THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 06 Sept	**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Natasha & Michael Brown - Silver Wedding Anniversary. Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For the people of Nepal & Tibet
Mon 07 Sept	Feria	No Mass today	
Tue 08 Sept	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	No Mass **Knit & Natter - hall 1 -3**	
Wed 09 Sept	Feria	**Holy Rosary at 10.00am**	
Thurs 10 Sept	Feria	No Mass	
Fri 11 Sept	Feria	No Mass	
Sat 12 Sept	Feria	No morning Mass	
Sun ✠ 13 Sept	**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil Mass** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Patrick Chimes RIP - 1st anniversary *For the intentions of Bosco Fernandes Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish

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 holiday updates.

If you need a Priest urgently, please do contact other local Catholic Parishes

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

HOLY ROSARY PRAYERS: Wednesday morning at 10.00am this week.
ADORATION AND BENEDICTION - not this week
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 9.00am - 1.00pm 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/

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 6th September 2026
23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Weekly Newsletter

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekdays
Ordinary Time
Wk 23 - Yr 2
Divine Office:
Psalter Wk 3



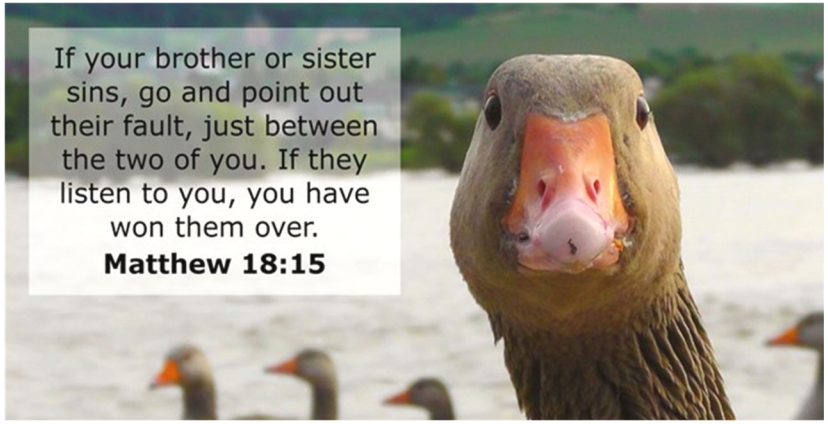
"No man is an island." These well-known words remind us that none of us lives entirely on our own. As followers of Jesus, we are part of a worldwide family of faith, connected to one another by God's love and called to care for each other along life's journey.

This Sunday's readings remind us that love involves more than kind feelings. Sometimes it means gently encouraging one another when we see someone struggling or heading down the wrong path. Jesus teaches us that we should not simply look the other way, but lovingly help each other to grow and flourish.

Of course, this is not always easy. Speaking the truth can feel uncomfortable, and we may worry about how our words will be received. Yet Jesus shows us that honesty and compassion belong together. His desire was always to bring people closer to God, never to condemn or exclude them.

St Paul reminds us that our lasting obligation is to love one another. When our words and actions are guided by kindness, patience and understanding, we fulfil the heart of God's law. In a world that can so often seem divided and disconnected, we are called to be people who build bridges, strengthen relationships, and encourage one another in faith.

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.

SO THAT YOU KNOW… Fr Shaun is on annual leave, but will be back next Saturday evening. This weekend we welcome Fr John Deehan who is the Ecumenical Chaplain at St Albans Abbey.

WE OFFER MANY CONGRATULATIONS to Michael and Natasha Brown (son and daughter-in Law of the late Noel and Pat Brown) who are celebrating their silver wedding anniversary at this time.

REGISTRATION DETAILS and dates for the next First Holy Communion programme - Class of 2027 are coming soon! Please note weekly classes will be held on Thursdays 5.00 - 6.15pm not Tuesdays as in previous years.

SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH devoted to the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady. Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows became a standard devotion in the Church around the 14th century. It was revealed to St. Bridget of Sweden that devotion to the



Blessed Virgin Mary's seven sorrows would bring great graces. The devotion consists in praying seven Hail Marys whilst also meditating on the seven sorrows of Mary:

1. The prophecy of Simeon (Lk. 2:34-35)
2. The flight into Egypt (Mt. 2:13-21)
3. The loss of Jesus for three days (Lk. 2:41-50)
4. The carrying of the cross (Jn. 19:17)
5. The crucifixion of Jesus (Jn. 19:18-30)
6. Jesus taken down from the cross (Jn. 19:39-40)
7. Jesus laid in the tomb (Jn. 19:39-42)

Blessed Mary, in a unique way, willingly suffered alongside her Divine Son, as he gave his life to save the world, feeling the sorrow of his passion and death as only a mother can. This devotion is offered especially during September with the memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on the 15th - the day after the celebration of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

LITTLE CHURCH IS BACK... Resuming at the 10.30am Sunday Mass this weekend.

SHARE YOUR LOURDES STORY: Have you been on the Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes? Pilgrims are invited to contribute a story, memory or reflection (up to 600 words) for *Inspired by Lourdes*, a book celebrating the pilgrimage and marking 170 years since the Lourdes apparitions. Funds raised from book sales will support a bursary for volunteers and Assisted Pilgrims. Young people under 18 are also invited to design the book cover. The deadline for all submissions is Christmas 2026. For submission details, competition rules and entry information, please visit: **www.inspiredbylourdes.co.uk**.
What is your Lourdes story?

COULD YOU BE A YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER? *Upper Room Leadership Programme* equips Catholics to lead and inspire the next generation through faith, formation, practical training and ministry experience. The programme ends with a youth ministry qualification and pilgrimage to Lourdes with the expectation for you to serve and lead in your parish! To sign up by 16th September and learn more please visit...
https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/

EARLY BIRD… Catholic Pocket Diaries for 2027 which also contain the Order of the Mass are now available from the repository shop - £3.50 each.

THE HOLY ROSARY for those who wish is now prayed in church on Wednesday mornings - see back page for details. If you would like to know how to pray this lovely devotion - just come along and you will be guided. You will be most welcome.

REFRESHMENTS are available after the 10.30am Sunday Mass: in the church Hall. Thank you to all who are on our refreshments rota, you make a great difference to the hospitality we offer at SJF. Toilets and baby changing facilities are also available in the hall.

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 soon, 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.

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 ticket information coming soon.

ANOTHER DATE - THE NEXT *BEETLE DRIVE* will be held in the hall on Friday 6th November. We are also planning a ***RACE NIGHT*** - date to be confirmed.

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 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.

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 £323.75 the previous weekend was £253.71 (excluding online/card donations)
Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online for the month of July averaged £1025.83. 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.

THE SACRED HEART CHURCH, TEDDINGTON invite you to a Mass with special attention to children and adults with additional needs on Saturday 19th Sept at 6:00pm, followed with light refreshments. All are most welcome, particularly parishioners and visitors with additional needs, together with their families, friends and carers.

PLEASE switch off your phone and switch on to the LORD and the possibilities he has in mind for you!

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY THIS WEEK
is for Shirley Ayres and Sherry Beach

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
ANNIVERSARIES THIS SEPTEMBER
Fred Manning, Christina Maksymiuw, Clive Ross, Winifred Sissons, Claude Ross, Michael O' Reilly, Sheila Thompson, Thomas Smith, Robert Blues, John Maloney, Fr John B Elliott, Dorothy Ormes
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD