



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

4TH FEBRUARY 2024 ✦ FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS TIMES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:30am.
Friday abstinence. NO Mass on Tuesday.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES: Weekday Church closed after Mass.
Saturday 9:30am-6:30pm. Sunday 8am-1pm.

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

NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

NO CONFESSION

MASS BOOK THIS SUNDAY

Year B

Order of Mass: pg.7

Hymns: see hymn board

Reading and Prayers: pg.134

Preface V: CREATION, pg.69

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations

27/28 January 2024

Envelopes £ 358.30

Loose £ 361.35

Total £ 719.65

Standing Orders December 2023 **£ 2944.40**

Church Cleaning TEAM 5: S & C Rodrigues (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

Stewards & Minister's Rotas: Please note, that the Ministers of the Eucharist rota is amended. The updated rota is available in the Church Porch and online on the Parish website.

HCPT QUIZ: Our Chilli'n Quiz night last Saturday was a great success; raising over £1000 towards taking a group of young people to Lourdes at Easter. Thank you to everyone who came along or contributed. We will light a candle for you in Lourdes

My Day by Day: Lent 2024, Daily Reading booklets are available in the Church Porch for £1. Please take a copy & place your donations in the basket provided.

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.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month – the next date is 1st March 2024 – 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 28th February to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190. You don't have to have children to come – you just have to like them!

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

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.

Confirmation 2024: Please see the session dates on the Parish Website.

First Holy Communion 2024: Please see the session dates on the Parish Website.

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.

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

Divine Mercy Afternoon of Reflection on Saturday 10 February, 1:30pm - 4:30pm at St Georges R.C. Cathedral, SE1 7HY. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

The Feast Our Lady of Lourdes Vigil on Saturday 10th February, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support. www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s & 30s): Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life on 16-18 February 2024 at Liverpool organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). Contact Sr Lynne FCJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit www.fcjsisters.org

Escorted Tour to Knock & Co Mayo, 10th – 15th March 2024. £899.00pps. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. For more information, please see the poster on the notice.

Pilgrimage to Fatima Fri 7th– Fri 14th June 2024: Booking Form with full details available on request or at www adaywithmary.org. Please see the poster on the notice.

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

This Friday just past was the great feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas. Candlemas marks the very end of the Christmas Season, forty days after Christmas Day itself. The Presentation of the Lord means the presentation of the child Jesus in the temple in Jerusalem by Our Lady and St Joseph, as is commanded by the Law of Moses (all the first born should be 'redeemed' with a sacrifice at the temple).

It is a particularly beautiful story with so many different things which could be picked up. I would like, however, to concentrate on the place of three of the principle actors: Simeon, Anna and Our Lady.

The temple priest who sees Jesus is an elderly man named Simeon, who had been promised in a revelation from God that he would not "see death before he looked upon the Messiah." Moved by the Holy Spirit he immediately recognises Our Lord for who he is. This is not only a moment of profound joy and relief for a pious man who had spent his whole life preparing for this moment, it is the moment in which he, embodying the entire priesthood of ancient Israel greets the Lord Himself, who has come to cleanse his temple, as the prophets had foretold. As a priest he had so often stood before the altar of the invisible God. So often had he prayed to God, thanking Him for the sustaining power of His divine hand: yet now he was not at an altar with an invisible God, but is here looking upon God made visible and, indeed, he holds God Himself in his mortal hands. The man holds the child, and yet that little child is truly the one who holds the man.

As this extraordinary scene unfolds, along comes Anna. What a comforting figure she is: the elderly lady, always in the temple, always at prayer. There have been many "Annas in the temple" throughout the centuries, and to this day one can see many such widows at their prayers for hours and hours a day in so many of our churches. It is telling that God chose that one of the first two to welcome the Lord into His temple is not a mighty High Priest, but is one of these little ones of deep faith.

Finally, it is worth noting Our Lady's part in this. It must have all seemed very overwhelming. On the one hand there is the comfort of seeing Our Lord recognised by these venerable people, on the other there is Simeon's prophesy that "a sword shall pierce your own heart." Indeed it shall, as Our Lady stands next to the cross, truly a sword of unutterable sorrow was to pierce that heart. And so, with this prophesy we turn away from Christmas and towards the coming of Lent, preparing for the Holy Week to come.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:
**Nicholas Wells, Winnie Forry, John Archer, Mary Murphy,
Mary Fitzgerald, Gerald & Roberta Roberts.**

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