THIS WEEK AT SJF

Sun ✠ 22 Mar	**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For William Diekmann RIP For Gavril Pista RIP (birthday)
Mon 23 Mar	Lent feria	No Mass today	
Tue 24 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **FHC class - hall 5.00pm**	For peace in our troubled world
Wed 25 Mar	**THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary — Newman Room** **FUNERAL MASS at 11.30am**	For Ernie Laurella RIP **For Guerrino Bernardinis RIP**
Thurs 26 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Confirmation Class 7.00pm**	For Anne Gibney RIP
Fri 27 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 9.30am **Exposition follows Mass** **Stations of the Cross 7.00pm**	For C-Lynn & Lorraine Babcock
Sat 28 Mar	Lent feria	Mass at 10.00am	Pro populo - for the people of our parish
Sun ✠ 29 Mar	**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**	**Sat Vigil Mass 5.00pm** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro populo - for the people of our parish Pro populo - for the people of our parish Pro populo - for the people of our parish

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**
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 22ND MARCH 2026
5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sunday cycle
Lent Readings Year A
Weekdays
Lent Wk 5
Divine Office
Wk 1



STAND BACK—THE LORD IS ABOUT TO RAISE THE DEAD

In today's Gospel, when Jesus calls Lazarus from the tomb, he reveals himself as *"the resurrection and the life"*. Before the Lord performs this great sign, Jesus shows something essential: He draws near to the grieving family, listens to their pain, weeps with them, and stands beside them in their darkest moment. Jesus' miracle flows from his compassion as the Saviour. This compassion should surely be the pattern for us.

Faith in the Resurrection is not only a belief about the future, it changes how we live now. To believe in Jesus Christ is to already share in his life. This is a life that should move us to put love into action: to stand with those who feel lost, to lift those bowed down by sorrow, to offer forgiveness where hurt has lingered and to bring hope where despair has settled.

Every act of mercy becomes a small sign of resurrection, a way of helping another person step out of their "tomb," whatever it may be.

As we approach Holy Week, let us ask for the grace to love as Jesus loves: with compassion that moves towards others, with courage that heals, and with faith that sees beyond death, into the fullness of life that God has promised.

Happy Sunday - Holy Lent!



HOLY WEEK BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY

WELCOME as we continue on our pilgrimage through this Holy Season of Lent. It's a season of fasting, praying and giving. As we prepare for the events of 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?

THE VEILING OF IMAGES IN CHURCH: You will notice that the images and statues in the church are now veiled and will remain covered until the first Mass of Easter. This ancient custom expresses the Church's sorrow in these final days of Lent and helps draw our attention more deeply to the Passion of Christ. The veils serve as a gentle reminder of how sin obscures our vision of God and of our need for reconciliation as we approach Holy Week. We introduced these new veils last year, which bring a more uniform and dignified appearance to the church during this solemn time.

IT'S UP AND RUNNING! Knit & Natter started last Tuesday in the church hall. Everyone is welcome, just come along and bring something to work on: knitting, crochet, embroidery, tapestry, sewing, whatever you want. Or you may just want to come for the 'Natter' part, you are most welcome to do so. Just come along anytime between 1pm and 3pm – we are very flexible. We will serve tea and coffee mid-way through the session.

AED/CPR AWARENESS TRAINING: THIS COMING 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!



DON'T FORGET: The clocks spring forward one hour to British Summer Time next Sunday - 29th March, Palm Sunday

SAVE THE DATE!! The Lourdes team will be hosting its annual Quiz Night on Friday 17th April. Tickets will go on sale this weekend.

HAVE A MASS OFFERED FOR YOUR INTENTIONS: To request a Mass intention, in thanksgiving, for a birthday, wedding anniversary, for someone who is ill or who has died, please contact Mandy in the office. (Wed & Thurs mornings). The diocesan recommendation for your offering is £10 or whatever you can afford. If you are making a hand written request, please add your contact details so we can advise you when the Mass will be offered.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are a great way to decompress after a busy week – ready for the weekend. In this devotion, we make the journey to Calvary with Jesus, focusing on how he suffered for us and his interactions with those he met on the way. The Stations are in church each Friday at 7.00pm during Lent and Holy Week.

UPDATE: DISGRUNTLED NEIGHBOUR A second email has been received in the office this past weekend. This regards weekend parking on the junction of Wood Road and Squires Road. Please do park with consideration for our neighbours. Thank you. Fr Shaun.

A RACE TO LOURDES: William Lavery writes: Beginning on the 1st of March and ending on the 16th of July, follow along as a group of the Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage's own volunteers race to see who can make it to Lourdes first in a 1000+ km virtual race! Money raised from this event will be donated to the Diocese of Westminster Lourdes Pilgrimage fund, and will be used to fund the journey of many pilgrims who would otherwise be unable to participate. Please use the QR code if you would like to support us. Thank you.

EASTER FLOWERS: Can you help us to offset the cost of our Easter Flowers? There is a button on the card machine to help with donations. Thank you - you're "blooming" marvellous!

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2026

28/29 March	**PALM SUNDAY WITH THE BLESSING OF PALMS** **Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday at 5.00pm** **Sunday Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am** (No Mass on Monday)
31/01 April	**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK** **Mass at 9.30am**
	THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM
02 April	**MAUNDY THURSDAY** **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm** Night Watch at the Altar of Repose until 9.00pm
03 April	**GOOD FRIDAY** Children's Stations of the Cross at 11.00am **The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3.00pm** Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm
04 April	**HOLY SATURDAY** **The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night at 8.00pm** (Sunset)
05 April	**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD** **Sunday Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am**

Email: shepperton@rcdow.org.uk - Tel: 01932 563116
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton
YouTube: St John Fisher Shepperton

COLLECTIONS AT WEEKEND MASSES: Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £294.33 (week previous: £252.09) Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online in February averaged £908.33per week (January: £996.46). 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.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT: If you are just in a rut or for more serious issues – Retrouvaille could be the solution. www.retrouvaille.org.uk 0797 338 0443

T BAKER & CO, ROADSHOW will be hiring our Hall this coming Tues 31st March. 10.00 - 3.00pm to offer a vintage valuation and buying service.
You can read more about this company at:
www.tbakerroadshow.co.uk

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.

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP is a very special thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. The cost is just £5 for the whole week. Please contact Mandy in the Parish Office for available dates.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY THIS WEEK
is offered for all who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of the Church during Easter

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Tom Bonikowski RIP, Guerrino Bernardinis 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