



ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE RECTORY, GREEN STREET, SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX TW16 6QB

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RECTOR: FR CHRISTIAN DE LISLE

ADMINISTRATOR: LAVINA MENEZES E FERNANDES

NEWSLETTER

23RD JANUARY 2022 ✱ 3RD SUNDAY IN OT

MASS TIMES

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm & Sunday 9:30am & 11:30am.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9:30am.

PUBLIC ROSARY: Every Wednesday 10am.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8am-5pm. Saturday 9:30am-6:30pm. Sunday 8am-1pm.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Saturday 10:30am – 11:15am followed by Benediction

CONFESSION: Saturday 10:30am -11:15am (in the Sacristy) or by appointment

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Year C Ps Week 3

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-6,8-10

Responsorial Psalm: 18(19):8-10,15

Response: *Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.*

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4,4:14-21

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations

15/16 January 2022

Envelopes	£ 348.32
Loose	£ 283.43
Total	£ 631.75

Church Cleaning TEAM 1: A & C Roberts (Thursday)

For all queries regarding Parish accounts, Gift Aid, Weekly envelopes, Standing orders and so on, please email at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk & for Parish Centre(s) bookings, please email at sunburyparishcentres@rcdow.org.uk or contact Lavina, Parish Administrator at the Parish office.

PARISH NOTICES

First Confessions: The parish First Confession 2022 will be heard on Monday 31st January. The children on the First Holy Communion course should be in the church by 4pm. Children who have done the short First Confession course should arrive by 5pm.

Confirmation 2021-22: Teenagers in Years 9 & 10 are invited to join the Confirmation course by signing up on the Parish Website - Sacramental Preparation. **Applications will close on the 24th January.** Meetings will start in February.

Weekly Donation Envelopes: As we are due to place an order for the next Weekly Donation Envelopes starting from 10th April 2022 to April 2023.

If you wish to join the Standing Order or have already setup the Standing Order and wish to cancel your Weekly Donation Envelopes. Kindly email the Parish Office at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk or call 01932783507 with your existing Box number, Full Name, Address & Contact number as soon as possible.

If you wish to support your parish by **Weekly Donation Envelopes or Standing Order**, please see details below* or contact the Parish Office.

REGULAR NOTICES

Parish Registration: If you are new to the parish and would like to register, the Parish Registration (White) forms are available in the Church porch or please email the Parish Office.

Funerals: To book a funeral, please contact the Parish Office.

***SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH:** COVID has created some financial difficulties for all, our parish included. Please continue your support. Thank you for your generosity.

1. If you would like **"Weekly Donation Envelopes"** or would like to setup **Standing Order**, please complete the *Parish Gift Aid & Standing Order (Blue) Form* available in the Church Porch OR please contact the Parish office, call: 01932783507 or Email: sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk OR please visit our Parish Website – DONATE/Donate to our Parish.

2. If you are a **TAX PAYER**, please consider joining the **"Gift Aid Scheme"** by completing the same form.

3. You **DO NOT** need to be a *Tax Payer* in order to set up or request for *Standing Order or Weekly Donation Envelopes*.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to offer a Mass, the blue envelopes are available in the Church Porch. Please drop your Mass intention envelopes through the Rectory - Letterbox or email the Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick: If you know of someone in the parish who is very ill please contact Fr Christian to arrange a visit.

Altar Servers: Online applications to begin serving at Mass are now open for applicants under 18 and over 18. Applicants should have received their First Holy Communion. Prior experience is welcomed but not required. Please visit [Parish Website/Parish Life/Parish Groups/First Holy Communion](#)

Stewards & Minister's Rotas: The new rotas are displayed in the Church Porch and are available online on the Parish website - *Parish Groups*.

Westminster Year Book 2022: Copies are available at the Parish office, priced at £5.00

PARISH SCHOOLS

Parish Schools: St Ignatius Catholic Primary School and St Paul's Catholic College (Secondary) are this parish's two Catholic

Schools, though some parishioners have children at Catholic secondary schools outside the parish bounds. Both are thriving schools. All Catholics are encouraged to have their children educated in a Catholic context.

Signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice for Catholic Schools

- Parents are requested to contact the School Office first to learn about the School admissions & visit <https://www.gov.uk/schools-admissions>.
- **For Secondary Transfer Year 7 (Sept -Oct), Reception (Nov -Jan) & Nursery (Feb- Apr)**, please keep reading the Newsletter near the time for Online appointment(s) with the Priest via Parish website.
- **For School Years (Yr1 to Yr6) & other school years**, please email the Parish Office for an appointment at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Baptism: To arrange for the baptism of any child under the age of seven please contact the Parish Office to book a meeting. All parents will need to complete a short course on the Sacrament of Baptism, usually held at noon on Saturdays. A child's baptism can be booked for any Saturday which works, again at noon.

First Holy Communion 2022: Please see the Session dates on the Parish Website.

First Holy Communion 2022: Mass Attendance cards

1. The child should be present with his/her Attendance card.
2. Please make sure the Attendance Card has the Child's full name, this will help the Stewards to identify the card and in case the Attendance card is lost.
3. Please DO NOT forget to bring your Childs Attendance card to Mass every weekend.
4. Stamps/Stickers will not be issued for a missed Sunday.
5. Please contact the Parish Office if you need a new Attendance Card.

Becoming Catholic 2021-22: Welcome home! Please contact Fr Christian by telephone or email to organise a meeting.

Marriage: Please contact Fr Christian by telephone or email to organise a meeting.

EVENTS

The God Who Speaks' Scripture Festival - St Alban's Cathedral Thursday 3rd - Saturday 5th February 2022, 10:00am to 4:00pm. You are invited to join pilgrims of all ages for a one-time only organised by the Agency for Evangelisation. We will be offering different ways of exploring the Scriptures in prayer, through creative activities and in Bible study. Join us for a joyful and profound experience.

Saturday 5th February - Why not come along to St Albans Cathedral to watch Steve Murray – Hanson from Behold Ministry bring familiar parables and scripture narratives to life through mime. The event is free but would recommend you book to ensure your place. For more information or to book please visit: <https://rcdow.org.uk/scripturefestival/whats-on/> Find us on Facebook: [@TheGodWhoSpeaksScriptureFestival](https://www.facebook.com/TheGodWhoSpeaksScriptureFestival) and Instagram: [@ScriptureFestival](https://www.instagram.com/ScriptureFestival)

A Day with Mary – Holy Apostles Winchester Street SW1V Saturday 19th February from 10am to 4.15pm. Kindly see the poster on the Church Notice Board for more information.

St Richard Reynolds Catholic College – Recruitment: Current vacancies: Subject Leader of Physics (closing date 6th February), Teacher of English (closing date 4th February), Assistant Site Manager (closing date Friday 28th January <https://www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/our-college/vacancies>

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES:

What ties together the readings the Church gives us to meditate upon this morning is the centrality of the scriptures, the written word of God, to both of them. What is given in the Old Testament, is taken up, and fulfilled in the New. In the first reading we hear about Ezra the priest reading to the people of Israel. In the gospel reading we hear of another public reading of the word of God, the Scriptures.

Let us imagine: there is total hush. Every eye is fixed on Jesus as He reads, He finishes, He sits down, and then He speaks. What does He say? "This text is being fulfilled today, even as you listen." Make no mistake, everyone knows what this means. Our Lord has read from the beginning of a prophesy about the Messiah, the Christ, and he is claiming to be that Messiah. Everything which follows flows from this. His life, miracles, and, most especially, the mystery of his suffering, death and resurrection.

In the Gospel, that same word is read, but in a new way. Now it is being read by the Word made flesh himself. The Word of God reads the word of God and so fulfils it. All those obscure passages, difficult, faint echoes of what is to come, are now made clear. What is foretold and foreshadowed in the Old Testament is made manifest and is fulfilled in the New. Think of the Old Testament as being like a seed and the New Testament as the tree which grows from that seed. The seed is planted and from it shoots forth the tree. The tree is different from the seed but it is utterly inseparable from the seed. Without the seed it cannot exist.

What ties these two readings together is the centrality of the scriptures, the written word of God, to both of them. As with everything in the Old Testament, what is given in the Old Testament, is taken up, and fulfilled in the New. Thus, in these readings we see the intimate relationship between the Old and New Testaments and we hear of the first explicit claim by our Lord to being the Christ, Son of the Living God.

How are we to apply this in our lives? What should this mean for us in our own journey of faith? Firstly, we should take this as a call to be attentive to the voice of God in scripture. The tree of the gospel born of the seed of the Old Testament produces fruit of its own and so a new seed can be planted in those who eat it, growing into a tree of life within them. Look at the people of Israel in the first reading. So often we hear about the failure of the people of Israel, their rebellions and so on. But here they are a true example to us all. As it is written: "all the people listened attentively to the book of the law." From dawn till dusk. Why? Because, as the psalm tells us "the law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul... it gives wisdom to the simple... light to the eyes." Again, in the gospel, the as the Word of God reads from the scriptures, "all the eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him." Total attention. Attention to the words being read, and also to the Word made flesh in front of them. Are we like this when we hear the bible read? Do we take time to read the bible ourselves?

Notice one more thing in these readings. None of it is done alone. The people listen to Ezra together, the synagogue listens to Jesus together. Our bible reading must always be the same. We may be physically alone when we read the bible, but we must always do it as Catholics, in union with the Church, guarded in every age from all error by the Holy Spirit. Scripture is often obscure, difficult to understand and, while no explanation of scripture can truly express the full music which comes from these silent pages, if we read it with the Church. With the divine assembly of God's people, we will not twist it, we will not reform it in our own image, but it will reform us in its image.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:
Simon P Murphy, Baby Romeo DeMello, Bernadette Moran,
Fr Dominic Byrne, Pat Suckling, Zofia Moore.
+Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen+