THE WEEK AHEAD AT SJF

Sun ✠ 25 Oct	**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil Mass** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	For Jose Alberto Mendes RIP Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish For Kathleen Pollard RIP
Mon 26 Oct	Feria	No Mass today	
Tue 27 Oct	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Knit & Natter - hall 1 -3**	For David Andrews RIP
Wed 28 Oct	ST SIMON & ST JUDE, Apostles	Mass at 9.30am **Holy Rosary follows Mass**	For Denis Miranda RIP
Thurs 29 Oct	Blessed Martyrs of Douai (Diocesan)	Mass at 9.30am **Coffee Connections in the hall, 10.00 - 12.00**	For Jim Mullane RIP
Fri 30 Oct	Feria	Mass at 9.30am **Adoration follows Mass**	For Paddy Joe Reynolds RIP
Sat 31 Oct	The Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	Mass at 10.00am	For Emily Theobalds RIP
Sun ✠ 01 Nov	**The solemnity of ALL SAINTS**	**5.00pm Sat Vigil Mass** **8.30am Mass** **10.30am Mass**	*For the Intentions of Bosco Fernandes For Amelia Diekmann RIP (1999) Pro Populo - for the people of this Parish

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

HOLY ROSARY PRAYERS: follows Mass on Wednesday morning.
ADORATION AND BENEDICTION - follows Mass on Friday morning
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 cycle
Readings Year A
Weekdays
Ordinary Time
Wk 30 - Yr 2
Divine Office:
Psalter Wk 2

SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2026
30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Weekly Newsletter



Love That Takes Action

The readings for the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time remind us that the love of God cannot be separated from how we treat one another, especially people who are vulnerable or pushed to the margins.

In the Book of Exodus, God commands the Israelites not to oppress the foreigner or abuse the widow and orphan. They are also told not to exploit the poor when lending to them. These commands are rooted in memory: Israel itself had been vulnerable in Egypt, and God had heard its cry. The people are called to show others the care they themselves received from God.

In the Gospel, Jesus brings the whole Jewish law into focus with two commandments: love God with your whole heart, soul and mind, and love your neighbour as yourself. All the law and the prophets, he says, depend on these.

This love is more than warm feelings or kind words. It takes shape in what we do: noticing someone who is overlooked, offering practical help, standing up for someone treated unfairly, or making room for a person who feels excluded. Love of God becomes visible in the way we honour the dignity of others.

So the readings leave us with a simple, searching question: Who needs our care today, and what can we do? We are called not only to wish vulnerable people well, but to act with compassion. That is how love becomes a living response to God.

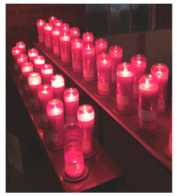
Happy Sunday - stay blessed!

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.

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**.**

WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? A new programme will begin on Thursday 14th January 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 7.30 — 8.45pm. Registration forms available from this week from Fr Shaun.
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.

FROM SHADOWS, TO THE LIGHT OF THE SAINTS
As pumpkins appear on doorsteps and the evenings grow darker, we approach two closely connected celebrations: All Hallows' Eve (*Halloween*) and All Saints. The word *Halloween* comes from *All Hallows' Eve*, the evening before the Church celebrates the great solemnity of All Saints on 1st November. While Halloween today is a secular celebration associated with costumes, sweets, and spooky stuff, its roots lie in the Catholic tradition of preparing to honour the saints and rejoice in Christ's victory over sin and death.
There is nothing wrong with enjoying the harmless fun of the season, but we should be careful not to become overly absorbed in themes of fear, horror, or darkness. As Christians, we know that darkness does not have the final word.
All Saints turns our attention from shadows to light. The saints are ordinary people who allowed God's grace to shine through their lives. Their example reminds us that holiness is not just for a few remarkable individuals, but a calling for each one of us who follow Jesus.
This year, alongside the pumpkins and treats, perhaps we can take a moment to learn about a favourite saint, pray with our families, or thank God for the faithful Catholics who have gone before us in faith. May All Hallows' Eve lead us not into darkness, but towards the joyful celebration of All Saints, where we are reminded that *"the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).*



NOVEMBER SEVEN DAY MEMORIAL CANDLES are now available to pre-order from the repository shop. These candles will burn in the church from All Souls' Day, Monday, 2nd November, in remembrance of our departed loved ones. They will be available for the duration of the month whilst we have stock at £5 each.

ALL SOULS' SHEETS, to list the names of your departed loved ones, will be available next week and throughout November. These will then be placed before the altar in remembrance.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPIES are now available at the back of church, for a donation to this honourable cause. We thank Bernard Troop who has organised these again for us this year. You can make your donation in cash or by using the QR code on the box.

COFFEE CONNECTIONS is this coming Thurs 29th Oct. in the Church Hall. If you like freshly brewed coffee (or tea) and a chat you are very welcome and it's absolutely free to enjoy. See you there!

THIS IS BRILLIANT... The recent Spelthorne orchestral concert raised a very serious £1,689.00 50/50 split for the Lourdes Fund and the Church Roof Fund. This was raised through ticket and bar sales and donations. Thank you! It was a joyous afternoon and the music was excellent. Thank you to all involved with everything from ticket sales, organisation, bar and generally everything it takes to run a fundraising event. Thank you also if you bought a ticket and came along - you are a blessing!

HALF TERM: to our children and parents, have a great Half Term break… and if you are at a loose end and need a little *peace top-up*, Mass is celebrated here Tuesday - Friday at 9.30am, in addition to the usual weekend Masses. Altar servers are also welcome to come and serve the Mass. You are very welcome.

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.

BEETLE DRIVE Friday 6th Nov. Doors open at 7:00pm. The Beetle Drive starts at 7:30pm. Licensed Bar. Tickets go on sale from this weekend £10 adults and children under 16 go free! All the money raised goes towards the church roof fund.

WE STILL NEED SOME NEW FACES - WARM HUB 2027: Thursdays 10.00-12.00noon throughout Jan and Feb. We are looking for additional helpers to be part of a team to make tea and coffee for the guests at the Hub in our hall. A great way to get to know people – you would be on a rota with others for the time you volunteer. Please let Mandy know asap, if you want to be part of the team.

FHC REGISTRATION FORMS are available from Fr Shaun. Please note this programme is for children who come to Mass here regularly and are in school years 3 & 4. The First Holy Communion programme will begin in January with classes on Thursdays 5.00 - 6.15pm Importantly, all children, prior to the first class, need be confident in making the sign of the cross and able to say the Our Father and the Hail Mary prayers. If they are unable to do these, they will not be ready for this forthcoming programme.

FANCY VOLUNTEERING at our First Holy Communion classes from January 2027? A lovely opportunity to support our children and great for Duke of Edinburgh award participants! Interested? Speak to our catechist, Stephanie Copperwheat.

SAVE THE DATE: Join the Lourdes Group on Friday 4th December for a festive evening of live music, Christmas cheer and seasonal celebrations. More details to follow! BTW: we are still collecting for the Tombola (bottles, chocolates, sweets, gifts… anything festive), for the Lourdes Big Tree Night stall. If you are able to donate anything for our stall, please can you leave it in the porch in the box marked "Lourdes". Thank you

DATES FOR THE DIARY:
Sunday 1st Nov: ALL SAINTS: usual w/end Masses
Monday 2nd Nov: ALL SOULS' DAY: THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED: Mass at 9.30am.
Friday 6th Nov: BEETLE DRIVE from 7.00pm
Saturday 7th Nov: 12 noon: Blessing of Graves at Sunbury Cemetery.
Sunday 8th Nov: Remembrance Sunday**:**
10.30am: Requiem Mass for the War Dead.
(Other Masses as usual)
Sunday 22nd Nov: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE: usual w/end Mass times.

YOUR KINDNESS supports 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 £264.64 The previous weekend was £273.74 (excluding online/card donations) Giving via the bank or through the card machine and online for the month of September averaged £1,037.33 Thank you! As always, you are brilliant!

BEFORE MASS BEGINS, LET'S AVOID THE PINGS! Please turn your mobile phone to silent.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
BURNING IN THE SANCTUARY THIS WEEK
is sponsored for a
private intention this week

PRAYING FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED
CLAUDIA BALESTRIERI RIP
ANNIVERSARIES THIS OCTOBER
Frank Nagle, Peter King, Christopher Moran, Kitty Burden, Stella Loftus, Peter Willson, Anna Casey Clarke, Michael Hennessey, John Broadhurst, Suzannah Spiller, John Brett, Jacqueline Restel, Philip Bunce, Patrick Farrell, Ian Mitchell, Joyce Tracey, Kay Pollard, Thelma Bingle.
ETERNAL REST GRANT TO THEM O LORD