

**Fisherman's Herald**  
**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A) - 26th November 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 Francis Nonyelu, Fr Joseph Edem, Deacon Tom Kavanagh

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



**MASS INTENTIONS & PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK**

<b>Saturday 25th</b>	5:00-5:50pm 6:00pm	Confessions ( <i>Confessional</i> ) Patrick Lam-Kin Teng RIP (Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 26th</b> <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)</i> <i>Youth Day</i>	8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 4:00-5:00pm 6:30pm	Ana Crispin Syjud People of the Parish Baby Adam Collins RIP (Anniversary) <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Evening Prayer</i> Kevin Gracias
<b>Monday 27th</b>	8:30am 9:00am	<i>Rosary</i> Ovidio Torres Thomas Ryan RIP
<b>Tuesday 28th</b>	8:30am 9:00am	<i>Rosary</i> Leonard & Cecilia Richardson RIP Mary Yeats RIP
<b>Wednesday 29th</b>	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am	<i>Rosary</i> Maxwell Grostate RIP Deceased Members of Departed Legionaries <i>Legion of Mary (Day Chapel)</i>
<b>Thursday 30th</b> <i>St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland</i>	8:30am 9:00am 9:30-10:30am	<i>Rosary</i> Mr Philip Ideh The Conroy Family <i>Weekly Adoration</i>
<b>Friday 1st</b> <i>First Friday</i>	8:30am 9:00am 8:00pm	<i>Rosary</i> Michael O'Brien RIP Anniversary Mary Yeats RIP
<b>Saturday 2nd</b> <i>First Saturday</i>	8:00-8:45am 9:00am 9:30-10:30am 11:30am	<i>First Saturday Devotions</i> Deacon Fred Carter RIP Confessions ( <i>Confessional</i> ) <i>Senior Citizens Mass</i>
<b>Saturday 2nd</b>	5:00-5:50pm 6:00pm	Confessions ( <i>Confessional</i> ) Angela Nassif
<b>Sunday 3rd</b> <i>First Sunday of Advent (B)</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Migrants</i>	8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:30pm	People of the Parish Canon Acton RIP (1st Anniversary) Canon Acton RIP Francis Gracias RIP (1st Anniversary) Irene McGrenra Welfare

**Solemnity of Christ the King - Today:**

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the Solemnity of Christ the King at 4pm in Church ending with the evening prayer of the Church.

**Confirmation 2023 - Today - 6:30pm Mass:**

The 6:30pm Mass today is being arranged by the November 2023 Confirmation group. We ask that all who were confirmed this month to attend. Refreshments will be served in the hall after Mass.

**World Youth Sunday 2023 - Second Collection:**

This Sunday is National Youth Sunday, and the retiring collection will be for the work of the Southwark Catholic Youth Service, which is re-launching several activities in 2024 for those aged 10-35. For more details about what is on offer, please see our website [tinyurl.com/scys1](http://tinyurl.com/scys1). Please also sign up to our network at [tinyurl.com/scysnetwork](http://tinyurl.com/scysnetwork) to receive regular updates.



The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales has produced further World Youth Sunday resources at [worldyouthsunday.org/wyd2023](http://worldyouthsunday.org/wyd2023).

**NEW Post - Confirmation Programme**

Our parish Alpha Youth course begins on Sunday 3rd Dec 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](http://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](http://www.stjohnfishermerton.co.uk/alpha-youth-course-reply-slip-2023.pdf)

**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 beginning at 7.30pm on 4th December in the Church Hall.

**First Friday - 1st December:**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30pm followed by Mass at 8pm.

**First Saturday Devotions - 2nd December:**

Rosary and keeping Our Lady company within Adoration and Benediction from 8am to 8:45am.

**St Vincent de Paul Annual Collection**

**Next Weekend:**

The St Vincent de Paul Society is dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical assistance to anyone in need. Anyone who is really struggling for assistance should speak to a member of the clergy in confidence.

### **First Anniversary Mass of Canon Colm Acton RIP:**

The parish and Canon Acton's family are observing the first anniversary of the death of Canon Acton on Sunday 3rd December at 11am Mass.

### **Parish Business:**

No parish Business this week.

### **Parish Advisory Council:**

The next PAC meeting will take place on Monday 27th November 2023 at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall.

### **Christmas Cards for persecuted Christians:**

The Justice and Peace Group are inviting parishioners to send a Christmas Card to someone in prison or persecuted for their faith. We provide the cards, address and some information. All you need is the greeting and a stamp. Please do not make any political comment in your card. We suggest you express sympathy for their situation and promise prayers.

### **Senior Citizens - Christmas Party:**

The Christmas celebration for our senior citizens takes place on Saturday 2nd December beginning with Mass at 11:30am, followed by lunch in the hall. Anyone who would like to attend please let us know ASAP.

### **Christian Care Christmas Collection - Next Weekend:**

On 2nd/3rd December we will be collecting for hampers for needy families, items required: Sparkling non-alcoholic drink/fruit juice, Large or mini Christmas Pudding, Chocolate/Sticky toffee Puddings, Mince Pies, Chocolate Log, Stollen, Tin / Box Chocolate or Fancy Biscuits, Tin / Box Shortbread, Tin Fruit, Tin Custard, Cranberry Sauce, Stuffing, Gravy, Box Chocolates, Children's sweets. *Please bring items to the hall after Mass.*

### **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.

**Funeral:** Please remember the family in your prayers.

### **Sharon Peck RIP:**

Requiem Mass - Monday 11th December at 12:30pm

### **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 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](http://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.

### **Day of Recollection - Readers & Eucharistic Ministers:**

10am on Saturday 2nd December at St Boniface Hall, 185 Mitcham Road, SW17 9PG. Please email the parish office: [merton@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:merton@rcaos.org.uk) ASAP if you are planning to attend as numbers need to be confirmed for catering purposes.

### **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>

### **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](mailto:cbrierly@st-johnfisher.merton.sch.uk).

**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](mailto:catholicchaplains@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

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