



# 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

22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2023 ✱ 3<sup>RD</sup> 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.127

Preface III: Ordinary Time, pg.69

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

*Thank you for your generous donations*

#### 14/15 January 2023

Envelopes	£ 231.00
Loose	£ 350.98
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 581.98</b>

**Standing Orders December 2022**     **£ 3,285.00**

**Church Cleaning TEAM 3:** C Dos Passos (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](mailto:sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk) & for Parish Centre(s) bookings, please email at [sunburyparishcentres@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sunburyparishcentres@rcdow.org.uk) or contact Lavina, Parish Administrator at the Parish office.

### PARISH NOTICES

**Confirmation 2023:** First Meeting on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 5pm in the Manning Room.

**First Holy Communion:** *First Confessions*, which will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 5pm in the church.

**Parents Meeting** on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 6pm in the church, as per the calendar. The meeting should take up to an hour.

Catechists should note that we will be gathering for a planning session on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm in the Manning Room.

**Quiz & Supper in aid of HCPT Group 51:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 **TODAY**.

**Family Rosary and Fish & Chips** on the first Friday of each month – the next date is 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Child's 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](mailto:sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk)

### EVENTS

**World Day of the Sick 2023:** The 31<sup>st</sup> World Day of the Sick will be celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February. There will be a Mass for the Sick at the Cathedral at 2.30pm, celebrated by the Cardinal, during which Anointing of the Sick will be offered. Please can you book tickets through the simple booking system, <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mass-of-the-sick-with-anointing-tickets-513878322897>. Please see the notice board & parish website for message from Pope Francis and the Poster.

**St Richard Reynolds Catholic College Teaching vacancies:** Teacher of Maths (September 2023), Teacher of History (September 2023), Humanities Teacher / Cover Teacher (September 2023). Please visit: <https://strichardreynolds.org.uk/whole-college/vacancies-2/>

**Retrouvaille - A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages:** Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, or a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

This Sunday is one which has been recently dedicated in a particular way to meditating on the gift of the scriptures. The Holy Bible, a collection of histories, prophecies, parables, poems, prayers and revelations, is central to our Christian understanding of who God is and even of ourselves. As St Paul succinctly puts it: "All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16).

As Catholic Christians we understand God as one who, while unknowable in Himself, has, by His infinite love and mercy, revealed Himself to us. God's revelation to us is very different from every other piece of knowledge we might have. Most knowledge we have not directly come to through our own senses is taken on faith. We might have faith that our doctor knows what he is doing. We might have faith that a scientist knows what he is talking about when he explains the inner workings of the atom. These are all things we believe which might or might not be true (though we may have good reason to think them true). Faith in the revelation of God is very different. Unlike the historian, the doctor or the scientist, God is the One who can neither deceive nor be deceived. If, then, we accept God's revelation as being truly from Him then we need have no fear of any part of it being wrong. The truths contained within it are not relative or uncertain. They are absolute truth.

The revelation of God to us has two forms: the Bible and our Sacred Tradition. Today we reflect on the first of these, but to truly understand the first we must include the second. The bible is filled with many stories and passages which have an uncertain meaning on a first read. Some parts seem contradictory and some other parts may seem fantastical. As Catholics we always read the bible in the way which has been handed down to us, through the Church, since the time of the apostles. This does not necessarily give us all the answers, but it certainly gives us some solid guidelines.

For example, some parts of the bible are parables or stories with a meaning which are more important than whether the events described happened exactly like that. Other parts are indeed history and should be taken at face value. By using the tradition handed down to use we can work out which is which. Two cases might be the days of creation and the resurrection of Christ. In the first case, there has never been a consensus among Christians as to exactly what "days" means in the creation story. Some have said it means a twenty-four hour period, while others have taken it to have symbolic meaning and that the time taken to create the world may have been instantaneous or taken billions of years. We are free to decide on what seems best to us. In the second case, the tradition is clear: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain." That Christ literally rose from the dead is something which every orthodox Catholic has believed since it happened, and will continue to believe until the end of time.

### THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

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

### FUNERAL

**Elaine Ann Callow** – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 10:30am

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