THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 22 Feb	**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Ken Johnson RIP (anniversary) For George Trussier RIP
Mon 23 Feb	Lent feria	No Mass today	
Tue 24 Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **FHC class - hall 5.00pm**	For Maureen Powley RIP (anniversary)
Wed 25 Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Funeral Mass at 11.30am**	For Kathleen O Connell RIP **For Tony Leonard RIP**
Thurs 26 Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Warm Hub - hall 10.00am**	For Jack Mulvany RIP
Fri 27 Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Exposition follows Mass** **Station of the Cross 7.00pm**	Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish
Sat 28 Feb	Lent feria	Mass at 10.00am	For Cidalia Alexandre RIP (5th Anniversary)
Sun ✠ 1st Mar	**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Paul Cullen RIP For Sean Lenahan RIP Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish

HOLY ROSARY PRAYERS: Wednesday morning following the 9.30am Mass (not this week).
EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION follows 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.
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 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

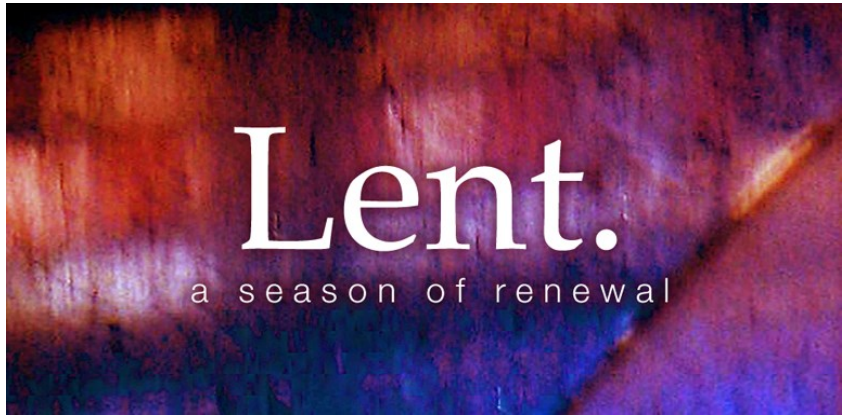
Parish Safeguarding: Mandy Howick (until appointment is made) sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator: 020 7798 9356

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
Lent Readings Year A
Weekdays
Lent
Divine Office
Wk 1

Sunday 22nd February 2026
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT
Weekly Newsletter



Lent has arrived again, the beautiful season when the Church gently suggests that perhaps our souls, like our cupboards, might benefit from a little spring cleaning. While the world encourages us to "treat ourselves," Lent invites us to "transform ourselves" with far fewer calories involved.

This Lent , our parish is beginning *Caritas – Love in Action*. It's a simple but meaningful way to live our faith more visibly. Christianity, after all, is not a spectator sport; it's something we do with our sleeves rolled up!

The Church reminds us that our faith is lived through Action, Justice and Love:
Action is the quick response to someone's immediate need — the warm meal, the offered lift, the friendly ear.
Justice is the long haul — asking why people are struggling and what we can do to help change it.
Love is the everyday stuff of ordinary kindness and patient forgiveness.

Throughout Lent and into Easter, we'll work together to offer practical opportunities to put these into action as a parish family. Nothing overwhelming, just steady, hopeful steps that help us to grow as a community where Christ's love is not only spoken about but seen.

We'd be thrilled if you can join us on this journey because small acts of generosity from the heart, offered with great love, can make a surprising difference…

Happy Sunday - Holy Lent!

WELCOME to this Holy Season of Lent. It's a season of fasting, praying and giving. The Church moves into a different mood, with the hanging of purple banners and a change in the Gospel Acclamation. We save the *Alleluia*, the *Gloria*, the flowers and brighter vestments for the celebrations at Easter. In this way we start to be guided on our journey through Lent and helped to examine our lives in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. We are reminded that Lent is not just about what we give up. It's about who we become! How is God calling you this Lent?

LOVE IN ACTION – LENT 2026 this weekend we welcome Sr Silvana rscj. who will speak to us briefly at Mass, as we officially launch *Love in Action* — helping us to explore how we can proclaim the Good News in fresh and practical ways through Catholic Social Teaching (CST). The programme will run throughout Lent and into Easter. This is a beautiful opportunity for all of us to deepen our faith within our parish and beyond.

THANK YOU to all who attended the Holy Mass here on Ash Wednesday, last week. The congregation numbers at both Masses, morning and evening, were very encouraging to see. It was particularly brilliant to have Altar Servers in the Sanctuary during their half term break - thank you all, you are great!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are a lovely Lenten tradition. In this devotion, we make the journey to Calvary with our Lord Jesus, focusing on how he suffered for us and his interactions with those he met on the way. The Stations will commence in church this Friday 27th February at 7.00pm and then, each Friday of Lent. If you are looking for something different to do this Lent, come and join us in this quiet meditative encounter with the Lord.

