✠ HAPPY EASTER ✠

Sun ✠ 05 April	**THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT** **EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION**	**8.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am** **10.30am**	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish Nechama Argent RIP (Birthday) Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Mon 06 April **Bank Holiday**	Monday within the Octave of Easter	No Mass at SJF	
Tue 07 April	Tuesday within the Octave of Easter	No Mass at SJF **Knit & Natter in hall 1-3pm**	
Wed 08 April	Wednesday within the Octave of Easter	No Mass at SJF **Holy Rosary in church at 10.00am**	
Thurs 09 April	Thursday within the Octave of Easter	No Mass at SJF	
Fri 10 April	Friday within the Octave of Easter	No Mass at SJF	
Sat 11 April	Saturday within the Octave of Easter	No Morning Mass	
Sun ✠ 12 April	**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For our families and friends Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For Noel Brown RIP & the family intentions

Masses locally, telephone for details:

St Michael's - Ashford
01784 252230

St Anne's - Chertsey
01932 562375

St Ignatius - Sunbury
01932 783507

Please also check church websites for any updates. If you need a Priest urgently during this week, please contact one of the other local Catholic churches.

Back to the regular schedule from the week commencing Monday 13th April

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

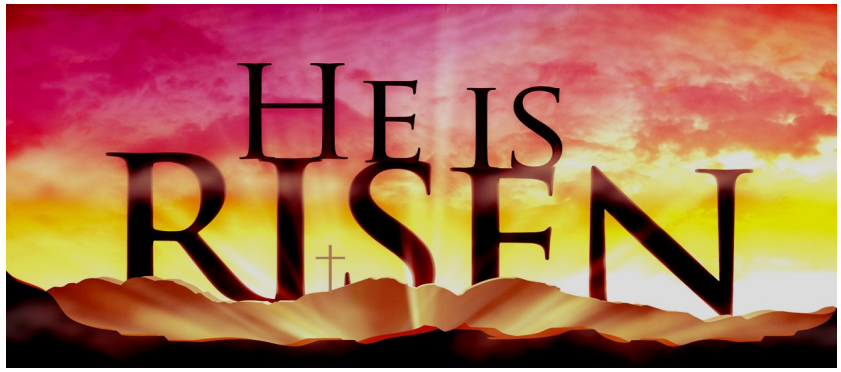
Parish Safeguarding: Mandy Howick (until appointment is made) sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator: 020 7798 9356

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/

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekdays
Easter Octave
Divine Office:
Easter Ocvtave

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 2026
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Easter isn't just another date on the calendar, it's *the* celebration for Catholics and for all who rejoice in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from death. Easter is the time we remember that Jesus didn't just step out of the tomb, he burst out, triumphing over sin and death and throwing open the doors to new life and hope.

If we are totally honest: our world could really use that hope. There's plenty of pain, stress, and uncertainty around us and sometimes it feels like we're carrying more than our fair share. But Easter doesn't ignore the darkness; it shines right into it. The Risen Lord reminds us that darkness cannot have the final word and that God never walks away, even when life feels heavy.

So as we celebrate the Risen Lord this Easter, we're invited to a spiritual "spring cleaning" to let go of anything that weighs us down. Easter calls us to open the windows of our hearts, to let the fresh air of grace in, and allow Jesus to transform us into the Easter People we're meant to be.

As Christians: we are carriers of hope. We are people who bring light where there's gloom, kindness where there's division, and a smile where someone needs reminding that God is more close than they could ever imagine.
May this Easter fill you with joy, renewal, and the kind of hope that's too good to keep to yourself!

Have a great Easter Sunday and continue the celebrations! Fr Shaun

✠ ALLELUIA - ALLELUIA - ALLELUIA ✠

WELCOME THIS EASTER - IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU WITH US! At all Easter Sunday Masses, the Sequence is said, after the second reading. In place of the Creed; the renewal of Baptismal Promises takes place after the homily. If you are visiting or returning after some time away - it's great to have you with us!

THE HOLY WEEK AND EASTER LITURGIES have been celebrated fully at SJF, but as you know, our Masses and Liturgies don't just happen. Some wonderfully dedicated people gave many hours of their time voluntarily to provide, what we sometimes don't give a second thought to. Thank you to all who helped during Holy Week and into our Easter celebrations. Special thanks to our Sacristans who have prepared, cleaned & polished their way through the past weeks. Thanks also to our flower arrangers, gardeners, altar servers, cleaners, readers and to our wonderful musicians and singers, eucharistic ministers and those who stepped up to help out when needed, at the 11th hour, for those last minute things. If you helped in any way, thank you. Your kind dedication to SJF and the Lord, is greatly appreciated by us all.

EASTER HOLY WATER This was blessed during the Easter Vigil and is available from the Holy Water dispenser which is close to the font. Please ensure that you close off the tap after use. If you are unsure - please ask, we are happy to help.

