

Fisherman's Herald
The Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year (A) - 22nd October 2023

St John Fisher Church

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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 21st	5:00-5:50pm	Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>)
	6:00pm	Deceased Members of the Farrell Family
Sunday 22nd <i>Twenty-Ninth Sunday (A)</i> <i>World Mission Day</i> <i>Day of Prayer for the evangelisation of the world</i>	8:00am	Fran Fenwick RIP
	9:30am	People of the Parish
	11:00am	Geoff Walker RIP (4th Anniversary)
	6:30pm	Mary Leahy RIP
Monday 23rd	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Serene (Thanksgiving)
Tuesday 24th	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Philomena Canavan RIP
Wednesday 25th	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Sheila O'Hara RIP
	9:30am	<i>Legion of Mary (Day Chapel)</i>
Thursday 26th	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Kitty Kelleher RIP
	9:30-10:30am	<i>Weekly Adoration</i>
Friday 27th	8:30am	<i>Rosary</i>
	9:00am	Willy Whitty RIP
Saturday 28th <i>Saints Simon & St Jude Feast</i>	9:00am	Michael Dooley RIP
	9:30-10:30am	Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>)
Saturday 28th	5:00-5:50pm	Confessions (<i>Confessional</i>)
	6:00pm	Maurice Collingwood Nelson RIP (9th Anniversary)
Sunday 29th <i>Thirtieth Sunday (A)</i>	8:00am	Asaimuthu Victor RIP
	9:30am	The Douglas Family
	11:00am	Michael Dooley RIP
	6:30pm	People of the Parish

The Rosary In October:

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. Those who recite five decades of the Rosary in church, or a family, or as a group may gain a plenary indulgence daily. You can also recite daily the Litany of Loreto and the Prayer to Saint Joseph.

Parish Business:

Monday 23rd October 7pm to 8pm.

Legion of Mary:

Meetings continue on Wednesday 25th October 2023 at 9:30am in the Day Chapel.

Father Francis Nonyelu - Mass of Induction:

A parish is a "Community of Communities". We thank the parish community and all the volunteers who made the celebration of the Mass of Induction a success. Thank you for your active presence, for your time and resources. May God who sees all that is done in secret reward you abundantly (*Mt 6:4*).

RCIA Program - 2023:

The RCIA program for adults who wish to be baptised or receive any of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation continues on Tues 30th Oct, 7:30pm in the presbytery.

Friends of LIFE - Baby Loss Awareness:

Throughout October we have a Baby Loss Memorial in Church to commemorate the lives of those lost before, during, or shortly after birth for any reason. The memorial space includes prayer cards, as well as details of support services for anyone who needs them.

Missio - Second Collection Today:

Missio is the Church's official organ for the support of foreign missions. The collection taken on World Mission Sunday goes in its entirety to support Churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. Missio works through local bishops. Churches and missionary congregations to ensure that resources are distributed equitably and justly on the basis of need. The money goes directly from England and Wales to the bishops in the mission territories: local church directly helping local church.

Volunteers Appeal - A Call to Serve:

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.

Parish Volunteers Get Together - Thurs 23rd Nov:

Father Francis would like to invite all who are actively involved in the work and activities of the parish, to get together in the hall after the 6pm Mass, to enjoy some food and wine. This is a way of saying: 'Thank you' to all volunteers. Please add your name to the list at the back of Church if you are able to attend.

NEW Post - Confirmation Programme:

Our parish Alpha Youth course begins on Sunday 3rd December and continues on Sun 10th and Sun 17th Dec in the parish hall from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Ten further sessions will take place in the Spring 2024 term. The programme is free and aims to create a vibrant, active section of the parish in which the children feel part of and can contribute to. More information on the course content can be found on the Alpha website at www.alpha.org.uk 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

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.

School Supplementary Forms

If you require a school supplementary form to be signed for **Nursery**, **Reception** or **High School**, please drop the forms through the presbytery letterbox at anytime and include a copy of the Baptism certificate. You will be contacted when the form is ready for collection.

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.

Laudate Deum:

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, released an Apostolic Exhortation, *Laudate Deum*. It is in effect an update to his encyclical *Laudato Si*, given the very limited progress achieved over the years since *Laudato Si*. The text itself is available on the Bishops' Conference web site: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/10/laudate-deum-exhortation-041023.pdf>. Pope Francis finished *Laudate Deum* by explaining why he chose that title: "Praise God is the title of this letter. For when human beings claim to take God's place, they become their own worst enemies."

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.mydona.com/st-john-fisher-rc-church>

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

Nativity Fun Run - CAFOD:

CAFOD (the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) invites you to take part in our Nativity Fun Run on Saturday 9th December at 11am. This event is a festive walk, run or stroll around Clapham Common where you can dress up, have fun, and take part in an exciting family activity as Christmas approaches, while also helping to raise vital funds for overseas communities. To learn more, sign up, and participate, please visit our website: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Sponsored-challenge-events/Run-for-CAFOD/Nativity-Fun-Run>

We are also looking for volunteers to support us throughout the day – if you enjoy engaging with your local community and have a free morning, we encourage you to sign up on our website: <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/Volunteering-opportunities/Event-volunteer>

Growing In Faith Together:

This new online course has been developed in collaboration with the Southwark Marriage and Family Life team, the diocesan Agency for Evangelisation and Sycamore, a programme about the Catholic faith by Fr Stephen Wang. Growing in Faith Together consists of four one-hour-long sessions via Zoom and is a wonderful opportunity for married couples to enrich their friendship and love and engaged couples who have completed their marriage preparation course and want to continue exploring their faith together. The course runs on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm beginning October 24 and continuing on the 31st and November 7 and 14. To register click on this link: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/together>

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 **Kate Colthup, Ravi Ameerun, Richard Skeehan, Ceris Cook, 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.**



NO SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE SLIPS THIS WEEK DUE TO THE HALF TERM HOLIDAY