THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 26 July	**17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Maria Mascarenhas RIP *For the intentions of Bosco Fernandes
Mon 27 July	Feria	No Mass today	
Tue 28 July	Feria	Mass today at 9.30am **Knit & Natter - hall 1-3pm**	*For Harriet Robert RIP
Wed 29 July	Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary follows Mass**	For Moira Mulvany on her 90th Birthday
Thurs 30 July	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Coffee Connections in the hall, 10.00 -12noon**	For Marie Teodoro Sanchez RIP
Fri 31 July	St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest	Mass at 9.30am **Adoration follows Mass**	For David Andrews RIP
Sat 01 Aug	St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor	No morning Mass today	
Sun ✠ 02 Aug	**18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Leonard Lanning RIP Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Patrick Cronin RIP

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
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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/

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY 26TH JULY 2026
17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Weekly Newsletter

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekdays
Ordinary Time
Wk 17 - Yr 2
Divine Office:
Psalter Wk 1



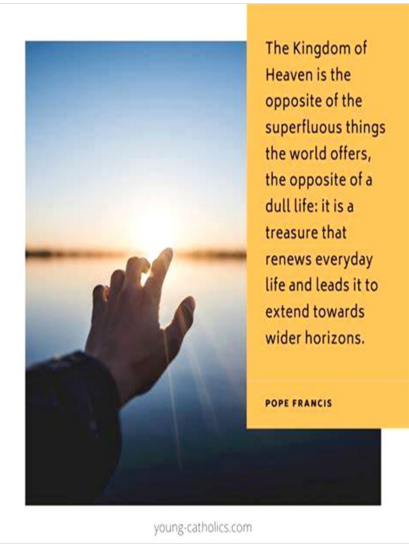
In today's Gospel, Jesus compares the Kingdom of Heaven to treasure hidden in a field and to a pearl of great price. In both short parables, someone discovers something of such value, that they are willing to let go of everything else in order to possess it.

This is not simply a story about giving things up. It is a story about joy, discovery, and recognising what truly matters in our lives. The Kingdom of God is not another burden placed upon us, but the greatest treasure we could ever find. Faith invites us to look again at our priorities and to ask: what do I treasure most, and what am I willing to place at the centre of my life?

The first reading gives us a beautiful example in Solomon, who asks God not for riches or power, but for wisdom and an understanding heart. That same wisdom is needed in our own lives, especially when we are faced with difficult choices about family and work, our faith and about forgiveness and generosity.

This week, may we ask the Lord for the grace to recognise the treasure of his Kingdom in the ordinary moments of daily life, and to choose him with renewed joy.

Happy Sunday!



WELCOME TO MASS AT SJF it is great to have you with us here today. If you are visiting or have recently moved to the area welcome! Just so that you know**,** Masses here are live streamed via YouTube, offering a valuable link with SJF for those who are incapacitated through distance or ill health.

WELCOME HOME to our parishioners returning from their pilgrimage to Lourdes. We pray that you have been richly blessed. May Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette, continue to pray for us all.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! If you are preparing to go away, we wish you a safe journey and a restful break. If you happen to be listed on a church rota for any particular ministry, please help us, by arranging cover with someone else on your rota. If you are finding this difficult, contact Mandy in the church office or Daphne in the Sacristy. This will help us enormously with the smooth running of the Masses and for all that we do together. Thank you in advance. Enjoy your time away and may God's speed be with you on your return.

HONESTLY, THEY ARE REAL! Many thanks to Jean and Hilda and their helpers who have been providing a really great flower display in front of the Altar and lectern, despite the hot days we have been experiencing. If you look closely, you'll see the Altar arrangement is still growing!

DING DONG UPDATE: Thank you to Dominic who has ensured that the Presbytery door now has a new working door bell.

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 beforehand and in the interval. More information coming soon.

SO THAT YOU KNOW… there will be no morning Mass at 10.00am this coming Saturday 1st August. All other Masses are as usual.

CONGRATULATIONS to Leela Marcelina De Souza and Ramaan Chrisse De Souza who received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism this weekend. We pray for them both, as together they begin their great adventure of faith with the Lord.

HEADS UP: the next ***Coffee Connections*** morning will be this coming Thursday 30th July, in the hall 10.00am – 12noon. Come and enjoy some freshly brewed coffee (or tea). All are very welcome.

LITTLE CHURCH ARE ON THEIR SUMMER BREAK … but will return on Sunday 6th September. Children's activity sheets and children's Mass cards are available every week at the back of the church. We wish all our children & young people and their families, happy school holidays - stay safe have fun and remember, Jesus loves you!

CONGRATULATIONS if you are hoping to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage, either here or elsewhere, in the near future. The diocese requires six months notice for pastoral and administrative paperwork to be completed. Clergy deal with large amounts of paperwork for couples, so it is important that proper notice is given. Please note that if you are intending to marry abroad, many countries require Catholics to have received all three Initiation Sacraments before agreeing to marry. i.e. Baptism, First Holy Communion and Holy Confirmation. Marriage preparation courses are obligatory for Catholic marriage, but are a great way to get to know your other half even more! Courses are run throughout the diocese. For more details go to:
Marriage and Family Life - Diocese of Westminster (rcdow.org.uk)

A DATE TO REMEMBER - WHEREVER YOU MAY BE… Sunday 16th August is the Solemnity of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As with all Sundays, this is a Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics. Wherever you may be, please celebrate, by attending Mass. Masses here at SJF will be at the usual times: 5.00pm Sat Eve Vigil Mass for Sunday and Sunday morning at 8.30am and 10.30am. Thank you.

WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? a new programme will begin in late Autumn for adults who would like to become Catholics and be received into the church at Easter. But don't miss out… if you are a Catholic but have not made your Confirmation or First Holy Communion - this programme is for you as well. This is a very relaxed series of sessions, 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.
P.S. If you are a fully fledged Catholic and you want to learn a little more about your faith, you are welcome to come along as well - just let us know.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE, SUNBURY:
Admission to Year 7 in 2027. Open Mornings Thursday 24th Sept, 1st Oct and 8th Oct. Tours from 8.45am, 9.00 and 9.15am *Please note that tour bookings are NOT required.* **Open Evening** Thursday 24th Sept from 5.30pm - 7.30pm Headteacher Evening Address 5.45pm and 6.30pm. **Sixth Form Open Evening Admission to Year 12 in 2027.** Wed 30th Sept from 6.00 pm to 8.00pm. Head of Sixth Form Evening Address at 6.30pm

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.

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.

ST MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL - PRAY FOR US
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defence against the wickedness
and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan,
and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

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 £313.42 the previous weekend was £284.78 (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!

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.

NEW TO ST JOHN FISHER? Welcome - it's great to have you with us. If you feel ready to complete a Parish Registration Form, you can find it at the back of the church - or just ask!

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THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY THIS WEEK
is for the repose of the soul of Patrick Cronin.
May he rest in peace.

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
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