OUR CHURCH is a friendly place, but it's easy to reach out to those we already know. This Easter there may well be visitors and people returning after some time away. A smile or a gentle 'hello' can make all the difference and pointing out where Mass sheets are can be invaluable. Thank you.

NEXT SUNDAY is 'Divine Mercy Sunday' and is the culmination of the novena to the Divine Mercy of Jesus, a devotion mystically given to St. Faustina (Maria Faustina Kowalska), and is based upon an entry in her diary stating that anyone who participates in the Mass and receives the Sacraments of Confession and the Eucharist on this day is assured by Jesus of full remission of their sins.

AFTER MASS REFRESHMENTS AND LITTLE CHURCH are suspended for this weekend but will be back to normal next Sunday from 10.30am.

HOW IS EASTER SUNDAY DETERMINED? Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday *after* the first full moon of the Spring equinox. So Easter in the Gregorian calendar in use today, always falls between 22nd March and the 25th April. You might have heard that our Orthodox Christian brothers and sisters celebrate Easter at a different time? This is because they still use the Julian calendar, which calculates Passover and Easter to a different date.

JUST SO THAT YOU KNOW… weekday Masses for this week are suspended, whilst Fr Shaun is on leave. The Saturday evening Vigil Mass at 5.00pm and Masses on Sunday morning will be celebrated as normal on his return.

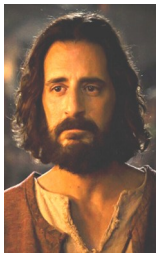
OFFICE MOVES: After six years working in the church office as our brilliant Bookkeeper and prior to this, as Parish Secretary, Traci will be retiring at the end of April. Traci has been exemplary in her dedication and support of the Mission of SJF church and we will miss her greatly, We wish Traci and her husband Rich, a very happy and fruitful retirement together.
In order to continue Traci's good work, there is a link below with details of the role, for anyone you might think suitable, to apply directly to the Diocese. Parish Bookkeeper (Job Ref: 854-SHEPP) – Diocese of Westminster Careers

KNIT & NATTER in the Church Hall is going very well and will meet this coming Tuesday 7th April 1-3pm. We are so pleased that this group is popular and you are enjoying it. It's open to all, just come along!

QUIZ NIGHT: The Lourdes team will be hosting its annual Quiz Night on Friday 17th April. Tickets are on sale this weekend.

Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 17th – 24th July 2026. Registration is now open at **https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk/registration-form/** or via the Pilgrimage Office on 0207 798 9173. If you would like to sponsor or fundraise for an Assisted Pilgrim, member of the medical team or volunteer then please also contact the Pilgrimage Office for further details.

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 Wednesday mornings**.**



THE CHOSEN is the first ever episodic television drama about the life of Jesus. The Chosen allows us to see him through the eyes of those who knew him and aims to be historically and culturally accurate. It's available to view free of charge on *The Chosen* App. To watch on your home computer, iPad or mobile phone use this link: https://watch.thechosen.tv/ You can also watch it on Netflix, Amazon Prime or YouTube.

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

AFTERNOON TEA: Bernard and Pirlanta cordially invite you to Afternoon Tea in the beautiful setting of their Garden on Saturday 23rd May from 14.00 until 18:00. If you would like to come along and partake in delicious homemade goodies and a glass of bubbles, please sign up in the porch or call Katrina on 07921 409402. £15pp. All proceeds will go to the Lourdes fund. Deadline for signing up is Wednesday 20th May

EASTER FLOWERS: Thank you for helping us to offset the cost of our Easter Flowers over the Easter season. There is a button on the card machine to help with donations, if you would still like the opportunity to help. Thank you - you're "blooming" marvellous!

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY, Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May at 2:30pm. The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass, all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 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 .

THE EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES available from the back of the church contribute, in a small way, to the stipend (salary) of clergy at SJF throughout the year. They are not a personal gift, to Fr Shaun. They are however, much appreciated. Thank you

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.

COLLECTIONS AT WEEKEND MASSES: Last weekend the combined loose money collections across the three Masses was £338.19 (week previous: £309.54) Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online in February averaged £908.33per week (January: £996.46). 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.

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW: The Catholic Mass 101: learn every part of the Mass and what it means with Fr. Mike Schmitz. This is a great watch for anyone and everyone: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RS8NrJ0Y5O8

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)

AND FINALLY… have you noticed that the Papal Flag is flying in front of the church in celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord - Alleluia, Alleluia!

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY THIS WEEK
is offered for the repose of the souls of
Lorna Troop RIP & Mandy Mollentze RIP
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

ANNIVERSARIES THIS APRIL
Margaret Ward, Maurice Ward,
Leila Waterhouse, Edward Reilly,
Christopher Romer, Winifred Smith,
Maureen Keady, William Walsh, Ted Jones,
Anna Semkowicz-Holt, Cecilia Grose, Fr Anton Cowan, Catherine Monica Clarkin, Jeffrey Cowen.
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord