



ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

TELEPHONE: 01932 783 507 EMAIL: SUNBURYONTHAMES@RCDOW.ORG.UK

WEB: PARISH.RCDOW.ORG.UK/SUNBURYONTHAMES/

RECTOR: FR CHRISTIAN DE LISLE

ADMINISTRATOR: LAVINA MENEZES E FERNANDES

NEWSLETTER

11TH DECEMBER 2022 ✦ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS TIMES

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

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

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

PUBLIC ROSARY: Every Wednesday 10am. All are welcome.

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

MASS BOOK THIS SUNDAY

Year A

Order of Mass: pg.7

Hymns: see hymn board

Reading and Prayers: pg.88

Preface: Advent 2, pg.66

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations

3 /4 December 2022

Envelopes £ 194.00

Loose £ 244.25

Total £ 438.25

Standing Orders November 2022 £ 2,951.00

Church Cleaning TEAM 5: S & C Rodrigues (Saturday).

Lavina will not be available on Mondays & Thursdays.

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

Signing of Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) for Reception School Parents are invited to book an appointment with Fr Christian via the Parish website under **News and Events tab (online)**. The closing date for on-time applications to Primary schools is 15 January 2023.

Yamaha baby grand piano: Hannah Anderson is looking to find a new home for her late husband's Yamaha baby grand piano. If anyone is interested in giving the instrument a new home please contact the parish office.

CHRISTMAS 2022

- Christmas Flower collection – TODAY
- Advent Penitential Liturgy: Monday 12th December, 7pm -8pm in the Church
- Parish Christmas Cards are available in the Church porch.
- Ministers Christmas Rota is available for signing in the Church porch. If you are unable to serve *as per the parish rota*, please arrange for replacements.
- My Day by Day & Walk with Me Advent 2022 Daily Reading booklets are available in the Church Porch for £1. Please place your donations in the basket provided.

Repository: The Repository will be open before and after all the Masses on 17th /18th December.

Traidcraft: Thank you once again for supporting our Traidcraft stall. The CAFOD Christmas cards were popular again! We sold out this year. As usual, the hampers were very popular too and we managed to raffle four of them. The winners were; Janet Kent, Chris Stacey, Ann Roberts and Mark Legg. Well done! We will make a donation of £100 from the parish to CAFOD. Thank you to everyone who buys from the stall and also makes a donation.

St Ignatius 100 Club Christmas Draw: It's the December Draw for the St Ignatius 100 Club this week, the draw will take place after 9.30am Mass in the Manning Room. In addition to the December Draw there will be some extra prizes just in time for Christmas! Good Luck to all our members!

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.

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH: A big **THANK YOU** to all our parishioners who have been supporting our parish through Standing Order, Weekly Donation Envelopes, Gift Aid Scheme, Blue Envelopes and to all those who are planning to join. Please continue your support.

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 Envelope.*

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

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](#)

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month – the next date is 6th January 2023 – Come and pray the Rosary at 5.15PM in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips in the Manning Room. Adult portion £9, kids portion £5.50.

RSVP to place your food order by Wednesday 4th January to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190. You don't have to have children to come – you just have to like them!

Stewards & Minister's Rotas: The new rota is available in the Church Porch and online on the Parish website - [Parish Groups](#).

Sunday Tea/Coffee Morning: Every Sunday after 9:30am Mass in the Manning Room. All are welcome.

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 2023: Please see the session dates on the Parish Website.

First Holy Communion 2023: 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. Stickers are issued before Mass and will not be issued for a missed Sunday.

Becoming Catholic 2022-23: 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.

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

This past week, on Thursday, we celebrated one of the greatest feasts of Our Lady. The feast of is Immaculate Conception. This is not to be confused with the Virgin Birth. The Immaculate Conception, rather, means that Our Lady was born with a singular grace, an incomprehensible gift which no others, save Our Lord Himself, can boast: she was born free from the stain of Original Sin. She was born free from that primaeval division from perfection, from the Good God, which binds all humanity and is why we are "a people who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death." She was saved by the sacrifice of her divine Son before she even bore Him.

This had been planned by God from the beginning. Man, as a free creature, could and would fall away from God, but God would go one further than merely starting again with a perfect, unblemished creation, He would draw goodness out of evil, he would enter into this fallen world and remake it from within with sweet yet cutting power of his Word and the gentle but uncontrollable fire of His Holy Spirit. For "God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." It would be quite beneath God to leave His image to the power of sin and death. Hence, even in that first moment of sin, God rounds on the serpent who tempted Eve saying "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and your seed and her seed: she shall crush your head, and you shall lie in wait for her heel."

Later there are further glimpses of this future... Solomon sings a prophesy in his Song of Songs "Who is she that comes forth as the morning rising, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army set in array?" The prophet Isaiah glimpses Our Lady's virginity: "the Lord himself shall give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel." Again, Solomon sings in prophesy: "thou art all beautiful, O my love, and there is no stain in thee."

But why? Why did God choose to send this grace to Our Lady? To put it into a simple sentence, it was because it was fitting. As the tradition has it in the Latin: "'deciuit, potuit, ergo fecit" – "It was fitting, God could do it, and so God did do it." Often we can think that God must somehow work like some sort of cosmic computer, that there must be a logical necessity behind all his actions. No doubt God always acts with good reason (he is certainly never contrary to reason), but God constantly acts in a way which accomplishes his design in the most fitting, appropriate way. Our Lady is a daughter of Eve, a sister to us all, but she is also mother through her motherhood of the first man of the new humanity, the perfect humanity without sin and death, Jesus Christ. The ancient and the bound up in a single person, Our Lady Immaculate.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

**Peter McGloin, Mary Taylor,
Anthony (Tony) Johnson, Sheila Roughan.**

*+Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them. Amen+*