

Fisherman's Herald
Second Sunday of Advent (B) - 10th December 2023

St John Fisher Church

207 Cannon Hill Lane, Merton, London, SW20 9DB.
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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 9am to 2pm.**



MASS INTENTIONS & PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday 9th	5:00-5:50pm 6:00pm	Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>) Lynn Smith
Sunday 10th	8:00am 9:30am	Angela Acton RIP Romeo Francis RIP
Second Sunday of Advent (B)	11:00am 6:30pm	Fritha Winton People of the Parish
Monday 11th	8:30am 9:00am	<i>Rosary</i> Julian & Heather Desmier Sister Marian
Tuesday 12th	8:30am 9:00am	<i>Rosary</i> Euphrasia Paul Joe Green RIP
Wednesday 13th <i>St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr</i>	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am	<i>Rosary</i> Anthony Betts RIP Anniversary Kathleen Kiernan RIP <i>Legion of Mary (Day Chapel)</i>
Thursday 14th <i>St John of The Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church</i>	8:30am 9:00am 9:30-10:30am	<i>Rosary</i> William Nieves Belle McCann RIP <i>Weekly Adoration</i>
Friday 15th	8:30am 9:00am	<i>Rosary</i> Aoife Betts RIP Anniversary Elaine Cousins (Wellbeing)
Saturday 16th	9:00am 9:30-10:30am	Eamonn Coughlan RIP Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>)
Saturday 16th	5:00-5:50pm 6:00pm	Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>) Helen & Tim Daly RIP
Sunday 17th Third Sunday of Advent (B) <i>Gaudete Sunday</i>	8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:30pm	Stephanie McAllister RIP Harry Gracias Alfonso, Antonietta & Michael Proto RIP People of the Parish

Florists and Decorators:

The parish urgently need florists and decorators to beautify and adorn the Church by bringing life, help our common worship and inspire devotion. Please speak to any of the parish clergy.

Advent Course: "Let it be done unto me according to your word: How Mary helps us to be filled with God"

This course consisting of videos and discussion will be held on the Mondays of Advent continues at 7.30pm on 11th December in the Church Hall.

Parish Business:

Monday 11th December from 7pm to 8pm.

Funerals:

Please remember the families in your prayers.

Sharon Peck RIP:

Requiem Mass - Monday 11th Dec at 12:30pm.

John Daly RIP:

Requiem Mass - Friday 15th Dec at 12:30pm.

Peter Wright RIP:

Requiem Mass - Friday 5th Jan 2024 at 12:30pm.

Stella Maris - Thank you:

We have received a letter from Stella Maris (Apostleship of The Sea) thanking us for our donation of £364.68 towards their Sea Sunday appeal.

CAFOD - Thank you:

We have received a letter from CAFOD thanking us for our latest donation of £550 for in response to their Harvest Fast Day appeal.

SJF Justice & Peace Group - Sale - This Weekend:

There will be a sale of Palestinian goods in the hall after all Masses this weekend to raise funds for charities in the Holy Land.

Church Parade & Cake Sale - This Weekend:

The 5th Morden Scout Group are holding a raffle during their cake sale after church parade today. There are some amazing prizes. They are raising money towards two international trips they are participating in next year, Belgium and Kandersteg, the International Scout Centre in Switzerland. Please come and support us at the cake sale, raffle draw held at 11am.

Post - Confirmation Alpha Youth Course:

Our Alpha Youth course continues on Sun 10th and Sun 17th Dec in the parish hall from 5:30-7:30pm. Ten further sessions will take place in the Spring 2024 term. Please visit www.alpha.org.uk for more information. Please download a registration form from our website and return to the parish office if your child would like to attend ASAP: www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk/alpha-youth-course-reply-slip-2023.pdf

Talkabout:

Our parish magazine will be available next weekend.

Christian Care:

Very many thanks to all the parishioners who responded so generously to the Christmas hampers appeal. We were able to make up fifteen hampers for needy families supported by Christian Care. Christian Care is also seeking a volunteer Children and Family Activities' co-ordinator – see notice board and leaflet at back of church.

My Day by Day Advent Books:

Available at the back of Church - Suggested donation £1

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.

Christmas Confessions:

Monday 18th to Saturday 23rd Dec from 9:30am to 10:30am.

Christmas Offerings:

Envelopes are available at the back of the Church if you would like to use them for your personal gift to the priests who serve you in the parish.

Carols Preceding the Vigil Mass

Singing Christmas carols precedes the 6pm Vigil Mass on 24th December at St John Fisher Church from 5.30pm.

Children who attend primary schools (other than St John Fisher) are invited to take part in acting out the Christmas story and singing carols. Your child can choose to be an angel or a shepherd. The rehearsals will take place at 4pm-5pm on the following dates at the church. Angels: 6th Dec, Shepherds: 13th Dec, Angels and shepherds: 20th Dec. There will be an opportunity for children in years 5 and 6 to read a few lines in addition to the carols. If your child is interested please email me at the following address with your child's preference: cbrierly@st-johnfisher.merton.sch.uk.

Peace Service:


On Monday 1st January, World Day of Prayer for Peace, we will have a Peace Service in the Church at 4.00 pm. Please do join us in prayer for Peace in the World in 2024. There will be refreshments in the hall afterwards.

Baptism Service:

All those families who have had a baby baptised during 2023 are invited to the church on Sunday 7th January 2024, at 4pm for a service. There will be refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

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


Time & Talents - Volunteers Appeal:

Your parish of St John Fisher, Merton needs YOU and your talents and time! Please pick up a form as you leave Church if you are able to help.

Father Matthias Kizito:

Fr Matthias' farewell mass is on Saturday 13th January at 6pm followed by a party in the parish hall. If you wish to contribute to the parish gift, envelopes are available at the back of Church or you can donate at <https://donate.myдона.com/st-john-fisher-rc-church>

Caremark:

At Caremark Merton we deliver excellent home care with compassion and a cheery smile! Whatever you need, whatever time of day, for however long and however frequent, we are here to help. We provide personalised care that keeps you safe and happy at home. We also offer live-in care packages. Considering home care for yourself or a loved one? Give us a call on 020 8687 6633 to find out how we can help. 

Christmas Masses:

Sunday 24th December

Morning: 4th Sunday of Advent

Mass - 8am, 9:30am and 11am

Evening: Christmas Eve - 5:30pm Carols, 6pm Vigil Mass
11:30pm Carols, Midnight Mass at 12am.

Christmas Day Masses (Monday)

Mass at 8am, 9:30am and 11am.

There will be NO 6:30pm EVENING MASS.

Feast of St Stephen - Tuesday 26th December:

Mass at 10am for all Altar Servers & for New Servers, who will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen.

Christmas Confessions:

Monday 18th to Saturday 23rd Dec from 9:30am to 10:30am.

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.

Father Peter Littleton: ST GEORGE'S CHAPLAIN'S number is: 020 8725 3069 email catholicchaplains@stgeorges.nhs.uk



Please remember in your prayers the sick and housebound of our parish **Ivan Fernandes, Rita Aguiar, Kate Colthup, Ravi Aumeerun, Richard Skeehan, Ceris Cook, Charles & Anna Lusack, Grant Cozens, Malcolm Varran, Catherine Yeats, Luca Buttaci, Kitty McVey, Rita Platel, Edward Alvares, Christine Henderson, Johnny Symmonds, Patricia Anderson, Irene McGrenra, Anthony Carter, Richard Sullivan, Joseph McGahren, John Heffron, Jim Cosgrove and Natalie Williams.**



PLEASE COMPLETE A SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE SLIP

(SLIPS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF CHURCH FOR THOSE IN SCHOOL YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6)