THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 14 Sept	**THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Liam Gallagher RIP Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For Lucian Farcasi RIP (4th anniversary)
Mon 15 Sept	Our Lady of Sorrows	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 16 Sept	St Cornelius, Pope & St Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	Mass at 9.30am **Funeral Mass 11.30am**	For Phylis Silvia Anderson RIP **For the repose of the soul of Margaret Gane**
Wed 17 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary after Mass**	***This Mass is available for your intentions***
Thurs 18 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Patrick Mulvany RIP
Fri 19 Sept	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Followed by Exposition & Benediction**	For Bob Noble RIP
Sat 20 Sept	St Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest & St Paul Chong Ha-sang & Comp. Martyrs	Mass at 10.00am **Holy Baptism 12.00noon**	For Alan and Daisy Gill RIP
Sun ✠ 21 Sept	**25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (Annual Mass Count 1)	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For Marian Miranda in thanksgiving For Kieran Reilly RIP (5th 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
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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
Weekday readings: Year 1
Lectionary Year 1
Ordinary Time Week 24
Psalter Week 4

Sunday 14th September 2025
THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
Weekly Newsletter



This Sunday, the Church pauses to celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross - a feast that invites us to gaze upon the Cross not with sorrow, but with awe and gratitude.

The Cross is a central mystery of the faith. It is where love was poured out without measure, where mercy triumphed over sin, and where death was defeated by life. What was once a sign of shame has become for us the Tree of Life thanks to Jesus Christ.



In the Holy Gospel today (John 3:13–17), Jesus speaks of being "lifted up," echoing the bronze serpent Moses raised in the desert. Just as those who looked upon the serpent were healed, so too, are we healed and set free when we gaze upon Christ crucified with faith and love.

The Cross, though historically, an instrument of execution for followers of Christ — it is the throne of grace, the altar of sacrifice, and the gateway to resurrection. In our own lives, we are called to "take up our cross" daily, not as a burden, but as a path to deeper union with Christ.

This Sunday, we not only venerate the Holy Cross, but allow it to shape our lives. We carry our own crosses with faith, knowing that Christ walks with us. And let us be people who bring the hope of the Cross to others - especially those who feel burdened, forgotten, or lost. 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.

THE FUNERAL (Requiem) Mass of Margaret Gane will take place at SJF this coming Tuesday 16th September at 11.30am. Margaret lived in Arundel and Brighton Diocese but was known to our Friday morning Mass goers. She loved knitting and regularly knitted Easter Chicks and Christmas puddings and stockings to be sold in our Repository shop. Margaret was always so pleased to attend Mass at SJF and would drive herself here even in her 90's. *Go Forth Christian Soul, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.*

REMEMBERING FRANCIS PAUL: A Memorial Service for Francis who died in June aged 8 years will be at St John Fisher on Thursday 2nd October at 12.00noon, followed by refreshments in the hall. Paul and Tesmi, his parents and little Elsbeth, Francis's sister warmly invite you to join them to give thanks for Francis, whose life was so full of meaning and love and light.



ARE YOU TECH SAVVY? We are struggling with our new *Heatmiser Neo system* which allows us to control our heating system from the office. We have a 'Boost' on the system to give us a stronger signal to set our various thermostats, but still have an intermittent signal… can you help? Please speak to Fr Shaun

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM SUNDAY MASS has now resumed. Parents please help us to help you in teaching the faith to your little ones by encouraging your children to attend. If your child has already made their First Holy Communion, they can still attend Little Church and help the Catechists by sitting alongside our younger children and encouraging them. For those not in Little Church, Children's Mass sheets, Mass cards and Missals are available 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.

LOURDES BIG TREE NIGHT STALL The Lourdes team have booked their stall for the Big Tree Night on the 10th December and are looking forward to getting festive with the rest of the Shepperton community. We are planning to run a Christmas Tombola with prizes such as bottles, chocolates, sweets, gifts….. anything festive. If you are able to donate something for our stall, please can you leave in the porch in the box marked "Lourdes". Thank you in advance for your continued generosity and we hope to see you at Big Tree Night.

FOR CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPT 2026: St. Anne's Catholic Primary School in Chertsey warmly invites prospective parents to attend one of their open events. Open Mornings will be held on Tues 23rd Sept. and Tues, 25th Nov at 9:30am. Open Afternoons will take place on Tues 7th Oct and Tues, 11th Nov at 1:30pm To book your visit, please visit their website or use the link below.
https://forms.office.com/e/yKGtZM3bt9

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND… BEETLE DRIVE - Friday 14th November. Tickets will be available in October.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT - Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? The next programme starts on 17th October www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296 983

UPDATE LET THERE BE LIGHT - MUSIC CONCERT AT ST JOHN FISHER Sunday 5th Oct 4–6pm. (including interval) 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 for £10 which incudes a glass of vino. Children under 16 go free! Tickets go on sale to the public shortly, so reserve or buy yours today.

STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE - FURTHER ACTION NEEDED! As the assisted suicide Bill progresses through the Lords, Peers have made it clear that receiving physical letters will have the most influence at this stage of the process. Right To Life UK has launched a new *Easy Action* tool that creates a personalised letter to be sent in the post to a Peer highlighting a key concern with the Bill, selects a Peer to receive it, and customises the letter so that it is addressed from you. Please take action now and visit **www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter** to send a letter to Peers asking them to oppose assisted suicide.

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. Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £228.86. (week previous = £302.97) Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online in August averaged £873.83pw (July = £933.33). Thank you, we can do so much with your support.

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.

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 BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
has not been sponsored this week.

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