THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 26 Oct	**30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For Louis Neary RIP For Emily Theobalds RIP (anniversary)
Mon 27 Oct	Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 28 Oct	ST SIMON & ST JUDE, Apostles	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary after Mass	For Isabella McDonough RIP
Wed 29 Oct	Blessed Martyrs of Douai (Diocesan)	Mass at 9.30am **Funeral Mass at 11.30am**	For Khin & Dominic - blessings on their marriage today **For Thelma Bingle RIP**
Thurs 30 Oct	Feria	Mass at 9.30am (RCIA 7.30pm - hall)	For Tesmi Jose - birthday thanksgiving
Fri 31 Oct	Feria	Mass at 9.30am Followed by Exposition & Benediction	For our Jewish brothers and sisters - especially those in Manchester
Sat 01 Nov	The BVM on Saturday	Mass at 10.00am	For George & Elizabeth Killingbeck RIP
Sun ✠ 02 Nov	**THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Emily Theobalds RIP (birthday) Pro Populo - For the people of this Parish For Bob & Bridget Keating RIP

Holy Rosary Prayers: Wednesday morning following the 9.30am Mass, (Tuesday for this week).
Exposition and Benediction is after Mass on Fridays.
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**

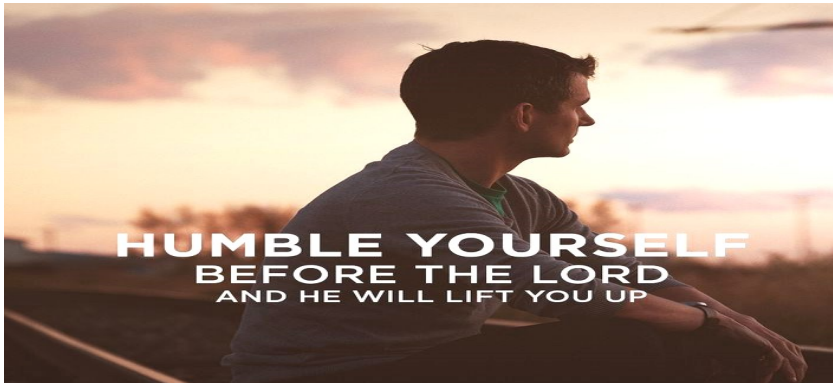
We are a registered charity No: 233699

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

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday cycle
Readings Year C
Weekday readings:
Year 1
Lectionary Year 1
Ordinary Time
Week 30
Psalter Week 2

Sunday 26th October 2025
30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Weekly Newsletter



THE HEAVENLY TALENT SHOW...

Imagine heaven hosting a talent show. The Pharisee (in the Gospel reading) steps up to the microphone first, dazzling the crowd with his spiritual résumé: fasting twice a week, tithing (donating a percentage of his income) meticulously, and a prayer that sounds suspiciously like a humble-brag. The angels nod politely, but the angel Gabriel scribbles "a bit showy" on his scorecard.

Then comes the tax collector. No fanfare. No glitter. Just a quiet, heartfelt, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." The room falls silent. The angels lean in. Gabriel wipes away a tear. The score? A perfect 10!

This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 18:9–14) reminds us that God isn't impressed by spiritual gymnastics. He's moved by honesty, humility, and the kind of prayer that doesn't need a spotlight.

The first reading from the book of Sirach tells us that *"the prayer of the humble pierces the clouds."* This is good news for those of us who feel more like spiritual underdogs than saints-in-the-making.

St. Paul, in the second letter which he writes to Timothy, reminds us that even when everyone else walks out, God walks in: *"The Lord stood by me and strengthened me ."* No audition required!

So, whether you feel like a Pharisee on a good day or a tax collector on a rough one, it is worthwhile remembering that God's heart is tuned to the frequency of humility. And in his talent show, the prize goes to the one who knows they need him most.

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.

THANK YOU - The recent concert by the wonderful Spelthorne Orchestra raised a brilliant £911.48 with a two way allocation of £455.74 for hall reno funds and the Lourdes group. Thank you to all who supported this event, to the musicians and Orchestral Conductor David Bruce and to our amazing social committee and Lourdes group who ran the event.

THELMA BINGLE RIP The Funeral Mass for Thelma will be this coming Wednesday 29th October at 11.30am. Thelma was a regular member of the 5.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass. Please keep Thelma, her daughter Elaine and son Anthony and all the family in your prayers at this time. *"Go forth Christian soul, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world."*

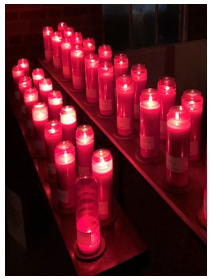
HALF TERM: to our children and parents, have a great Half Term break… and if you are at a loose end and need a little *peace top-up*, Mass is celebrated here Tuesday - Friday at 9.30am, in addition to the usual weekend Masses. You are very welcome.

