



# 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

3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2023 ✦ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### MASS TIMES

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

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:30am.  
*No Friday abstinence.*

Friday 8th December 2023

*The Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

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

**CHURCH OPENING TIMES:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 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 B

Order of Mass: pg.7

Hymns: see hymn board

Reading and Prayers: pg.82

Preface I of Advent: THE TWO COMINGS OF CHRIST, pg.65

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

*Thank you for your generous donations*

**25/26 November 2023**

The figures will be updated in the next weekend's Newsletter.

**Church Cleaning Team 6:** J Rodrigues, C Lobo & A Vadakathara (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](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 2024:** Teenagers in Years 9 & 10 are invited to join the Confirmation course by signing up via the Parish Website or SCAN this QR code. Registration will close on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Meetings will start in January.



**Parish Carol Service:** The parish will be having a Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 6:45pm on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December followed by mince pies and mulled wine in the Loyola Centre. The recommended donation for tickets is £5 each. All money raised will support the parish Handicapped Children Pilgrimage Trust group (HCPT). Adults and children welcome.

**Signing of Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) for Reception**

**School:** Parents are invited to book an appointment with Fr Christian via the Parish website or SCAN this QR code. The closing date for on-time applications to Primary schools is 15 January 2024.



**HCPT** have a few places remaining for both helpers and children to join them on their holiday/pilgrimage to Lourdes next Easter. For more information contact Mary Soane 07737899487 or [group51@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:group51@hcpt.org.uk)

**St Ignatius 100 Club:** It's another exciting month for the 100 Club! It's the Christmas Draw this Sunday after the 9.30am in the Manning Room. We have nearly £400 in Prizes to give away and we will be presenting Fr Christian with a cheque for £1215. Good Luck to all our members, we really value your support.

### 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. 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 visit our Parish Website.

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

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to offer a Mass, please use the blue envelopes that are available in the Church Porch. Please drop your Mass intention envelope with all the details on the slip through the Rectory - Letterbox or email the Parish Office. Please provide the date & time of your preference, full name and Mass intention.

**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 Masses on the weekends of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> December and 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> December.

### 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 (CCP) 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>.
- **ONLINE APPOINTMENTS will be scheduled:** For Secondary Transfer Year 7 - Sept - Oct, Reception - Nov - Jan & Nursery - Feb- Apr before the deadline. 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)

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

#### **First Holy Communion 2024:**

1. Please **Sign up** for the setup and clear up rota. The parents of each child should sign up for three slots each on a first come first serve basis.
2. The **session dates** are available on the Parish Website.
3. Parish office has still NOT received **payments** from some parents for the Reconciliation book (£15) which your child has received.
4. **Mass Attendance card:**
  - a. Stickers are issued to FHC children before Mass on Saturdays and Sundays. The child should be present for Mass with his/her card.
  - b. Sticker will not be issued if your child is not present for Mass, has forgotten to bring the card to Mass, has missed to attend Mass or collect sticker.
  - c. Please make sure that the Attendance Card has the Child's full name, this will help the Stewards to identify the card and in case its lost. If you find a lost card, please drop it into the Rectory letter box or give it to Fr Christian or the Stewards.

**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, held at 9:30am on Saturdays twice a month. A child's baptism can be booked for any Saturday which work. Baptisms are at 12noon.

**Becoming Catholic 2023-24:** 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

**Pope Francis 52-Week Catechesis on Prayer for the 2023 -2024 Year of Prayer** arranged for each liturgical week starting from this Advent Sunday. You will find the resource on our parish website.

**Caritas Westminster's Advent Giving Calendar:** If you and your family would like to do something meaningful this Advent, why not try the Advent Giving Calendar. The calendar suggests an item each day for you to donate to a local food project. Please see the notice board or SCAN this QR code to download the calendar and instructions.



### Vacancy at St Paul's Catholic College Sunbury-on-Thames:

Teacher of RE – ECTs welcome, required Easter or summer start 2024, London fringe. Application packs are available at:

[www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk/information/employment-opportunities](http://www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk/information/employment-opportunities)

For more information, please contact Mrs De Rosa, at [mderosa@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:mderosa@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk) Closing date: Mon 4 Dec, 9am.

**Diocesan jobs** – Please see the Notice board or for further details, please visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

**SVP - Vinnie Packs:** The SVP are distributing 11,500 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. Thank you so much for your support.

### FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

Today is the first day of the Advent season, our time of expectant spiritual preparation for the great feast of our Lord's Incarnation at Christmas.

During this time, we will reflect in a particular way upon the prophecies of Isaiah. The Book of the Prophet Isaiah has for so many centuries been known as the fifth gospel.

St Jerome, the great early monk and scholar of the profoundest mysteries of scripture described the great prophet as "the first gospel writer" because when one reads the words of Isaiah it seems "that it is being spoken not only by a prophet, but by a gospel writer. For thus all the mysteries of Christ and the Church are pursued to clarity, so that you would not think them to be prophesied of the future, but that they covered the history of things past."

That our blessed Lord Himself consciously acted out, during his early ministry, the signs foretold by Isaiah is made abundantly clear by the beginning of his public ministry. In his Gospel St Luke describes our Lord's first public act as reading from the prophecies of Isaiah before bluntly saying "today this scripture is being fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21).

But why did God only reveal Himself in prophecies? One thing we are all aware of is our own human weakness. That we have many imperfections, and while God has given us true intelligence and a capacity to understand the profoundest mysteries of the universe, we also know that the mysteries of God Himself and of the dark, obscure reality of evil in our world are things we cannot understand without the help of God. This all being so, God needed to prepare the ground, as it were, for his coming. He needed to form a people who His son could live among and who were prepared to understand, even if only faintly, the actions he was to undertake.

Thus, the story of salvation is slowly unfolded over the course of the Old Testament. Each action of God, each episode in the formation of the ancient people of Israel and each prophecy they were given would reveal a little more, drawing them on towards that moment when the final, total revelation would happen in Christ. That total revelation is in Christ because Christ is the Word of God. He is, in Himself, the totality of what God is for us.

### THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:  
**Christine Stacey, Fr Mark James Leenane, Liselotte Le Baigue (Lottie), Derek Brown, Nicholas Wells, Winnie Forry.**  
*+Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen+*