

# Fisherman's Herald

## The Seventh Sunday of The Year (A) - 19th February 2023

**St John Fisher Church**

**207 Cannon Hill Lane, Merton, London, SW20 9DB.**  
**Tel: 020 8542 6355 Email: [merton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:merton@rcaos.org.uk)**  
**[www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk](http://www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk)**

Part of the R. C. Archdiocese of Southwark Charity No: 1173050

Fr Matthias Kizito, Fr Francis Nonyelu, Deacon Tom Kavanagh

Parish Office: **Monday & Thursday from 9am to 2pm.**



### MASS INTENTIONS & PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

<b>Saturday 18th</b>	6:00pm	Max Fernandes RIP
<b>Sunday 19th</b>  <b>Seventh Sunday (A)</b>	8:00am	People of the Parish
	9:30am	Deacon Fred Carter RIP
	11:00am	Gladys Peacock RIP
	6:30pm	Salvatore Maniscalchi RIP (1st Anniversary)
<b>Monday 20th</b>	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Francesca Marsh Leslie Read RIP
<b>Tuesday 21st</b>	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Noel Moran - Wellbeing Matt & Matthew T O'Meara RIP Anniversary
<b>Wednesday 22nd</b>  <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Maureen & EJ Conroy
	7:30pm	Diane Sheerman Chase RIP 1st Anniversary
<b>Thursday 23rd</b>	6:45am	Alvin Watson & Family
	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Nicholas D'Silva RIP
	9:30-10:30am	<i>Weekly Adoration</i>
<b>Friday 24th</b>	6:45am	Stephen Whelan RIP
	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Kitty Doyle
<b>Saturday 25th</b>	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Margaret Stanford
	9:30-10:30am	<i>Confessions (Day Chapel)</i>
<b>Saturday 25th</b>	5:00-5:50pm	<i>Confessions (Day Chapel)</i>
	6:00pm	Mary Cormack - Health & Wellbeing
<b>Sunday 26th</b>  <b>First Sunday of Lent (A)</b> <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	8:00am	Deacon Fred Carter & Ken Scurry RIP
	9:30am	Neil Calvert RIP
	11:00am	Francis Gracias RIP
	4:00pm	<i>Stations of The Cross</i>
	6:30pm	People of the Parish

### Parish Business:

Monday 20th February 6pm-7pm.

### Clergy Support Fund - Collection Next Sunday:

There will be a second collection next Sunday for the Clergy Support fund (Sick and Retired Priests). The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church and His people. In 2022, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 73 priests, at a cost of £1.33 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese.

Please be generous with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers. Thank you!

You can donate online: <https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf>, by telephone on 020 7960 2504, or cash/cheque - please use the Clergy Support envelopes at the back of church.

### The Holy Season of Lent:

This year the Lenten Season begins on Wednesday 22nd February. Lent is a time of self-renewal as we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery. The 3 important pillars of the Lenten Season are: **Fasting, Prayer, and Almsgiving.** Prayer offers us a very special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to a way of life, rooted in our baptism. In our busy world, Prayer provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our patterns and sins. Fasting and almsgiving are intended to help us to subdue our desires. During Lent God does not need the chocolate, sweets, and other trivial things we give up. He needs us to look deep within ourselves and reflect. He wants our hearts. So, our fasting will be beneficial if it helps us to stop our obsession with the self and start thinking about what truly matters in life. **We pray that this Lenten Season will be a journey of faith that will lead us to a more intimate relationship with God and with each other.**

### Ash Wednesday & Masses during Lent:

There will be two Masses on Ash Wednesday, at 9am and 7.30pm. After Ash Wednesday there will be two daily Masses during Lent on Monday to Friday, at 6.45am and at 9am.

### My Day by Day Lent Books:

Available from the back of Church, cost £1.

### Confessions in the Day Chapel:

Confessions now take place in the Day Chapel. Times remain the same: Saturday morning from 9:30am to 10:30am and Saturday evening from 5:00pm to 5:50pm.

### **Church Parade - 9:30am Mass Next Weekend:**

The scouts will be holding a cake and sweet treats sale in the hall after the 9:30am Mass next Sunday, 26th February to help raise funds for their camping trip.

### **First Holy Communion Parents Meetings:**

There will be a meeting for the parents of First Holy Communion candidates on Tuesday 21st February (Group 1) and on Thursday 23rd February (Group 2). Meetings start at 8pm in the Church Hall.

### **Stations of The Cross during Lent:**

Wednesdays at 7:30pm and on Sundays at 4pm.

### **Lent Course:**

During Lent a series of DVDs will be shown in the Church hall on Mondays at 7.30pm from 27th February lasting about an hour.

The first three will offer insights into the life and spirituality of St Paul by tracing his missionary journeys and how these impacted on his life and teachings.

### **Lenten lunch:**

Join us in the parish hall for a Lenten lunch of soup and a roll, tea or coffee between noon and 2pm on Fridays in Lent. Any money raised will go to Wimbledon food bank. Lenten lunch dates **Friday 24th Feb**, Friday 3rd March, Friday 10th March, Friday 17th March, Friday 24th March, Friday 31st march and Thursday 6th April.

### **Youth Club:**

Parent volunteers are **urgently** needed in order for our parish youth club to continue. If you are able to help on a rota basis, please speak to one of the leaders. The next meeting is on Friday 24th February from 7:30pm-9pm in the hall for those in school year 6 and above.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Over 60's Club:**

Thursday 23rd February from 1pm to 3pm in the Church hall, all welcome

### **Funeral:**

Please remember the family in your prayers.

### **Brenda Muggeridge RIP:**

Requiem Mass - Wednesday 1st March at 12:30pm.

### **CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 3rd March:**

Please take an envelope from the back of Church and support CAFOD's Family Fast Day on Friday 3rd March. For more information or to donate online, please visit:

[www.cafod.org.uk/lent](http://www.cafod.org.uk/lent)

### **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](mailto:merton@rcaos.org.uk) for a pledge form
2. Continue to use your weekly gift aid envelopes
3. Donate on our website or scan the QR code which can be found on the poster at the back of Church or in the Hall.
4. Donate to our parish justgiving page: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-john-fisher-merton](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-john-fisher-merton)

### **Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ:**

If you are mourning the death of a loved one, this weekend may be for you. It's being held at Aylesford Priory from March 24-26; cost £230 single, £210 shared. For more details phone 01622 717272 or email [reception@thefriars.org.uk](mailto:reception@thefriars.org.uk)

### **Used Stamps:**

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

### **Radio Maria - 'A Christian Voice in your Home':**

Radio Maria England broadcasts Christian music, prayer and teaching, on digital radio (in Cambridge and London) and online. They have no commercial advertising or funding and their existence is dependant on the generosity of their listeners and grants. Please visit their website to find out more at [www.radiomariaengland.uk](http://www.radiomariaengland.uk) or see the Church noticeboard for more information.

**INFANT BAPTISMS:** First Sunday of the month at 3pm. 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](mailto:catholicchaplains@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

Please remember in your prayers the sick and housebound of our parish **Michael Glynn, Anna Lusack, Malcolm Varran, Catherine Yeats, Giovanni Fugaccia, James Johnson, Luca Buttaci, Kitty McVey, Rita Platel, Edward Alvares, Christine Henderson, Johnny Symmonds, Kathy Metcalf, Patricia Anderson, Irene McGrenra, Anthony Carter, Charles Ducker, Richard Sullivan, Joseph McGahren and John Heffron.**