THE CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY collection raised £399.50 for the invaluable work of Cafod Thank you for your generosity

HOLY BAPTISM IS A JOYOUS SACRAMENT We greatly encourage Holy Baptism for babies of families who attend here regularly. It is recommended that Holy Baptism takes place within baby's first year. Baptism leaflets explaining this Holy Sacrament, with important information regarding godparents are available from the church porch table.

ALL SOULS' SHEETS, to list the names of your departed loved ones, will be available next week and throughout November. These will then be placed before the altar in remembrance.

NOVEMBER SEVEN DAY MEMORIAL CANDLES are available for £5, on which to add the names of your departed loved ones. These candles will burn in the church to the left of the lectern, from All Souls' Day, Monday 3rd Nov. onward for the duration of the month, whilst the candle stock lasts. **1**.Pick up a names label from the Repository at the church entrance. **2.** Add the name (s) of those who have died who you want to remember. **3.** Return label to the office or sacristy with your £5. Great news: we are now permitted to collect *Gift -Aid* on any candle donation of £5 or over. You can help us to claim *Gift Aid* - via the card machine in the porch (making your payment & completing the *Gift – Aid)* on line or by using a blue *Gift-Aid* envelope. Many Thanks.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION - CLASS OF 2026: will begin on Tuesday 13th January and every subsequent Tuesday during term time from 5.00-6.15pm. Registration forms will be available soon for children in school year 3 who attend Mass here. Please look out for further details coming soon. Please keep the FHC catechists, Stephanie and Mary in your prayers as they make preparations for their new group.

REFRESHMENTS ARE SERVED after the 10.30 Sunday Mass in the Church Hall - you are very welcome. If you are new to St John Fisher (SJF), it is great to have you with us. If you arrived by car - and you would prefer to park off street, we have a car park at the rear of the church . If you need to use the loos, or baby nappy changing facility - they are situated by the front entrance to the Church Hall — also at the back of the church.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND… BEETLE DRIVE - Friday 14th Nov. Doors open at 7.00pm. Beetle Drive starts at 7.30pm. Tickets will be on sale this weekend.

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.

DATES FOR THE DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

ALL SAINTS Sunday 2nd Nov: Holy Day of Obligation. Usual weekend Mass times

ALL SOULS' DAY: THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED: Monday 3rd Nov: Mass at 9.30am only.

Blessing of Graves at Sunbury Cemetery. Saturday 8th Nov: 12.00 noon

Remembrance Sunday: 9th Nov

10.30am: Requiem Mass for the War Dead. (Other Masses as usual)

Tuesday 11th Nov: Mass for the Deceased Priests of the Deanery at 10.30am: All welcome. (There will be no 9.30am Mass on this day)

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE: Sunday 23rd Nov**:** usual weekend Mass times. (10.30am RCIA candidates will receive the Sacraments)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Sunday 30th Nov: usual weekend Mass times.

A CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE confirms, for the purposes of a Catholic school application, that a family are regular at Mass, as practising Catholics. Certificates can be requested by Catholic families whose children are Baptised. This is an important document, but please do not embarrass Fr Shaun by requesting a certificate, if you are not attending Mass here regularly. If you have recently moved into the area, your previous parish priest can provide certification. Applications for children who are not Catholic or non practising, can still be made without a certificate. Full details on eligibility at: Admissions Guidance – Diocese of Westminster Education Service (rcdow.org.uk)

LOURDES BIG TREE NIGHT STALL The Lourdes team have booked their stall for the Big Tree Night on the 10th December. If you are able to donate something for our stall, Christmas Tombola with prizes such as bottles, chocolates, sweets, gifts….. anything festive. please drop them off in the church porch box marked "Lourdes". Thank you. See you at Big Tree Night.

THE HOLY ROSARY will be prayed on Tuesday this coming week instead of Wednesday.

LOURDES EVENT IN THE HALL: CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT Come and join us on Friday 12th December from 7pm for a Christmassy evening of live music and festive cheer. Enjoy a complimentary glass of mulled wine and some delicious canapes whilst listening and joining in with some of your favourite Christmas songs. This heart-warming event is open to all, so please invite your friends and family. Tickets are £10, free to under 16's. We may even have a special visitor and a few surprises in store. For tickets contact Katrina on 07921 409402 / katrinalavery80@gmail.com or you can sign up in the porch after half term

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. 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 £314.00 (week previous = £224.27) Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online in September averaged £1059.58 (Aug = £873.83 pw). Thank you, we can do so much with your support.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPIES are now available at the back of church, for a donation to this honourable cause. We thank Bernard Troop who has organised these again for us this year.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
has been sponsored this week
for the repose of the souls of Gavin Boyle and Andrew Boyle (father & son)

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
THELMA BINGLE RIP

ANNIVERSARIES THIS OCTOBER
Frank Nagle, Peter King, Christopher Moran, Kitty Burden, Stella Loftus, Peter Willson, Anna Casey Clarke, Michael Hennessey, John Broadhurst, Suzannah Spiller, John Brett, Jacqueline Restel, Philip Bunce, Patrick Farrell, Dorothy Ormes, Ian Mitchell, Joyce Tracey, Kay Pollard.

Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord