



# ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE RECTORY, GREEN STREET, SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX TW16 6QB

TELEPHONE: 01932 783 507 EMAIL: [SUNBURYONTHAMES@RCDOW.ORG.UK](mailto:SUNBURYONTHAMES@RCDOW.ORG.UK)

WEB: [PARISH.RCDOW.ORG.UK/SUNBURYONTHAMES/](http://PARISH.RCDOW.ORG.UK/SUNBURYONTHAMES/)

RECTOR: FR CHRISTIAN DE LISLE

ADMINISTRATOR: LAVINA MENEZES E FERNANDES

## NEWSLETTER

17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024 ✦ FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### MASS TIMES

*(Please refer to the Holy week & Easter Mass times pg. 2)*

**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.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday at 9:55am

**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.173

Preface I of Lent: THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF LENT, pg.70

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

*Thank you for your generous donations*

#### 9/10 March 2024

Envelopes £ 203.55

Loose £ 416.33

**Total £ 619.88**

**Church Cleaning TEAM 6:** J Rodrigues, C Lobo & A Vadakathara (Wednesday)

**Lavina** will not be available on Mondays & Thursdays.

### PARISH NOTICES

**Cake and Savouries sale:** A huge thank you to everyone who baked cakes, sold cakes, made & sold delicious spicy savouries, but most of all a huge thank you to everyone who bought our goodies to promote Cruse last weekend. We were overwhelmed with everyone's generosity and we raised **£856** for Cruse Bereavement Support. The money will go a long way in providing support to the bereaved in Surrey North.

**Stations of the Cross** on Fridays in Lent at St Michael's Catholic Church, Ashford at 7.00pm

**Easter Flower Collection:** TODAY after all Masses.

**Penitential Liturgy:** on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm to 8pm with visiting priests.

**Ministers of Word & Stewards:** Please sign the sheet available in the Church Porch for the Triduum. Please opt for one service, allowing other ministers a chance to serve.

**Altar Servers:** Please sign up for the liturgies you will be present for on the sheet in the Sacristy.

**Good Friday:** Day of fast and Abstinence. There will be a retiring Collection for the *Holy Places*.

**Stations & Veneration of the Cross for Children** on Good Friday morning at 10am, in the Church aimed at children in key stage 1 and below.

**Blessing of Easter Food Baskets** will take place on Holy Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, at 10am in the church.

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**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 one-off Envelopes, Online donations (*via the Parish Website*) and to all those who contribute by loose donations. Please join the gift aid scheme and continue to support your parish with your time, talent and finance.

**Weekly Donation Envelopes starting 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 to March 2025** are available for collection *at the Rectory Porch before & after all Masses or from the Parish office during weekdays.*

If you wish to support your parish by **Weekly Donation Envelopes or Standing Order**, please complete *Parish Gift Aid & Standing Order (Green) Form* available in the Church Porch & drop it into the Rectory letter box or contact the Parish Office: [sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk) or 01932783507

### 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](#)

**Stewards & Minister's Rotas:** Please note, that the Ministers of the Eucharistic rota is amended (6pm Mass). The updated rota is available in the Church Porch and online on the Parish website.

**Sunday Tea/Coffee Morning:** Every Sunday after 9:30am Mass in the Manning Room. All are welcome.

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024

#### **24<sup>th</sup> March: Palm Sunday**

Masses: 6:00pm (Sat Vigil), 9:30am and 11:30am

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March:** Mass at 9:30am  
(Church opens at 8:30am)

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March:** Church CLOSED

### THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

#### **28<sup>th</sup> March: Maundy Thursday**

(There will be no morning Mass, Church opens at 3:00pm)

8:00pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Washing of the Feet and Watching at the Altar of Repose until Midnight  
(Compline at 11:45)

#### **29<sup>th</sup> March: Good Friday**

(There will be no morning Mass. Church opens at 9am)

10:00am: Stations of the Cross for children  
3:00pm: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

#### **30<sup>th</sup> March: Holy Saturday**

(There will be no morning Mass. Church opens at 12noon)

NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions  
8:00pm: Easter Vigil Mass

#### **31<sup>st</sup> March: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection**

Masses: 9:30am and 11:30am

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April:** Mass at 11:00am  
(Church is closed after Mass)

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

**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

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 2:30pm.**

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the Parish Office at [sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk) with the following details: husband and wife's full names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) by Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024:** Please take a donation envelope today, for more information. **Scan the QR Code** to make your donation online. Thank you

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London** is holding a *Divine Mercy Reflection* on Saturday 13 April 2024 from 1pm to 4:30pm at St Mary's R C Church, 157 Aldershot Road, Guildford GU2. The Reflection will include the Holy Rosary, teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

### FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

On this fifth Sunday of Lent, traditionally called Passion Sunday, we enter the final part of our journey towards the Sacred Triduum, the three celebrations of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter itself.

Every day of the year is a good day on which to meditate on the Passion of our Lord, but during these two weeks we concentrate with particular intensity on that sorrowful journey. Why do we focus so much on the Passion? Surely the glory of the resurrection should be our central focus? Yes, of course, the resurrection is the primary focus of our Christian life but we can never escape from the fact that it is the cross alone which leads to the resurrection. As our Lord has said: "if anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me." What can "come after me" mean but be rise from the dead as he did?

Why is the cross so necessary? In strict terms, it is not necessary as such. God the Father does not demand the blood of His Son directly. Rather, it is the tragic consequence of sin, of departure from God. God has, from the beginning, expected only one thing, that humanity should be what he made it to be: good. Humanity was made to be good, to love God, to know God, to serve God and to be happy with God forever. Yet we are not. This is Christ's primary mission, to live as all people should live, to perfectly live out God's vision for humanity. But our Lord does this in a fallen world. In a world with sin, God's perfect creation has been damaged, it suffers from an infection, a parasite: evil. Evil cannot exist by itself, just as disease cannot exist by itself. It is a disorder, a warping of how things ought to be. As we know, diseases don't just persist, they expand into any healthy body they can. This is why evil cannot abide goodness. Evil's nature is to attack and corrupt goodness. So, when faced with perfect goodness, as it was in the person of Jesus Christ, evil attacks. Our Lord came to perfectly fulfil the will of God the Father, and the price which the fallen world demanded for that was His death on the cross.

This is why we too must embrace the cross. If we are to be good, we may well suffer, as Christ suffered, not only in spite of our goodness but often because of our goodness. Our comfort, however, is to know that we honour the cross for a good reason: that it is the sure path to the resurrection.

### THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

**Nicholas Wells, Winnie Forry, John Archer, Mary Murphy, Mary Fitzgerald, Gerald & Roberta Roberts, Brendan Naylor.**

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