



St John Fisher Merton

Fisherman's Herald

207 Cannon Hill Lane, Merton, London, SW20 9DB
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www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk



Parish Priest: Fr Francis Nonyelu,
Assistant Priest: Fr Alfred Mamman,
Deacon: Rev Tom Kavanagh
Parish Office: Monday & Thursday from 9am to 2pm.

Parish Primary School
St. John Fisher R. C. Primary and Nursery School,
Grand Drive, SW20 9NA, Tel: 020 8540 2637
Headteacher: Ms J Kenna

4th January 2026 The Second Sunday after the Nativity (A)

Mass Intentions For This Week

Saturday 3rd	5:30-5:50pm	Confessions
	6:00pm	Tony Addeh
Sunday 4th	8:00am	Canon Acton RIP
Second Sunday After the Nativity	9:30am	People of The Parish
	11:00am	Anna Lusack RIP (1st Anniversary)
	6:30pm	Gaetana Ginex Bonomo RIP (8th Anniversary)
Monday 5th	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Charlie Devine (Intentions)
	6:00pm	Holy Souls
Tuesday 6th	8:30am	Rosary
<i>The Epiphany of The Lord</i>	9:00am	Mary Moriarty RIP
	7:30pm	Evelyn Boland (Intentions)
Wednesday 7th	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Delia (Intentions)
Thursday 8th	8:30am	Rosary
<i>Bidding Prayers</i>	9:00am	Sophia Lobo RIP
	9:30-10:30am	Weekly Adoration
Friday 9th	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Deacon Fred Carter RIP (3rd Anniversary)
Saturday 10th	9:00am	Canute (Intentions)
	9:30-10:30am	Confessions
Saturday 10th	5:30-5:50pm	Confessions
	6:00pm	St Anthony (Thank You)
Sunday 11th	8:00am	Jacob Marshall McAllister & Stephanie McAllister RIP (Anniv.)
<i>The Baptism of The Lord (A)</i>	9:30am	People of The Parish
	11:00am	Carol Counsell RIP (5th Anniversary)
	3:00pm	Baptism Service
	6:30pm	Dr Lawrence John Lobo & Sophia Lobo & Children

Reflection

The Gospel reading for this Sunday is taken from the Prologue to St John's Gospel, its first 18 verses. It is not an easy passage to fully understand but in essence it summarises and encapsulates the whole Gospel message. It serves as a profound theological introduction, establishing Jesus' divine identity and pivotal role in God's plan for creation and redemption.

The very first words, "In the beginning", are the same as the first words in the book of Genesis at the start of the Old Testament. John uses them to emphasise that God always existed and was eternally present in what he said and did. Everything was made through Him, and nothing exists apart from Him.

God the Father, or the word of God as St John puts it, created all things, made a covenant with his people, spoke to them through the prophets, provided the Law by which people should live and acted to intervene in human history.

And then God's plan in creation and his plan of salvation reach their fulfilment in the person of Jesus Christ who comes into the world as man to dwell amongst us and to give light and life to humankind. The Word became human at Christmas and lived among us, revealing God's glory and fullness of grace and truth. This Light of Jesus shines into the world, and the darkness cannot overcome it because Jesus' presence overcomes evil.

It is Jesus who gives life. His word purifies those who receive it, judges those who reject it and brings eternal life. While the world and His own people didn't recognize or receive Him, those who did were given the right to become children of God, born not of human descent but of God. Jesus makes the invisible God known to humanity; no one has seen God, but Jesus has revealed Him.

The Prologue reaches its climax in the sentence which reads: "From his fullness, we have all of us received grace upon grace". The graces of the Old Covenant are built upon by the graces of Jesus' New Covenant. Jesus brings a new era of God's grace and truth, surpassing the Law given through Moses.

Jesus' coming to us enables us to partake in divine fullness by becoming children of God. Through the gift of God's grace we can each hold out the hope of eternal salvation.

Quote of the Week

"From his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace". (John 1:16)

Parishioners can use their smart phones to scan this QR code to make donations to any of our weekly collections. These donations can be gift-aided



just follow the instructions on the screen or visit:
<https://donate.mydona.com/st-john-fisher-rc-church>



"Spes non Confundit"

Hope does not disappoint (Rom 5:5)

Parish Notices

Annual Holiday/Vacation

Fr Francis will be on his annual vacation in the month of January. Please contact Fr Alfred if you need the attention of a priest.

The Feast of Epiphany

Tuesday 6th Jan is the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord.

Food Collection - Today

This weekend we are collecting for the **Wimbledon Foodbank**. They appreciate:

Sugar, Shampoo, Jam, Biscuits, UHT Milk & Toiletries.



Baptism Service

All those families who have had a baby baptised during 2025 are invited to the church on Sunday 11th January 2026, at 3pm for a service. There will be refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

Hall Donations

Envelopes are available at the back of Church for donations towards the renovation of the parish hall. You can also donate using the contactless machine.

Crib Offering - Catholic Children's Society

Every penny you donate will go into the Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund to provide emergency support for families in our Archdiocese. Visit www.cathchild.org.uk for more information.

Help Needed in the Parish Shop

One hour before and after 6.00pm Mass on every 4th Sunday of the month. Speak to a member of the clergy for further information.

Dementia Disco

The first monthly get-together for local people in Merton living with dementia, their families, and carers takes place on Sunday, 25th January 2026, in the Parish Hall. Enjoy free food and drinks, sing-along music, and dancing from 2:30 to 4:30 pm. Prior booking is essential – please see the leaflet on the notice board for details.

Joining Beavers at St. John Fisher? Get on the List!

Great news! The 5th Morden St. John Fisher Beavers will be opening their waiting list from January 2026. Want your child to join the fun at St. John Fisher Church Hall? Just email 5thmordenbeavers@gmail.com with:

1. Your child's name, 2. Date of birth, 3. Your mobile number, 4. Your email address

Our Beaver volunteers will be in touch once your child turns 6 and is ready to start their adventure!

Funerals

Please pray for the families:

Timothy Wright RIP - Weds 21st Jan at 12 Noon

Marlene Kirton RIP - Thurs 22nd Jan at 11:30am

Parish Business

Monday 5th January from 7pm to 8pm.

Talkabout - Parish Magazine

The Christmas edition of our parish magazine is available to view on our parish website www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk/talkabout.pdf. Copies of the magazine are also available from the back of Church. A donation towards printing costs is appreciate, suggested donation, £2. A huge thank you to the magazine team for all their work putting together another fantastic edition of the magazine.

Fr Agnelo Mass 2pm Sunday 18th January

Everyone is invited to pray for the Canonization of Fr Agnelo followed by light refreshments in the hall. All those with connections to Goa are encouraged to participate. Contact 07944 692920 for further details.

Used Stamps

Jesuit Missions are very grateful for all donations of stamps which they use for their work. Please continue to collect your used stamps and put them in the box at the back of Church.

Church Cleaning - January

Wednesday 7th January from 9:30am to 10:30am



Please remember in your prayers the sick and housebound of our parish

Mark Lobo, Louise Hosking, Ethan Peruzzo, Stewart Davis, Bernie Simmons, Seeta Seenayah, Margaret Pumford, Douglas Desmier, Anastasia Coyle, Christina Duffy, Thomas Ivan Grostate, Richard Skeehan, John Myles, Charles 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.

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:

St Helier's Chaplain's: **07459 226 823** and **07591 596 656**.

St Georges: **020 8725 3069**

NO MASS ATTENDANCE SLIPS THIS WEEKEND DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY



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. Head Teacher – Ms Janine Kenna

