THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 12 July	**15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For the intentions of the O' Malley family For the intentions of the Miranda family For Jill & Ian on their wedding anniversary
Mon 13 July	Feria	No Mass today	
Tue 14 July	Feria	Mass at 9.30am Knit & Natter - hall 1-3pm	*For Fiona Power RIP
Wed 15 July	St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	Mass at 9.30am Holy Rosary follows Mass	For Noel Brown RIP - 4th anniversary and for Pat Brown recently departed
Thurs 16 July	Feria	Mass at 9.30am	For the intentions of Rosmi and family
Fri 17 July	Feria	Mass at 9.30am Adoration follows Mass	*For all Holy Souls
Sat 18 July	The Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	Mass at 10.00am	For departed members of the Joseph and Jose` family
Sun ✠ 19 July	**16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Nechama Argent RIP - anniversary For Bob & Bridget Keating RIP - 10th anniversary of Bob's death

Mass intentions with *are offered for parishioners at St George, Sudbury - with our thanks

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

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)

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 (is on annual leave this week) **shepperton@rcdow.org.uk**
Book keeper: Flora Mascarenhas (Mondays): 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
Ordinary Time
Wk 15 - Yr 2
Divine Office:
Psalter Wk 3

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY 12TH JULY 2026
15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Weekly Newsletter



Today's Gospel begins a new section in St Matthew's Gospel often called *"The Parabolic Discourse"* which sounds rather grand, but simply means that for the next three weeks Jesus is going to teach us through parables. In Catholic teaching, a parable is a simple, everyday story, used to convey a deeper spiritual, moral, or religious truth. The beauty of a parable is that we remember the story first, and then, often slowly and surprisingly, its deeper meaning begins to take root.

Today we hear one of the most famous of all: the Parable of the Sower. For Jesus' listeners, this was a very familiar scene. They lived close to the land and understood seeds, soil, weeds, rocks and harvests far better than most of us.

Jesus uses this everyday image to speak about the word of God. The seed is scattered generously, but it is received in different ways. Some falls on the path, some among stones, some among thorns, and some into good soil. The difference is not in the seed, the seed is good, but in the ground that receives it.

So the question for us is not simply, "Have I heard the word of God?" but rather, "What kind of soil am I offering it?" Is my heart hard and busy? Is it shallow and distracted? Is it full of thorns, worries, anxieties, resentments and endless to-do lists? Or is there space for God's word to sink in, grow and bear fruit?

The ideal listener is the one who lets the seed of God's word lodge in the heart and produce a harvest. And that leaves us with a very good question for the week: What harvest will be seen in our lives when we have truly heard the word of God? *Happy Sunday!*

We must sow the seed, not hoard it.

St. Dominic de Guzmán

WELCOME TO MASS AT SJF it is great to have you with us here today. Just so that you know**,** Masses at SJF are live streamed via YouTube. Whilst live streaming cannot replace our physical presence at the Holy Mass, streaming offers a valuable link with SJF for those who are incapacitated through distance or ill health.

A PRAYER FOR THE MONTH OF JULY DEDICATED TO THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS

O God, who by the Precious Blood of your Only Begotten Son have redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of your mercy, so that, ever honouring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MANY CONGRATULATIONS to Jill & Ian Fortune who celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary this Sunday. **MANY CONGRATULATIONS** also to Jim and Margaret Smith who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this coming Thursday. These anniversaries are a joyful witness of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. We send both couples our heartfelt good wishes and prayers.
Ad multos annos (many more years).

MORE CONGRATULATIONS to Agatha Anna Tumber who received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this weekend. We pray for Agatha as she begins her great adventure of faith. We thank her parents for bringing Agatha to this important milestone in her life.

WELL DONE ALTAR SERVERS. Having regularly served the Holy Mass for a minimum of one year, some of our altar servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen and receive their Guild medals, at the 8.30am and the 10.30am Sunday Masses. Congratulations to you all.