THE CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY will be on Friday 27th February. Have a simple meal this Lent and give what you save to help end malnutrition. Donation envelopes are available this weekend.

CHILDREN'S MASS CARDS AND MISSALS are available at the back of the church to help our little ones to pray and to learn the Mass. Parents please encourage your children to use these as you support them on their Christian journey.

CHILDREN'S LENT CALENDARS: Children, don't forget to collect a Lent Calendar from the back of the church. They are next to your *'Look'* sheets.

REGISTRATION for the Sacrament of Confirmation programme, for young people in school years 9 & 10 - CLOSES THIS WEEKEND!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE 2026: Friday 6th March at 12 noon in our church. This year, we will be hosting this service which has been written by the Christian women of Nigeria. Our speaker will be Eileen Murray from Aid to the Church in Need. It is an opportunity for people from different Christian denominations to come together in prayer, reflection and music, and all are welcome. Refreshments will be available in the hall after the service.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION – Friday 20th March 7.00pm - 10.00pm SJF Church Hall. Please come along and join in the fun – there is a licenced bar and dancing. The entry is £5 per person, payable on the door. Please complete the sign-up sheet in the Church porch area so that we have an idea of numbers. We look forward to celebrating with you all.

AED/CPR AWARENESS TRAINING: Thursday 26th March 10.00-12.00noon in the Church Hall. Could you help save a life in the event of an emergency? Come along to this session and you will have much more knowledge on how to do so. Our skilled parishioner Joe, will show you what to do and how to use the equipment if needed. Have a go or just watch and learn. There are no age limits. This is a relaxed session all about improving awareness. We will be serving tea and coffee so you can have a nice cuppa too! Let us know if you are interested, to help us with preparations.

ALL MASSES here are live streamed, offering a valuable link for those who are incapacitated and unable to get to Mass. If you are unwell, just go to *You Tube* and type in the search box: 'St John Fisher Shepperton'. But as always we enjoy having you with us here in person.

HELPING OTHERS - FOOD BANK DROP OFF: Thank you if you are able to bring some non perishable food for our Food Bank Box. Your kind donations, placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, are going directly to help local people via the Jubilee Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity.

CAR PARKING: The roads around the church can get very congested at the weekend Masses, especially at the 10.30am Mass. If you are driving to Mass, please consider using our free car park, at the rear of the church hall. This will help our neighbours who need to get in and out and will help with the congestion too.

SIX BIBLE STUDIES ON-LINE ON THE LENTEN SUNDAY GOSPELS the forthcoming Lenten Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. It's free of charge and begins on Tuesday 17th Feb at 7.00pm and six consecutive Tuesdays (7-8:15pm) on YouTube live. Register: comeandsee.org/lent26

SOME LITURGICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
St Joseph - 19th March
The Annunciation of the Lord 25th March
Palm Sunday of Holy Week - 29th March
Maundy Thursday - 2nd April
Good Friday - 3rd April
Holy Saturday - 4th April
Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord - 5th April

THE WARM HUB ON THURSDAYS - meeting in the Church Hall. We are open to anyone and everyone. These are lovely sessions where anyone can come and have a hot drink and a chat, which is so important in the winter months. We open at 10.00am until 11.30am. Come along, bring your friends and best of all it's free! Thank you to our volunteers who make it all happen. If you know of an elderly neighbour or a parent home alone, do please invite them along.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY, Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm. The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5**th **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the Parish Office on shepperton@rcdow.org.uk giving the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email). Thank you.

COLLECTIONS AT WEEKEND MASSES: Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £316.06 (week previous: £333.90) Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online in January averaged £996.46 (January:£1259.10). Thank you. The weekend loose money 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. As always - thank you. You are brilliant.

HOLY BAPTISM is a joyous Sacrament We greatly encourage Holy Baptism for babies of families who attend here. It is recommended that Holy Baptism takes place within baby's first year. Baptism leaflets explaining this Holy Sacrament, with important information including the requirements for Catholic godparents, are available from the church porch table.

PRAYER REQUEST BOX: for your prayers, to be offered during the praying of the Holy Rosary, is situated at the back of the church. Rosary Prayers are offered on Wed' following the 9.30am Mass**.**

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 BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY THIS WEEK
is offered for the repose of the souls
of Elizabeth and George Killingbeck

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Anne Miles RIP, Colin Brindle RIP,
Tony Leonard RIP,
ANNIVERSARIES THIS FEBRUARY
Canon George Groves, Peter Madyslam,
Sarah Sharratt, Fr Michael Groarke, Mary Pitfield
Fr Ron Aylward, Bernard Bunce, Nora Harris,
Raymond Restel, Anne Quinn, Terry Sharratt,
Brenda Jones, Patrick Harris, Barbara Hughes,
Stephen Marriage. Samuel William Elliott,
Susan Jane Connerty-Smith, Alan Cook,
Arthur "Ken" Johnson.
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord