THIS WEEK AT SJF

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
Mon 09 Mar	Lent feria	No Mass today	
Tue 10 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **FHC class - hall 5.00pm**	For Anne Gandhi RIP (first anniversary)
Wed 11 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary follows Mass**	For Patrick and Gertrude Mulvany RIP
Thurs 12 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Confirmation Class 7.00pm**	For Georgina Cook RIP
Fri 13 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **FUNERAL MASS at 11.30** **Stations of the Cross 7.00pm**	Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish **For Anne Miles RIP**
Sat 14 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 10.00am	For Clara Keller and Rene Keller - with birthday wishes
Sun ✠ 15 Mar	**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT** LAETARE SUNDAY - REJOICE	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Valentin Vasilev - for a speedy recovery Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Jackie Joe O'Donnell RIP

HOLY ROSARY PRAYERS: Wednesday morning following the 9.30am Mass.
EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION follows after Mass on Fridays. **(not this Friday)**
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 · SHEPPERTON ·

Sunday 8th March 2026
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
Weekly Newsletter

Sunday cycle
Lent Readings Year A
Weekdays
Lent Wk 3
Divine Office
Wk 3

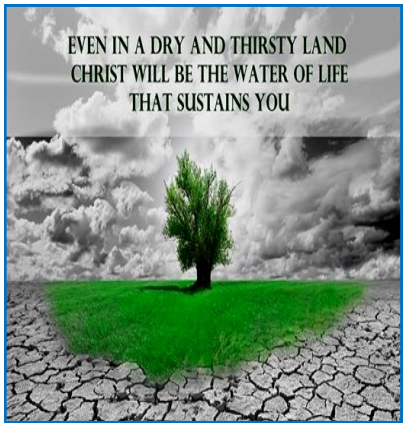


ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

GIVE ME A DRINK

In today's Gospel, Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well and holds a conversation that would have made any first century onlooker spill their water jar! Jesus speaks with the woman in a way that surprises everyone. He crosses boundaries of culture, religion, and social standing to reveal a truth at the heart of our faith: every person is created with God's given dignity and deserves to be met with respect.

The woman arrives, weighed down by her past and isolated from her community, yet Jesus engages her with patience and compassion. He listens, He invites, and He restores her sense of worth. The woman's encounter with Christ becomes life changing, not only for her, but for her whole village.



This scene is a vivid reminder of Catholic Social Teaching, which calls us to recognise the equal dignity of all people, especially those who feel judged, unseen, or quietly sitting at the edge of the crowd hoping no one notices them. During this Lenten season, we're encouraged to follow Jesus' example: to open our hearts, dismantle barriers, and become living witnesses of God's mercy. May Christ, the giver of living water, refresh our own spirits and help us see His presence in every person we meet.

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 continues this week as we look at the dignity and equality of every person. In the very first book of the Holy Bible, Genesis (1:26–27), we are told that we are all made in God's image and likeness. So, when we speak about our brothers and sisters, we truly believe that each one carries within them the divine spark, a reflection of God's own life and love. Because of this, no one is insignificant, disposable or "less than." Every person, regardless of background, ability, circumstance, or story, possesses an inherent dignity that cannot be taken away.

RENO BERNARDINIS RIP: Reno died at home Thursday evening, 19th February. The date for his Funeral Mass here has been confirmed: Wednesday 25th March at 11.30am followed by burial at Sunbury Cemetery.

KNIT AND NATTER UPDATE - Interest is growing. If you are interested in coming along and joining in, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the church porchway, to express an interest. We will be meeting on Tuesday afternoons 1.00-3.00pm beginning on Tuesday 17th March, see you there.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION UPDATE: Friday 20th March 7.00pm-10.00pm SJF Hall. Come along and join in the fun – licenced bar and dancing. The entry is £5 per person, payable on the door. Children under 16 go FREE! Please sign-up in the church porch, so that we have an idea of numbers. We look forward to celebrating with you all.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU to everyone who took part in and came along to this years Pantomime. We raised an amazing £2,200 for the Lourdes fund. One of our parishioners has kindly written a review for us. We hope you enjoy it...

Cinderella Saturday 31st January 2026 SJF:

The show got off to a good start with Narrators Keiron O'Shea and Bernard Lavery. I felt we were in good hands with Keiron's old school warm comedic hosting style.

Next we had, what seemed like the whole cast on stage dancing to Let's Twist Again. Totally daft and silly but somehow it worked, with a big injection of joy and light-hearted fun.

Next we met Cinderella, played by Chloé Lavery, slaving with her broom in the castle kitchens, looking with her head scarf, like a Russian peasant girl. She gave a strong performance as a slightly knowing, sassy Cinders who seemed somewhat underwhelmed by her Prince Charming.

Next we met Viral Influenza, the stepmother of Cinders, played by Stuart Fanti. A larger than life, in every sense, character who seemed to dominate the stage and inject a dose of menace into his character with his midlands Peaky Blinders accent. An incredibly intense performance by Paul Lavery as the ugly stepsister Bubonica Influenza, seeming to channel, in memorable style, the worst traits of Katie Price and Vicky Pollard into one of the most obnoxious ugly sister characters I can remember seeing.

I was impressed by all members of the Royal family and great costumes on what I would think to be a minimal budget. They all played their characters competently and worked well together as a stage family. Very impressed by Nancy Law as the queens handmaid, that young lady will go a long way.

Norah McKeogh looked amazing as the oily but politically savvy Dandini and together with Katrina as the spoilt but dim prince, made a brilliant comic double act. I particularly liked the exchange with the canned hit songs. It must have taken a lot of work but was seamless on the night and for me was one of the highlights.

Nice cameos by Magdalena Bourne-Fanti as Sherlock Holmes, Beran Bacquey as the Allo Allo style reporter and Hauke Reisch as the somewhat dim Baron Hardup.

John Riley

CONGRATULATIONS to our First Holy Communion Class of 2026, who made their first reconciliation on Saturday morning. Well done to you all! Thanks also to their brilliant catechists, Stephanie and Mary who had prepared them.

SAVE THE DATE!! The Lourdes team will be hosting its annual Quiz Night on Friday 17th April. Keep an eye out for more details!! Tickets will go on sale on the 21st March.

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 13th 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.

DISGRUNTLED NEIGHBOUR… was the subject heading of an email received in the office this week. The email referred to the gentleman's frustration at the weekend with some cars being parked on the street without consideration for our neighbours. Please, please do your very best to consider others and the highway code when you park on the street - better still, use our own car park. Our neighbours are very tolerant of the busyness of the church. Let's be neighbourly too. Thank you. Fr Shaun.

GOING SOMEWHERE ON SUNDAY? Hope it's somewhere enjoyable! 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're not with us.

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.

COLLECTIONS AT WEEKEND MASSES: Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £293.28 (week previous: £248.93) 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.

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

MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE! Caritas Westminster is offering free online training for parishioners who want to volunteer and support people in their local community facing unemployment or financial hardship. More details and sign up here: https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/financial-resilience-training-for-volunteers/

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 soul
of Lorna Troop RIP & Mandy Mollentze 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