



St John Fisher Merton

Fisherman's Herald

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

18th January 2026 The Second Sunday of The Year (A)

Mass Intentions For This Week

Saturday 17th	5:30-5:50pm	Confessions
	6:00pm	Delia & Canute (Intentions)
Sunday 18th	8:00am	People of The Parish
	9:30am	Sharon & Barry Peck RIP
The Second Sunday of The Year (A)	11:00am	James Walsh RIP
	2:00pm	<i>Fr Agnelo Mass</i>
Peace Day	6:30pm	Catherine Wilmott RIP
Monday 19th	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	James Walsh RIP
Tuesday 20th	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Sister Marion RIP
Wednesday 21st	8:30am	Rosary
<i>St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr</i>	9:00am	Doreen Fernandes RIP
Thursday 22nd	8:30am	Rosary
<i>Bidding Prayers</i>	9:00am	Michael James Walsh RIP
	9:30-10:30am	Weekly Adoration
Friday 23rd	8:30am	Rosary
	9:00am	Maura Chubbra RIP (1st Anniversary)
Saturday 24th	9:00am	Karen Cummings & Keith Grimshaw RIP
<i>St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church</i>	9:30-10:30am	Confessions
Saturday 24th	5:30-5:50pm	Confessions
	6:00pm	Canute, Delia & Family (Intentions)
Sunday 25th	8:00am	People of The Parish
The Third Sunday of The Year (A)	9:30am	Nathan Nolan (Birthday)
	11:00am	Martha Rebello RIP (1st Anniversary)
<i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	6:30pm	Joe Grant RIP Anniversary

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>



Reflection

This Sunday's Gospel reading has been deliberately chosen to be read at the beginning of Ordinary time in the Church's year because it sets out a number of key features about the nature of the person of Jesus Christ which are fundamental to what we believe about him. They are cornerstones of our faith and set the context for Jesus life and works which we will hear about in the coming Sunday Gospel readings. Biblical scholars list these key messages as follows. Jesus as the Lamb of God connects Jesus to Old Testament sacrifices, particularly the Passover lamb, signifying He is the ultimate sacrifice for the world's sin. John the Baptist testifies that he saw the Spirit descend and remain on Jesus, confirming Jesus' identity and mission and the inspiration he received from the Holy Spirit. Jesus is the Son of God: the descent of the Spirit and the voice from heaven reveal Jesus' divine nature. The call to "Behold" (that is look at, or pay attention to) Jesus is a call to recognise His true significance as the source of salvation and life. John states that Jesus "ranks before me, because he was before me," highlighting Jesus' eternal nature. In essence, then, this passage serves as an introduction to Jesus' mission, revealing Him as the divine, the true focus for faith and salvation. John says of Jesus: 'Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'. The sin Jesus is to take away is not so much about individual transgressions, but the sin of the world, the condition the Church refers to as 'original sin', that sin of Adam and Eve which destroyed man's friendship with God. The Pastoral Review says "This sin is at work not only in individual hearts but is solidified in institutions and systems in the form of 'structures of sin'. St Oscar Romero taught that the mission entrusted to the Church was to 'uproot sin from history, to uproot sin from politics, to uproot sin from the economy, to uproot sin from wherever they are'. We are called to see where sin is embedded in systems, such as the prison system, the benefits system, the asylum system, and speak out for justice..... We are urged to make our voices heard , even at the risk of appearing foolish or naïve. We are part of God's redemptive work when we challenge sin in all its manifestations."

Quote of the week

"Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world". (John 1:29)

Parish Notices

First Holy Communion Candidates - June 2026

There is a mini-penitential service for the first holy communion candidates at the 9:30am Mass today.

Peace Sunday Today

"The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our Vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice." Envelopes are available at the back of Church for your donations to Pax Christi. Donations can also be made using the contactless machines.

White Flower Appeal

This weekend there is a second collection for the White Flower Appeal, dedicated to protecting unborn children and promoting the right to life in society. The Society for the protection of the Unborn Child appeals in Churches raise awareness of pro-life matters to parishioners and the donations we receive allows SPUC to continue our tireless work to build a culture of life. We work to educate youth, lobby politicians, mobilise pro-life activities in the community, provide support to students facing crisis pregnancies and much more.

Christian Unity Octave:

From 18th to 25th January the Church observes eight days' prayer for Christian Unity.

Parish Business

Monday 19th January from 7pm to 8pm.

Funerals

Please pray for the families:

Timothy Wright RIP - Weds 21st Jan at 12 Noon

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

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.

Archdiocesan Pilgrimages for Young Adults

Young adults (aged 18 to 35) are invited to join Archbishop John on pilgrimage to Lourdes, from 7 to 13 June 2026. The cost is £789, which includes flights and full-board accommodation on a shared basis. To book, please visit: www.tinyurl.com/lourdes26 Young adults (aged 18 to 35) are also invited to register interest for the World Youth Day pilgrimage to Korea in August 2027 at www.tinyurl.com/wyd2027 For information about youth activities for all ages across the Archdiocese please visit our website at www.tinyurl.com/scys1

Church Parade

At the 9:30am Mass next Sunday for the uniform groups.

Can you pass the IKEA test?!

Christian Care Merton -the local charity that helps families and individuals in difficulties- has revised its 'furniture project'. It is going to provide new flatpack rather than second hand furniture to clients. Many of our parishioners volunteer in various capacities; would you like to help by assembling furniture? Contact Graham Bennett 07792699948

Church Cleaning - January

Wednesday 21st January from 9:30am to 10:30am
New Volunteers welcome.

Maintenance of St George's Cathedral

There is a second collection next weekend for the maintenance of St George's Cathedral, Southwark, the mother Church of the diocese. This collection helps meet with the cost of the upkeep of the Cathedral.

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

The 5th Morden St. John Fisher Beavers waiting list is now open. Want your child to join the fun at St. John Fisher? Email 5thmordenbeavers@gmail.com

Youth Club

Returns for years 6/7 on Friday 6th Feb and for years 8-10 on Friday 13th Feb from 7:30pm in the hall. New Volunteers/Leaders are **URGENTLY** required

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.

Racial Justice Sunday

St George's Cathedral Sunday 1 February 2026, at 10am. Racial Justice Sunday is a time for the Church to pray, reflect and take action against racism, while celebrating the diversity of our Archdiocese. Everyone is invited to take part, and those who wish may wear national or cultural dress as a sign of unity and pride. If you would like, please gather outside the cathedral at 9.45am to join the procession of national flags. After Mass, all are welcome to gather in Amigo Hall for refreshments — a chance to meet one another, share experiences and continue the conversation about faith and inclusion.

Medjugorje Apostolate Annual Retreat

13th to 15th March at the Kairos Centre, Roehampton, led by Fr Svetozar Kraljević OFM. For more information and to book please contact Paul Spencer at pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com



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

Margaret Birch, 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**

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. Head Teacher – Ms Janine Kenna