THERE IS A STRONG POSSIBLITY that we will run a new programme in late Autumn for adults who would like to become Catholics, including those who are already Catholic, but have not yet made their Holy Confirmation. This is a very relaxed programme, there are no tests and absolutely no experience of Catholicism is necessary… just an open heart! The programme will run on Thursday evenings in the church hall. More details will follow in September, so watch this space and have a think about it.

BE QUICK - THIS IS THE LAST WEEKEND FOR YOUR LOURDES PRAYER INTENTIONS. These intentions will be taken to Lourdes next week in preparation for the Westminster Pilgrimage and placed by the grotto of Our Lady. Please write them before you leave Mass today. Sunday morning is the deadline! May Our Lady of Lourdes pray for us.

DARE TO BE MOVED! *The Veil Removed* is a free, short 5 minute film that reveals the coming together of heaven and earth each time the Holy Mass is celebrated: as seen by saints and mystics revealed by scripture and in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. To view, go online to: https://theveilremoved.com or ctrl + click this link if you are reading this online: The Veil Removed

SAVE THE DATE! We will be welcoming Spelthorne Orchestra for another Concert on Sunday 11th October 4.00—6.00pm in the Church with refreshments in the hall before hand and in the interval. More information coming soon.

HOLY BAPTISM is a joyous Sacrament beginning the great adventure of faith for our youngsters. 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.

JOB VACANCIES for this month, across the Diocese can be viewed via this link :
https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/

STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE BEING LEGALISED Assisted suicide campaigners have sadly brought back the Leadbeater Bill. This can be stopped if MPs vote down the Bill on 11th September. *Right To Life UK* has launched an *Easy Action* tool to help you email your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons. Your voice matters. Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide: **https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote**

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**.**

FOOD BANK DROP OFF: Thank you if you are able to bring some non perishable food for our Food Bank Box. This is a good deed done. Your kind donations, which can be placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, are going directly to help others locally via the Jubilee Food Bank. Many, many thanks.

OUT AND ABOUT ON SUNDAY? 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. It would be great to have you with us - you are part of our parish family and you are missed when you are not here.

LITTLE CHURCH IS AT THE 10.30AM MASS. There are also Children's Mass sheets, Mass cards and Missals, especially for our children. Parents, please assist your little ones in learning the words of the Holy Mass. This will help them to grow in confidence and in faith and is great preparation for receiving the Sacraments of the church.

MARRIAGE IN A RUT? Or need help with deeper issues? Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd - 4th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info **Tel: 0788 7296983**

YOUR KIND OFFERINGS 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 £316.21 the previous weekend was £222.40 (excluding online/card donations)
Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online for the month of June averaged £1050.83. Thank you! As always you are brilliant!

CAR PARKING: The roads around the church can get very congested at the weekend Masses, especially at the 10.30am Mass. If you are driving to Mass, please consider using our free car park, at the rear of the church hall. This will help our neighbours who need to get in and out and will help with the congestion too. Thank you.

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

HOLY COMMUNION may be received by Catholics at Mass, either on the tongue or in the hand. 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 invited to come forward for a blessing instead - just place your hands across your chest.

PRAYERS AFTER RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION
Act of Faith: O Jesus, I believe that you have come to me in Holy Communion because you have said it and your word is true.
Act of Love: O Jesus, I love you. Make me love you even more.
Act of Thanks: O Jesus, I thank you for coming to me in Holy Communion. Amen.

NEW to St John Fisher or need to update your contact details? Please fill in a Parish Registration Form which you can find at the back of the church.

PLEASE switch off your phone and switch on to the LORD 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 soul of
Canon John Stapleton RIP.
May he rest in peace.

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
PETER EDWARD KELLY RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS JULY
Mary Ohlson, Joan Blues, Pam Hoghton,
Kitty Bale, Louise Heath (Pepper),
Dermot Rhatigan, Mary Fletcher,
Edward Fletcher, Peggy Rhatigan,
Thomas Schwartz (von Megyesi),
Joseph Reynolds, Bob Keating
Grace Ekkel, Noel Brown,
Brian Biggins, Michele Windle.
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD