THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 30 Nov	**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Maureen Bernardinis RIP Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Winston Lennox Quashie RIP
Mon 01 Dec	Advent Feria	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 02 Dec	Advent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Maria Isabel Rodrigo RIP
Wed 03 Dec	St Francis Xavier, Priest	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary after Mass**	For Albert and Rita Clifton RIP
Thurs 04 Dec	Advent Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For Gavin Boyle RIP (4th anniversary)
Fri 05 Dec	Advent Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Followed by Exposition & Benediction**	For Patrick Sheehan RIP
Sat 06 Dec	Advent Feria	Mass at 10.00am **Holy Baptism at 12.00 noon**	For Fr Dominic Byrne RIP (4th anniversary)
Sun ✠ 07 Dec	**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Grace and John Walmsley RIP Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Margaret Bigwood RIP (3rd anniversary)

Holy Rosary Prayers: Wednesday morning following the 9.30am Mass.
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 30th November 2025
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Weekly Newsletter

Sunday cycle Readings Year A

Advent 1 Psalter Week 1



As we begin the beautiful season of Advent, the Church invites us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ - not only at Christmas but also in our daily lives and at the end of time. Advent is a season of hope, expectation, and joyful waiting. Let us use these weeks to deepen our prayer, renew our faith, and share God's love with others.

Mass Readings:
First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5 "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning – hooks."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 122 "I rejoiced when they said to me: 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'"

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14 "The hour has come for you to wake from sleep."

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44 "you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Advent reminds us that God's promise is sure, but His timing is unknown. Jesus calls us to be watchful and ready. How can we make space for Him this week? Perhaps through a moment of quiet prayer, coming to a weekday Mass or maybe an act of kindness, or reconciliation with someone we find difficult.

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! All Masses at SJF are live streamed via YouTube: 'St John Fisher Shepperton'.

JOURNEY TOWARDS THE CHRISTMAS CRIB WITH US THIS COMING ADVENT. Advent is the Season of preparation for Christmas. It begins four Sundays before Christmas and has a dual focus. Firstly, Advent commemorates the Incarnation of the Christ child in Bethlehem, reminding us of the miraculous birth of Jesus, bringing hope and salvation to the world. Secondly, Advent calls us to be alert and ready for the Second Coming of Christ, emphasising the importance of our spiritual readiness and anticipation.

DURING ADVENT … at the Holy Mass, The Gloria is omitted (with the exception of feast days). We save this beautiful song, sung by the angels in heaven, for the great celebration at Christmas. We also move to the new liturgical Year A for Sunday Mass readings and Year 2 for weekday Mass readings. During this Holy season of preparing, why not spend some additional time in prayer, in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction is every Friday after the 9.30am Mass. The gentle Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) is available on Saturday evenings from 4.15pm – 4.45pm and by arrangement.

OUR CONGRATULATIONS to David who was Received into Full Communion in the Catholic Church last Sunday. Congratulations also to Jane, Francesca, Hannah, and Serena, who received the beautiful Sacrament of Holy Confirmation alongside David. Our thanks to James and Christine who journeyed with our adults as Catechists and to our candidates' sponsors who have supported and prayed for those to be Confirmed. Please continue to pray for them and also for Tiberius and Amber who have also participated in our RCIA programme, who will receive the Holy Sacraments in Rome later date.

DO TAKE A LOOK at the Repository after Mass. We have some Christmas items available: cards, children's books, rosaries, etc. Just deposit cash for your items in the wall box next to the card machine. Or you can pay using the card machine. Thank you.

A CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING (for use at home)
Lord God, we praise you for the light of creation – sun, moon and stars; we praise you for the light of Israel – Law, Prophets and Scripture; we praise you for Jesus Christ our everlasting light. As we light our tree, may our hearts be filled with joy, and may all who delight in this tree be brought to the light of knowledge and the joy of Salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREENO CENTRE: The Community Christmas Day Lunch is back again, its 35th Year. Thank you for your continuing support. The Pledge Board for vegetables, tombola and monetary donations will soon appear in the porch area. We appreciate anything that you can contribute - please sign up."

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY
Families are invited to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their Christmas Cribs at home, to be blessed here at the 10.30am Sunday Mass on Sunday 14th December. This is a beautiful Advent Tradition, instituted by Pope St John Paul II during his Papacy and continued in parishes around the world. We pray that this encourages our young children to make the connection between the Nativity set at home and the local church where they worship each weekend. Following the blessing, families are encouraged to take their 'Bambinelli' home, wrap it up and open it as a family on Christmas morning, where the youngest member places it in the crib. A gift of the presence of Christ in your home this Christmas. Remember the date for your diary: Sunday 14th December.

S.J.F PANTOMIME: The S.J.F Panto is back!!!! Get ready for a fun, family panto full of laughs, big characters, and local am-dram talent! Cheer, boo, and join the chaos in this joyful community show. There will be 5 performances; Saturday 24th January at 2pm and 6.30pm, Sunday 25th January at 2pm and Saturday 31st January at 2pm and 6.30pm. More details can be found at the back of church or by contacting Katrina on 07924 409402.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN. Registration forms are now available from the back of the church for children who attend Mass here. As in previous years, children prior to the start of the programme need to know how to make the sign of the cross, say the Our Father and the Hail Mary. This is important as we want all our children to begin at the same level. Children find it difficult to catch up if they don't know the basics. Please keep our volunteer catechists, Stephanie and Mary in your prayers, as they make preparations for their new year group.

REFRESHMENTS ARE SERVED after the 10.30am 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 prefer to park off street, we have a car park at the rear of the church. The toilets & baby nappy changing are situated by the front entrance to the Church Hall.

COLLECTIONS: The 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 work here at SJF, thank you. Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £332.08 (week previous=£230.25) Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online in October averaged £985.08 (Sept=£1059.58pw). Thank you.

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.

LITTLE CHURCH AT THE 10.30AM SUNDAY MASS Parents please help us to help you in teaching the faith to your little ones by encouraging your children to attend.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT: AN ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR. Designed by Caritas Westminster, the calendar encourages us to support others this Christmas. We can do this by donating the various items on the Advent Calendar. Please bring your items along to Mass and leave them in the collection box in the church porch. We will ensure they get to our local food bank for distribution. As always, many thanks for your kindness.

CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHN FISHER

WEDNESDAY 24TH DEC - CHRISTMAS EVE
VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS AT 5.00PM
Carols and Readings begin at 9.30pm
CHRISTMAS MASS DURING THE NIGHT AT 10.00PM
THURSDAY 25TH DEC - CHRISTMAS DAY
MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
AT 8.30AM & 10.30AM
(Friday 26th Dec - No Morning Mass)
SATURDAY 27TH DEC (No Morning Mass)
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY AT 5.00PM
SUNDAY 28TH DEC
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
MORNING MASSES AT 8.30AM & 10.30AM
(Mon 29th Dec - No Morning Mass)
Tue 30th Dec & Wed 31st Dec - Mass at 9.30am
THURSDAY 1ST JAN 2026
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
MASS AT 12.00 NOON
(Fri 2nd Jan - No Morning Mass)
SATURDAY 3RD JAN (No Morning Mass)
2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY
VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY AT 5.00PM
SUNDAY 4TH JAN
2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY
MORNING MASSES AT 8.30AM & 10.30AM
TUESDAY 6TH JAN
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Holy Day)
MASSES AT 9.30AM & 7.00PM

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY
this week is for the repose of the souls of
Lorna Troop RIP and Mandy Mollentze RIP

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
ANNIVERSARIES THIS DECEMBER
Lynn-Marie Szczelkun, Herbert Bishop,
James Loftus, Dominic Dyer, Alice Cane,
Maurice Dodd, Robert Tams, Terry Ryan,
Francis Curley, Lillian Maloney,
John Cunningham, Sheila Barrett,
Daniel Hodgson, Wilbert West-Watson,
Alan South, Marina Schwartz, John Byrne,
Sheila Passey, Mary McCarthy, Denis Miranda, Lorna Troop, Reg Day, Fr Dominic Byrne,
Gavin Boyle, Patrick Cronin, Maureen Greta Pearce,
Margaret Bigwood, Joe Delahunty.
Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord