



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

17TH DECEMBER 2023 ✱ 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.*

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.87

Preface II of Advent: THE TWOFOLD EXPECTATION OF CHRIST, pg.66

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations

9/10 December 2023

Envelopes £ 327.00

Loose £ 354.07

Total £ 681.07

Standing Orders November 2023 **£ 3,010.27**

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

Parish Carol Service: The parish would like to extend a massive thank you to everyone who helped make our Carol Service a success. Particularly, Helen Soane for all of her work and the children and young adults who sang so beautifully.

Thank you for your generosity: We have raised towards Sick & Retired Priests' fund £581.01, CAFOD Family Fast Day – Harvest

2023 £139.39, HCPT £50 and to St Ignatius 100 Club for the donation of £1,215 toward parish upkeep.

CHRISTMAS 2023

Sat 23rd December Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 24th December

9:30am and 11:30am Masses

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

6pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

11:30pm Christmas Midnight Mass

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

9:30am and 11:30am Masses

Church closes after Mass

Christmas Week

Tuesday 26th & Thursday 28th December

Church CLOSED

Wednesday 27th & Friday 29th December

10:00am Mass

Saturday 30th December Holy Family Sunday

6pm Vigil Mass

NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Confessions

Sunday 31st December

9:30am and 11:30am Masses

Monday 1st January 2024 Solemnity of Mary

11:30am Mass

Tuesday 2nd January

11:30am Mass

Wednesday 3rd January

9:30am Mass, we are back to normal.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and New year 2024! Fr Christian
Parish Office is CLOSED from 20th Dec 2023 - 3rd Jan 2024

• Christmas Flower collection – TODAY!

• Ministers Christmas Rota is available for signing in the Church porch.

Signing of Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) for Reception

School: If you have missed the online appointments. Please email the Parish Office for an appointment at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk. Please do not panic. 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

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 15th January 2024. Meetings will start in January.



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.

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 TODAY.

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.

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

Finally, we are approaching Christmas! The period of preparation is coming to an end and we now within those last seven days which lead up to Our Lord's Nativity which are characterised by a move away from a more vague longing towards an active anticipation of the entering of God into His creation, God becoming man for man's salvation. God becoming man so that man might become god.

In that spirit here are presented seven beautiful prayers for us to meditate on over the coming week. To most they are best

known through the hymn "O come, o come Immanuel." That hymn's seven verses are loosely based on the seven prayers. These are what are called "The O Antiphons."

Antiphons are little short prayers which top and tail each psalm recited as part of the church's cycle of prayer called the Liturgy of the Hours, or "the Office." They are a series of services made up of sets of psalms, readings and other prayers which all monks, nuns, sisters and priests recite to sanctify the day and to pray for themselves and the whole Church, throughout the day, every day.

The "O Antiphons" are amongst the most ancient prayers of the Church, being at least 1500 years old. They are for the beginning and end of the high point of vespers (evening prayer), which is the recitation of Our Lady's song of praise, the Magnificat. They are called "O" antiphons because they all start with the exclamation "O."

Each begins with a title for the Messiah and refers to the prophecies of Isaiah and carries mystical Old Testament references, while also carrying an element of the New Covenant. These two characteristics are put next to each other and a third dimension emerges which serves as a point of meditation when considering the Incarnation.

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,
reaching from one end to the other,
mightily and sweetly ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.

O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,
who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush,
and gave him the law on Sinai:
Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

O Root of Jesse,
standing as a sign among the peoples;
before you kings will shut their mouths,
to you the nations will make their prayer:
Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel;
you open and no one can shut;
you shut and no one can open:
Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,
those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

O Morning Star,
splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness:
Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

O King of the nations, and their desire,
the cornerstone making both one:
Come and save the human race,
which you fashioned from clay.

O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver,
the hope of the nations and their Saviour:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:
**Liselotte Le Baigue (Lottie), Derek Brown, Nicholas Wells,
Winnie Forry, John Archer, Mary Murphy, John Archer.**
*+Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them. Amen+*