THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 01 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
Mon 02 Mar	Lent feria	No Mass today	
Tue 03 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **FHC class - hall 5.00pm**	For Quiney Fay RIP
Wed 04 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary follows Mass**	For John Brown RIP (anniversary)
Thurs 05 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Confirmation Class 7.00pm**	For Sheila and Mary Frances Doherty RIP
Fri 06 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Exposition follows Mass** **World Day of Prayer Service at 12.00 noon** **Stations of the Cross 7.00pm**	For all our volunteers - in thanksgiving
Sat 07 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 10.00am **First Reconciliations at 11.00am in church**	For our First Holy Communion children making their First Reconciliation
Sun ✠ 08 Mar	**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Cornelius O' Sullivan RIP Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Belinda Schmid - for healing

HOLY ROSARY PRAYERS: Wednesday morning following the 9.30am Mass.
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
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Address: St John Fisher Catholic Church, 15 Wood Road, Shepperton. TW17 0DH
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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 Wk 2
Divine Office
Wk 2

Sunday 1st March 2026
2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
Weekly Newsletter



A MOUNTAIN-TOP MOMENT: TIME FOR A PEAK AT OUR PLANET

In the Transfiguration of the Lord, the disciples glimpse Jesus radiant in glory, his face "like the sun" and his clothes "white as light." It echoes Moses' own encounter with God on Mount Sinai, when his face shone after receiving the Commandments. Both moments reveal a truth the Church has always held: when God is truly encountered, creation itself becomes luminous, renewed, and alive. The Transfiguration also foreshadows the Resurrection, when even Mary Magdalene needed a second look to recognise the Risen Christ.

As Sr Silvana reminded us last week, Catholic Social Teaching -"the best kept secret of the Church" tells us that creation, too, is meant to share in this brightness. Pope Francis, in Laudato Si', called the earth *"God's gift".*

Caring for creation isn't an optional extra; it's part of living as disciples who see God's hand in the world around us.

So this week, try one simple act of care for creation: recycle more thoughtfully; pick up a stray piece of litter; save water by turning off the tap while brushing your teeth; or simply switch off a light you don't need. And while you're at it, take a moment to enjoy the beauty of our countryside and offer a prayer of thanks.



The world didn't just happen. Like any good book, it had an author, a designer, a Creator. Thanks be to God!
Happy Sunday - have a holy Lent!

P.S. Want to know more about Catholic Social Teaching?
Go to: catholicsocialteaching.org.uk

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. Following the launch last week - we begin our programme this weekend with a look at Care of Creation. We are stewards of creation and we are called to look after our world. *"Creation is not a property, which we can rule over at will or the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude. (Pope Francis)*
Prayer: Heavenly Father, Help us to see with your eyes, to judge with the loving heart of your Son, Jesus Christ, and through your Spirit to put love into action. Amen.

THE WARM HUB ended last Thursday after a wonderful run of 8 weeks. Over the past 8 weeks our brilliant volunteers have provided lovely hospitality, refreshments, cakes and toast! Each week went from strength to strength. We were able to support those who attended with things to help them keep warm at home: free electric blankets, thermos flasks and cosy bags. If you attended, thank you, if you missed out, see you in January 2027.

RENO BERNARDINIS RIP: Reno died at home in Shepperton on Thursday evening, 19th Feb, having received the Holy Sacraments of the Church earlier in the week. Reno was a faithful Catholic and a great supporter of SJF and had for some years, painted the scenery for the Lourdes parish pantomime. Reno attended the Saturday Vigil Mass - often assisting with the offertory collection until he became unwell. Reno will be greatly missed by his family, friends and many parishioners in the church. "*Go forth Christian soul - inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world"* Funeral details later.

KNIT AND NATTER: Would you be interested in coming along and joining in such a group (or even helping to run it) - possibly on a Tuesday or Thursday morning or an afternoon in the Church hall? Before we go ahead we would like to ascertain who might be interested. Please add your name to the sign up sheet in the porchway of the Church to express an interest. If we have enough interest we will give it a go.

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 continue in church this Friday 26th March 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.

ARE YOU GOING SOMEWHERE ON SUNDAY? HOPE IT'S SOMEWHERE ENJOYABLE! But did you know that you can still keep your Sunday obligation by joining us for the Vigil Mass (which anticipates Sunday) on Saturday evening at 5.00pm. Why? Well simply because you are part of our parish family and you are missed when you are not with us.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE: this coming Friday 6th March at 12.00noon 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.

STABAT MATER CONCERT: Wed 18th March at 6.45pm in Westminster Cathedral. The Cathedral Choir and the Britten Sinfonia will perform a concert of reflection on the ancient Marian hymn, contemplating the sorrow of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the foot of the Cross: MacMillan's *Stabat Mater*, and Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis.* As a way of encouraging parishes across the diocese to benefit from this spiritual preparation to the Holy Week, the Cathedral offers an opportunity to buy tickets at a discount of 50%. Discounted tickets are available in Sections A, B and N at the following link: https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F00638BCD835BA6?did=50off Password: WCSBDO. The performance will begin with Sir James MacMillan in conversation with Fr Patrick van der Vorst, the Cathedral Precentor and Founder of Christian Art website.

COLLECTIONS AT WEEKEND MASSES: Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £248.93 (week previous: £316.06) 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.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE (PSR) – Could you be the PSR for our Parish – or perhaps share the role with someone else? It can be a truly rewarding role, much needed in our Parish. The PSR is a critical link between the parish and the Diocesan Safeguarding Service. You would be involved in helping us to facilitate the DBS Disclosure procedure at parish level with volunteers with help and guidance from both Fr Shaun and Mandy. For more information about the role please use this link: https://rcdow.org.uk/safeguarding/psr-parish-safeguarding-representative/

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

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)

CAFOD THANKS: Thank you to all who took part in the Family Fast Day, last Friday. Please deposit your donations in the **Grey bucket** at the back of the church. Donation envelopes are also at the back of the church, if you wish to gift aid your support.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY THIS WEEK
is offered for the repose of the soul
of John Brown RIP

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Tom Bonikowski RIP, Reno Bernardinis RIP
Anne Miles RIP, Colin Brindle RIP,
ANNIVERSARIES THIS MARCH
Denis Ryan, E.J. Cane, Kathleen Sweet,
Rose Ryan, Fr Charles Connor, John Ohlson,
Victoria Roberts, Patricia Macklin,
Mary O'Sullivan, James O'Sullivan, Lynn Guevara,
Maureen Mitchell, Eileen Tams, Helen Bool,
Brian Duffy, Matthew Sawyer, Jane Bermingham,
C.V. Pepper, Mary Cotter, Joy McQuade,
Anne Gandhi.
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord