



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

15TH JANUARY 2023 ✦ 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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.125

Preface II: Ordinary Time, pg.68

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations

7/8 January 2023

Envelopes £ 283.50

Loose £ 299.84

Total £ 583.34

Church Cleaning TEAM 2: J O'Connell, J Sellings, P Goodfellow (Wednesday)

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

Confirmation 2023: Teenagers in Years 9 & 10 are invited to join the Confirmation course by signing up on the Parish Website. Meetings will start in late January.

Quiz & Supper in aid of HCPT Group 51: Saturday 28th January, 7:15 at the Loyola Centre. The Quiz - Teams of up to 6 people, but if you don't have a team come along anyway & we will allocate you to a team. The Supper - Baked potato & chilli/vegan chilli. (Please advise of any dietary requirements) Tickets £15. Contact Mary Soane group51@hcpt.org.uk or 07737899487.

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.

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 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

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

Repository: The Repository will be open before and after all the Masses 21st/22nd January 2023.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month – the next date is 3rd February 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 1st February 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

EVENTS

Peace Sunday, TODAY: The 56th World Day for Peace will be observed this Sunday, when we are asked to make this a day of prayer for peace. For more information on the work of Pax Christi, please visit www.paxchristi.org.uk If you would like to support the work of Pax Christi, you will find donations envelopes in the Church porch or you may donate online:

<https://tinyurl.com/PaxDonation>

Inquiry into assisted suicide: The bishops of England and Wales have asked that Catholics try to take part in the ongoing inquiry into assisted suicide in Britain. Assisted suicide presents profound danger to public safety and the common good (as has been proven by what we have seen in Canada and Belgium, where this practice is permitted and encouraged). It is crucial that as many people as possible engage with the Parliamentary Inquiry and oppose the introduction of assisted suicide into UK law. It is especially important that those who respond should oppose the idea of a 'Citizens' Assembly' or referendum on this issue, as these are easily abused to try to legalise assisted suicide.

Pope Francis has constantly taught against assisted suicide, euphemistically called, 'assisted dying', as have earlier pontiffs.

"All life has inestimable value even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect." (Pope Francis, Message to Catholics participating in Day for Life in Britain and Ireland, July 28, 2013) "Physician-assisted suicide is part of a "throwaway culture" that offers a "false compassion" and treats a human person as a problem...True compassion does not marginalise anyone, nor does it humiliate and exclude - much less considers the death of a person as a good thing." (Pope Francis, Address to Directors of the Orders of Physicians of Spain and Latin America, June 2016)

"More and more lonely elderly people exist in big cities, even in situations of serious illness and close to death. In such situations, the pressure of euthanasia is felt, especially when a utilitarian vision of the person creeps in. In this regard, I take

this opportunity to reaffirm once again the firm and constant ethical condemnation of every form of direct euthanasia, in accordance with the Church's centuries-old teaching." (Pope Benedict XVI, February 25 2008)

As believers, how can we fail to see that abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide are a terrible rejection of God's gift of life and love? And as believers, how can we fail to feel the duty to surround the sick and those in distress with the warmth of our affection and the support that will help them always to embrace life?" (St. Pope John Paul II)

The Catholic Church is clear that we can never assist in taking the life of another, even if they request it. All life is sacred from conception until natural death, and we reiterate our call for investment in high quality palliative care. Our call is one for assistance in living and not assistance in committing suicide.

Statements of the Bishops' Conference can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/life-issues/assisted-dying/>

The Anscombe Centre can also help the response. They have produced a statement and resources about this Inquiry: <https://bioethics.org.uk/news-events/news-from-the-centre/anscombe-centre-statement-on-commons-hsc-committee-inquiry-into-assisted-suicide/>

The timeframe for answering the consultation is a short one. Submissions must be in by Friday 20 January but happily the format of the Inquiry is simple, and not time-consuming – just six questions. To aid public engagement, the Anscombe Bioethics Centre has produced a short two-page Briefing (attached) to help anyone interested in responding, whether as an individual or as an organisation. The relevant links for the questionnaire and for longer responses are included in this document. Anyone with any questions can contact the Anscombe Centre at admin@bioethics.co.uk.

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

"Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world." We are all very familiar with these words from the Mass. Said during one of the most sacred moments: as the church is hushed, the host and chalice have been consecrated, the offering made, and now we prepare for the intimacy of our communion. As with most of the Mass it is a quote from scripture, the scripture we have in today's gospel.

Though we are very familiar with these words it is valuable to re-examine them regularly, to let their meaning sit with us. In these words we are proclaiming so many things about our Lord. Each important, each saving. We acknowledge that Christ is here among us. We look at the host and we recognise Him, body and blood, soul and divinity. But we also recognise Him as here for a purpose, a mission. That mission is nothing less than our salvation by His self-sacrifice. We are so used to the idea that Christ is the lamb that we perhaps forget that the entire image is one of humility and sacrifice. The lamb is small, humble and innocent, and it is also the sacrificial victim. Christ identifies himself with the lamb completely because He, like a lamb, is innocent and humble. He also goes to His death for us in silence, without complaint, "like a lamb to the slaughter."

Why this humility? Why this sacrifice? In a word: love. "For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten son."

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

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

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