



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

12TH MARCH 2023 ✠ 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS TIMES

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

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

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday at 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

MASS BOOK THIS SUNDAY

Year A

Order of Mass: pg.7

Hymns: see hymn board

Reading and Prayers: pg.158

Preface: THE SAMARITAN WOMAN, pg.72

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations

4/5 March 2023

Envelopes £ 232.00

Loose £ 260.44

Total £ 492.44

Church Cleaning TEAM 4: M Pinto, N Pinto & E Dudouet. (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

100 Club Draw: It's the March 100 club draw today; the draw takes place after 9.30am Mass on Sunday 12th March in the Manning Room.

First Holy Communion & Confirmation 2023: Classes will resume as normal from this weekend. Please see the session dates on the Parish Website.

Penitential Liturgy: on Tuesday 28th March, 7pm to 8pm. Three priests will be available, including a visiting priest.

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, Online donation (*via the Parish Website*) and to all those who are planning to join. Please continue your support.

Weekly Donation Envelopes starting from 9th April 2023 to April 2024: Will be available for collection from weekend 18/19 March.

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.

If you wish to support your parish by **Weekly Donation Envelopes or Standing Order**, please complete Parish Gift Aid & Standing Order (Blue) Form available in the Church Porch & drop it into the Rectory letter box or contact the Parish Office.

Choir for Easter: The parish is looking to put together a small choir to sing at our Holy Week services. Extensive experience is not required, even inexperienced singers are helpful in leading hymns. Anyone who would like to apply should email the parish office or leave a message on the phone. The rehearsal will be announced soon.

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.

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.

Stewards & Minister's Rotas: The new rota starting 19th March 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: 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

EVENTS

CAFOD Family Fast Day– Lent Appeal: This Lent, CAFOD is supporting families with the skills and tools they've asked for to fight the climate crisis. In Bangladesh, 14-year-old Dristy and her mum Rupali are building seed beds and planting palm trees to protect their crops from flooding and cyclones. Give today to help families grow in strength to adapt to the climate crisis. Use the envelope or give online at cafod.org.uk/lent

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023: Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. Please take a donation envelope today or you can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

'Come and See' – Introduction to the Diaconate 2023: Men who may be considering a vocation as a deacon, or for those wanting to know more about the Permanent Diaconate are invited to attend one of the Introductory Mornings on: 20th May, 10am-12noon: 'Greenford Parish Hall - Our Lady of the Visitation, 358 Greenford Road, UB6 9AN. For further information please contact Deacon Colin Macken, email: colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: Join us on our pilgrimage/retreat to the Holy Land, led this year by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP.

Dates: Sunday 19th November to Monday 27th November.

Route: Galilee – Jerusalem – Bethlehem.

Flying from Heathrow on BA.

Cost is for full board £2265 per person sharing a room, £682 single room supplement. Travel insurance essential.

You can book online at <http://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL> or call Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886666 or Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage office 0207 798 9173

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

The cycle of readings for Lent is one of the most ancient parts of our Lectionary. In the early church, as is often the case today, Lent is a time of intense preparation for the catechumens (those preparing for baptism) to ready themselves for their reception into the Church at Easter. This story about the Samaritan woman has always been part of that.

Why? Because this passage, though seemingly obscure, is filled with rich imagery about redemption, about being taken from among those who have strayed and are rejected and are made righteous through water and the Holy Spirit.

The Samaritan woman, as Samaritans always do in the gospels, represents one who has been rejected on account of her sins. But she also corresponds to a great many women throughout the scriptures who find love and a husband while visiting a well. If we think of the Old Testament figures of Jacob and Moses, for example, we see that they meet and court their wives by a well. So she is both a sinful woman, and also a woman who is associated with the greatest of the ancient matriarchs.

This duality continues in what she says. She is sarcastic with our Lord, she tries to defend her sects heretical views about where the temple should be, and she attempts to lie about her past relationships. But she also recognises our Lord as who He really is. She says that He is a "prophet." For Samaritans there was only one prophet, who was to be the Messiah, so she is truly recognising who he is. Finally, she goes on from her meeting with our Lord to become a missionary to her people, and to understand that in Christ we not only meet salvation, but the fullest revelation of our deepest selves, beloved creatures of God ("he told me all I have ever done." The imagery, therefore, is of one who is rejected, and who has strayed in so many ways, but who is loved and courted anyway. Who is invited by Christ into intimate communion.

The parallels with baptism are fairly clear at this point. We are not called to our new life in Christ as people who deserve it, as people who are already good and holy. We are called from where we are, wherever we are, whoever we are and whatever we have done. We might even find that difficult and fight back against it, as the woman does, but the power of grace can break our hearts of stone if we sit with our Lord in intimate prayer, if we let Him truly speak.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

Peter McGloin, Mary Taylor, Sheila Roughan, Thomas Harrington, Tony Johnson, Elaine Callow, Iris Maton, Helena Eakins, Catherine (Kay) Burbage, David Hardman

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