THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 03 May	**5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Maureen & Rino Bernardinis RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For an increase in vocations to the priesthood
Mon 04 May (Bank Holiday)	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	No Mass today	
Tue 05 May	Easter Feria	No Mass today **Knit & Natter - hall 1-3pm** **FHC class - hall 5pm**	
Wed 06 May	Easter Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary follows Mass**	For the intentions of Matthew and Claire
Thurs 07 May	Easter Feria *(Local Elections)*	Mass at 9.30am	Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish
Fri 08 May	Easter Feria *(1st Anniversary of the Election of Pope Leo XIV)*	Mass at 9.30am **Adoration follows Mass** **FHC rehearsal in church 5pm**	For Sylvia and Ryan who are to be married on Saturday
Sat 09 May	Easter Feria	FHC Mass at 11.00am (No Mass at 10.00am)	For our First Holy Communion Children in thanksgiving for this day
Sun ✠ 10 May	**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Elizabeth & George Killingbeck RIP Pro Populo - for the people of the Parish For Barbara Zahner in Zurich - for better health

HOLY ROSARY PRAYERS: Wednesday morning following the 9.30am Mass.
ADORATION 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.

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: **Awaiting**
Address: **St John Fisher Catholic Church, 15 Wood Road, Shepperton. TW17 0DH**
website: **https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/shepperton**

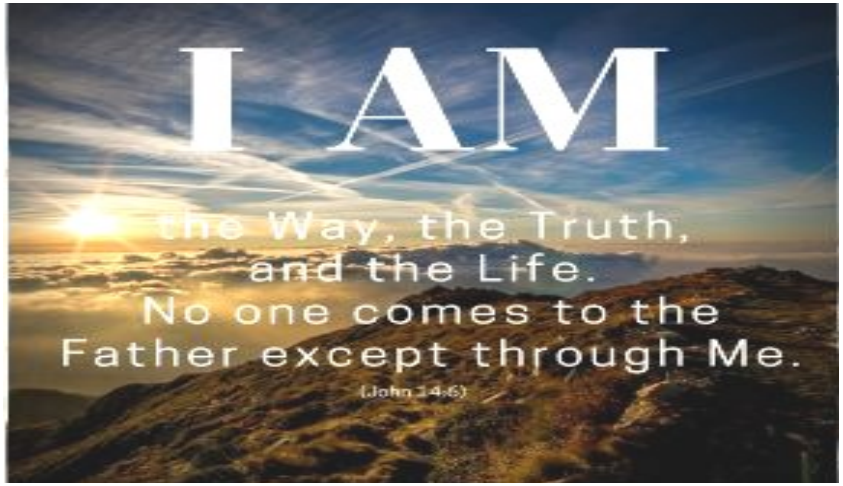
Parish Safeguarding: Mandy Howick (until appointment is made) sheppertonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator: 020 7798 9356

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 3RD MAY 2026
5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekdays
Easter wk 5
Divine Office:
Easter wk 5



Easter joy is still very much in season and this Sunday Jesus speaks words meant to steady our hearts: *"let not your hearts be troubled."* A timely message, then and now. When Thomas asks for clearer directions (something we can sympathise with), Jesus responds with reassuring simplicity: *"I am the way, the truth and the life."* No complicated map, no spiritual jargon, just Jesus himself.

Our first reading reminds us that the early Church had to work things out as they went along. Faith, it turns out, grows best when prayer and practical care walk hand in hand. Meanwhile, St Peter offers encouragement to anyone who feels a little rough around the edges, reminding us that God delights in building something strong and beautiful from living stones, ordinary people with open hearts.

Where in your life, right now, do you most need to trust Christ as *"the way,"* and what small step might he be inviting you to take this week?

Hold fast to the Risen Lord. Easter is not a quick celebration but a steady journey as the Lord continues to lead us forward with patience, promise, and hope.

Happy Sunday - Happy Easter!

✠ ALLELUIA - HE IS RISEN ✠

WELCOME - IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU WITH US THIS EASTERTIDE! If you are new, visiting this weekend or have returned after some time away, you are very welcome - it is good to have you with us. And just so that you know, the Masses are livestreamed on line via YouTube for those who are sick and unable to get to Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHILDREN who will soon be receiving their First Holy Communion. Over the past months they have been preparing well. They will receive the Sacrament of the Lord, this coming Saturday 9th May, at a special Mass, at 11.00am. The usual Saturday 10.00am Mass, is suspended to facilitate this special occasion.

THE MONTH OF MAY: As is the custom, the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, will be crowned during the opening hymn at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday. May our Blessed Mother pray for us and for all whom we love.

NEW APPOINTMENT: following interviews last week, we are delighted to announce the appointment of Flora Mascarenhas as our new Bookkeeper. We look forward to her joining the office soon.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED AT OR ATTENDED OUR FIRST COFFEE CONNECTION. Freshly brewed coffee, cake and toast were all generously prepared last Thursday. Our next Coffee Connection is on Thursday 28th May, 10-12.00. Don't miss out - pop the date in your diary

CONGRATULATIONS to Mia Ray Da Cunha who received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this weekend. We hold Mia in our prayers as she begins her great adventure of faith. We thank her parents, Danielle & Tommy for bringing Mia to this important milestone in her life.

MOVING INTO EXAMINATION TIME: We pray for our young people preparing to sit their examinations at this time. If you are finding it all a bit stressful - utilise your faith! Say a prayer, asking for the intercessions of Blessed Mary, Seat of all Wisdom - who unties knots!

ST MICHAEL & ST MARTIN CHURCH, HOUNSLOW: invites you to a Mass for children and adults with additional needs, to be celebrated by Fr Damian-Mary Moneke on Saturday, 16th May at 2:00 p.m., followed by light refreshments. All are most welcome, particularly parishioners and visitors with additional needs, together with their families, friends and carers.

KNIT & NATTER is going very well and continues to meet on Tuesdays in the church hall from 1.00 -3.00pm. It's open to all - just come along!

MARY'S MEALS would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency* no matter how old or obscure. Please clear out your drawers and have a look at the back of those cupboards and sofas. Then put it all into an envelope or bag and then bring it back to church on 16th & 17th May. Mary's Meals feeds young children one good meal every day in their place of education – by giving Mary's Meals your foreign coins and notes you can help feed the next hungry child. *They will also take UK coins/notes that are no longer legal tender. Thank you.

DATES FOR THE DIARY FOR MAY:
Wednesday 13th May at 7.00pm
HOLY CONFIRMATION MASS -
Principal Celebrant: Bishop James Curry
Thursday 14th May:
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
Masses at 9.30am & 7.00pm
Sunday 24th May
PENTECOST SUNDAY
usual weekend Mass times
Sunday 31st May
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY— usual weekend Masses

YOU MAY HAVE HEARD LAST WEEK… The Assisted Suicide Bill has failed to pass all stages in the House of Lords. This means that Kim Leadbeater's assisted suicide Bill has fallen and will not become law! This is a major milestone, but the battle is far from over. Assisted suicide campaigners have said they are going to try to bring the Bill back in the next parliamentary session and force it into Law using the Parliament Acts to bypass the Lords. To find out more about this significant milestone and what comes next, visit: https://righttolife.org.uk/LeadbeaterBillFalls

SHEPPERTON FAIR - We have very generously been given a stall at the Shepperton Fair on the 13th June by the Shepperton Aurora Rotary Club. We are planning to run a tombola and are looking for donations for the stall. If you would like to donate a prize which could be a bottle, some sweets or chocolate or any other little prizes you have around the house, please can they be left in the porch in the box marked Lourdes. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

ARCHBISHOP RICHARD MOTH is asking the whole diocese to pray for vocations to the priesthood
Pray for men to be open to God's call to the priesthood and pray for those currently discerning the priesthood.

God our Father, you give us the Sacraments as signs and instruments of your love and mercy. Draw from amongst your disciples men who are willing to serve your Church generously as priests in the Diocese of Westminster, to minister to your people and to proclaim the Gospel to all. Send your Spirit to guide and strengthen them, to be their companion on the journey, as they discern your will for their lives. This prayer we make, through Christ our Lord. Amen
Our Blessed Lady Immaculate - Pray for us
St John Southworth - Pray for us

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

YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING support absolutely everything we do, so whatever way you support the good works here at SJF with your donations, we are very grateful. The loose collection last weekend was £284.90 The loose collection for the previous week (excluding online/card donations) was £268.38. As always you are brilliant!

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN Pilgrimage to Lourdes 17th – 24th July 2026. Registration is 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**.**

HOLY COMMUNION can be received by Catholics at Mass, either on the tongue or in the hand and you may kneel or stand to receive. If you are receiving in the hand, please make your hands a safe place to receive the Body of Christ. One hand firmly under the other, to make a throne and hands raised up, near to the priest, will avoid the risk of dropping the Host. When receiving Holy Communion, we are not receiving a symbol of Jesus but the Body of Christ in Sacramental form. This is why receiving Holy Communion is both a beautiful and holy moment with the Lord himself. If you are not a Catholic, or you are a Catholic who does not receive Holy Communion, you are very welcome to come forward for a blessing instead - just place your hands across your chest.

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.

SO THAT YOU KNOW… there will be no morning Mass at 9.30am this coming Tuesday 5th May.

Please switch off your phone and switch on to the RISEN LORD this Easter and see the possibilities He has in mind for you!

The Blessed Sacrament lamp burning in the sanctuary this week
is for the repose of the Souls of
Lorna Troop RIP and Mandy Mollentze RIP

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
Anniversaries this MAY
Fr John O'Sullivan, Ella Mary Butterworth,
Elsie Curley, Peter Johnson, Alice (Nita) Manning,
Mollie Pugh, Jeanne Diekmann, Joe D'Souza,
Tom Ray, David Weathers, Bartley Keady
Dorothy Price, Linzi Geddes, Joan King,
Daphne Dodd, Kitty Brett, Terry Quinn,
Kathleen Johnson,
Clive Duveen, Maria Montante, David Joslyn.
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord