

Fisherman's Herald
The First Sunday of Advent (C) - 1st December 2024
St John Fisher Church



207 Cannon Hill Lane, Merton, London, SW20 9DB.
 Tel: **020 8542 6355** Email: merton@rcaos.org.uk
www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk



Part of the R. C. Archdiocese of Southwark Charity No: 1173050
 Fr Francis Nonyelu, Fr Joseph Edem, Deacon Tom Kavanagh
 Parish Office: **Monday & Thursday from 9am to 2pm.**

MASS INTENTIONS & PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday 30th	6:00pm	Leonard & Cecilia Richardson RIP
Sunday 1st <i>First Sunday of Advent (C)</i>	8:00am	Stephanie McAllister RIP (Anniversary)
	9:30am	Betty Middleton RIP
	11:00am	Michael O'Brien RIP (Anniversary)
	6:30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 2nd	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Deceased Members of the Straniti Family Barry Norman (Intentions)
Tuesday 3rd <i>St Francis Xavier, Priest</i>	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Canon Acton RIP (Anniversary) Francis Gracias RIP (Anniversary)
Wednesday 4th	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Thanksgiving Patrick Coyne (Intentions)
Thursday 5th <i>Bidding Prayers</i>	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Romeo Francis RIP Michael James Walsh
	9:30-10:30am	<i>Weekly Adoration</i>
Friday 6th <i>First Friday</i>	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Marie Lourdes Chedembrun
	7:30pm	<i>Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament</i>
	8:00pm	Sid Miles RIP
Saturday 7th <i>First Saturday St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church</i>	8:00-8:45am	First Saturday Devotions
	9:00am	Eric Agboegbulem
	9:30-10:30am	Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>)
	11:30am	<i>Senior Citizens Mass</i>
Saturday 7th	5:00-5:50pm	Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>)
	6:00pm	Peter & Kay Healy RIP
Sunday 8th <i>Second Sunday of Advent (C)</i>	8:00am	People of the Parish
	9:30am	Sister Catherine RIP
	11:00am	Canon Acton RIP (2nd Anniversary) & Sister Catherine RIP (5th Anniversary)
	Noon	<i>Sr Catherine Prayer Service</i>
	6:30pm	Kate & Michael Igoe RIP

Advent Season:

Today we begin the Holy Season of Advent, the start of a New Liturgical Year. The Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all of us who follow Christ, the Lord. We are encouraged to use this time as a prayerful preparation for the birth of Christ in our hearts. This Season is an opportunity to make Christmas 2024 a worthy celebration of the Lord's birth, as we welcome him anew into our hearts.

New Lectionary and The Book of The Gospel:

The new lectionary and the Book of the Gospel have arrived. We thank the three families in our parish who have donated them. According to the instruction from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, we will start using them from the First Sunday of Advent.

Advent talks:

DVD talks will be shown in the hall on the first three Mondays of Advent at 7.30pm beginning on 2 December. The first will be on the new Lectionary, which is being introduced from 1 December, and will explain what is changing and what is not. It will be given by Fr Paul Denney who worked for four years on the editing of the Lectionary.

Sister Catherine RIP - Prayer Service:

Sunday 8th December after 11am Mass. Prayer service to keep alive the memory Sr Catherine RIP.

Anniversary Mass at 11am Next Sunday:

Mass at 11am Next Sunday for Canon Acton RIP (2nd Anniversary) and Sister Catherine RIP (5th Anniversary). Tea and Coffee will be served after Mass in the hall.

Parish Business:

Parish business on Monday 2nd December, 7pm- 8pm.

First Friday - 6th December:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30pm followed by Mass at 8pm.

First Saturday Devotions - 7th December:

Rosary and keeping Our Lady company within Adoration and Benediction from 8am to 8:45am.

Thursday Adoration in Advent:

The parish Thursday Adoration is extended in the Advent season from 9:30am to 3:00pm. We say together the Afternoon Prayer of the Church at 2:30pm, the Divine Mercy Prayer at 3:00pm and we conclude with the Benediction. Please choose your adoration time and fill in the adoration form time slot at the back of the Church.

Church Cleaning - December:

Wednesday 4th and 18th December at 9:30am. New volunteers welcome.

Christmas Decorations/Flower Collection:

Next weekend there will be a second collection for our church flowers and Christmas decorations. This annual collection allows our church decorating team to purchase beautiful flowers for the entire year.

Christian Care Christmas Collection:

Next Weekend we are collecting for hampers for needy families. Items required: Sparkling non-alcoholic drink/fruit juice, Large or mini Christmas Pudding, Chocolate/Sticky toffee Puddings, Mince Pies, Chocolate Log, Stollen, Tin / Box Chocolate or Fancy Biscuits, Tin / Box Shortbread, Tin Fruit, Tin Custard, Cranberry Sauce, Stuffing, Gravy, Box Chocolates, Children's sweets. Please bring items to the hall before Mass.

Senior Citizens - Christmas Party:

The Christmas celebration for our senior citizens takes place next Saturday, 7th December beginning with Mass at 11:30am, followed by lunch in the hall.

St John Fisher Christmas Fair - Sat 14th December:

11am-3pm in the Parish Hall. We still need donations of Christmas Decorations and cakes (boxed/shop bought). Please bring donations of homemade cakes to the hall on the morning of the fair. Please see noticeboard at the back of Church for more information

Weekly Offertory Donations:

Thank you dear parishioners for contributing generously towards the running costs of the Parish. In case anyone wishes to make donations in this regard, please use any of the following 4 ways:

1. Please email merton@rcaos.org.uk for a pledge form
2. Continue using your weekly gift aid envelopes
3. Donate on our website or scan the QR code
4. Donate to our parish justgiving page:



www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-john-fisher-merton

Church Attendance Slips:

All Children will require a school reference when applying to Catholic High Schools. Slips are available at the back of Church for Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 during term time. The parish will use these slips to keep a record of (Saturday Evening or (Sunday) Mass attendance when signing reference forms. Please, DO NOT FILL IN THESE SLIPS for any child who is not present, or if your child is not attending Holy Mass on a Saturday Evening or Sunday.

Repository:

Repository (Parish Shop) is open every WEEK before & after 9.30am Sunday Mass AND ALSO before & after 6.00pm Saturday Mass.

Safeguarding:

The Archdiocese of Southwark is committed to the safety and welfare of children and vulnerable adults. The Diocese co-operates fully with CSAS, the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service, which aims to help the Church become an example of best practice in the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, and develop a "culture of vigilance" to ensure that children and vulnerable adults in our care are kept safe from harm. The parish safeguarding representative for St John Fisher Parish is Mrs Ursula O'Byrne and she can be contacted on 07943800663. If you have any concerns please contact her immediately.

Praying the Mass with Archbishop John:

Advent is a time people return to Mass, sometimes after many years - for others Mass is the cornerstone of their spiritual lives. To help people, wherever they are on their spiritual journey, connect more prayerfully with the Lord Jesus, Archbishop John has recorded a message (tinyurl.com/prayingthemass) which guides us on how to pray through the Mass. Archbishop John said: 'the Eucharist is at the very heart of the Mass, but also the Church. It is an invitation from the Lord Jesus to participate in His sacrifice'.

Spirituality Commission Advent reflections:

The Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. You can sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning here: tinyurl.com/adventreflections2024.

St George's Cathedral Carol Service - 12 December:

Carol Service at St George's Cathedral on Thursday 12 December at 7.30pm..

INFANT BAPTISMS: First Sunday of the month at 3pm. The Church requests that children are brought to be baptised as soon as practicable after birth and before they are six months old. Please complete a baptism request form and return to the presbytery. Deacon Tom will then contact you to discuss the baptism:

<http://www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk/baptism-request-form.pdf>

Marriages: About getting married, wherever and whenever, please contact a priest as soon as possible. We need at least 6 months notice.

Hospital:

If you are going into hospital as a patient, and wish to see a chaplain, you will need to ask the hospital staff or a member of your family to arrange for the chaplain to visit you.

Father Philip Pak: ST HELIER'S CHAPLAIN'S number is: **07459 226 823** and **07591 596 656.** **Catholic Chaplains** at ST GEORGE'S, Tooting, their number is: **020 8725 3069** email catholicchaplains@stgeorges.nhs.uk

Please remember in your prayers the sick and housebound of our parish **Christina Duffy, Melina Pinto, Sean Deane, Maura Chhabra, Thomas Ivan Grostate, Patricia Sherren, James Walsh, Ravi Aumeerun, Richard Skeehan, John Myles & Stewart Christopher Myles, Charles & Anna Lusack, Grant Cozens, Malcolm Varran, Catherine Yeats, Rita Platel, Edward Alvares, Christine Henderson, Johnny Simmonds, Patricia Anderson, Irene McGrenra, Anthony Carter, Louis Gouveia, Joseph McGahren, John Heffron and Jim Cosgrove.**



PLEASE COMPLETE A SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE SLIP
(SLIPS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF CHURCH FOR THOSE IN SCHOOL YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6)

Our Parish Primary School is

St. John Fisher R. C. Primary and Nursery School, Grand Drive, West Wimbledon, SW20 9NA, Tel: 020 8540 2637

Email: school@st-johnfisher.merton.sch.uk Web: www.st-johnfisher.merton.sch.uk Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/stjohnfisherprimary>

Boys & Girls Aged 3-11. Breakfast & After School Club. 30 hours Nursery provision.

