other assistance from the Diocese (or government except for your Gift Aid), Your kind donations support absolutely everything we do, so whatever way you support the good works here at SJF, thank you. We seriously couldn't do it all without you. Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £302.97. Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online averaged £933..33 for the month of July. Thank you, you are brilliant!

PLEASE PRAY for our young people returning to schools and colleges and especially those who are going off to university for the first time or beginning apprenticeships.

THE HOLY ROSARY for those who wish is 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.

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 very special thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are weeks available in September and going forward. The cost is just £5 for the whole week. Please contact Mandy in the Parish Office for available dates.

BE FAMILIAR... with our church exit doors and routes. You may have been coming to SJF for many years or are at SJF for the first time. It's always a good idea to look around to see where your nearest exit route is, in the event that we ever need to evacuate our building at short notice. Thank you.



STOP PRESS! This Sunday 7th September, Pope Leo XIV will declare London-born Carlo Acutis the Catholic Church's first Millennial saint.

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

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

ANNIVERSARIES THIS SEPTEMBER
Fred Manning, Christina Maksymiuw, Clive Ross, Winifred Sissons, Claude Ross, Sheila Thompson, Thomas Smith, Robert Blues, John Maloney, Fr John B Elliott, Dorothy Ormes.

Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord