ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Rectory, Green Street, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 6QB
Telephone: 01932 783 507 Email: sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk
Web: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sunburyonthames/
Rector: Fr Christian de Lisle
Administrator: Lavina Menezes E Fernandes

N E W S L E T T E R

1st June 2025 ✠ Seventh Sunday of Easter

MASS TIMES

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.

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 C*

Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg.275
Preface II of Easter: NEW LIFE IN CHRIST, pg.74

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR EASTER

Thank you for your generous donation

24/25 May 2025

Envelopes	£ 180.65
Loose	£ 455.47
Total	**£ 636.12**

Standing Orders & Contactless:
April 2025: £3,118 & Contactless: £633.58

Church Cleaning TEAM 5: S & C Rodrigues (Saturday)

Please note, Lavina will not be available on Mondays & Tuesdays.

PARISH NOTICES

First Holy Communion Rehearsals: The rehearsal for our first First Holy Communion Mass will be on Friday 6th June, 4:30pm in the church. Only children who are receiving their Communion on Sunday 8th June should attend.

First Holy Communion Mass: First Holy Communions will be received at the 11:30am Mass on Sunday, 8th June. All parishioners are welcome to attend if they wish. Some pews will, however, be reserved for the children's families.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH: The Weekly Donation Envelopes 2025-2026 are available for collection from the Parish Office during weekdays or please see Fr Christian after Mass. *Kindly recycle all old envelopes (GREEN).* If you wish to **cancel** your box of envelopes, please contact or email the Parish office ASAP - *sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk*

Contactless in our Parish is in the porch to the right as you enter. Contactless payments are *touch-free*. Simply select the set sum of amounts or by tapping 'Other' you can enter the amount that you wish to give. If you are registered for Gift Aid, please use the same card that is registered for your Gift Aid donations. Donations made via the contactless giving device will go straight to the Parish account as **OFFERTORY COLLECTION.**

Save the Date! Family Fun Day & Picnic – Sunday, 6th July. Further details to follow – stay tuned!

St Ignatius 100 Club: The first 100 Club draw will be made on Sunday 22nd June so please make your payments and renewals by 20th June at the very latest! It's looking like another bumper year for the 100 Club so thanks to all our members for your support.

Repository: The Repository will be open before and after all Masses this weekend.

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.

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.

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

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 one will be on Friday 6th June – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips in the Manning Room. Please place your food order by Wednesday 4th June to Dan Robinson (07535 958 924).

Ministers of the Word – Rota Update: The *amended* rota is now available in the Church Porch and online on the Parish website - *Parish Groups*. Readers for the *Saturday 6pm Mass*, please make a note the changes.

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 2025: 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 2025: 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 Childs Attendance card to Mass every weekend.
4. Stickers are issued before Mass and will not be issued for a missed Sunday.

EVENTS

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

Annual Eucharistic Octave and Central London Corpus Christi Procession: The Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane will again be hosting a Eucharistic Octave from 14th - 22nd June. This has been organised by several London parishes to celebrate our Eucharistic Lord in the lead up to the Solemnity of Corpus Christi and includes the celebration of Masses in the various Rites of the Church and the Quarant'Ore devotions. Full details can be found at catholiclondon.org. The Octave concludes on Sunday 22nd June at 11am with Mass celebrated by the Abbot of Farnborough, followed by the annual Corpus Christi Procession through central London. Please see the posters in the Church porch.

Mass of Thanksgiving for Caritas Bakhita House: On Monday 30th June, 5.30pm Westminster Cathedral led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols to mark the 10-year anniversary of the opening of Caritas Bakhita House, our safe house supporting women escaping trafficking and exploitation.

Diocesan Jubilee Year pilgrimage at St Edmund's College, Ware (SG11 1DS) will take place on Saturday 12th July, Solemn Mass will be celebrated by H.E. Cardinal Nichols at 12noon. Pilgrims are invited to arrive and gather at 11am. Confessions will be available. Contact: 020 7798 9173 There is ample parking. Please scan the QR code for more information or visit https://rcdow.org.uk/jubilee-2025/

Emmaus Jubilee Youth Festival, 2-3 August 2025 at SPEC Retreat Centre. Aimed at young people unable to travel to and coinciding with the Jubilee of Youth in Rome, the festival will offer a transformative encounter with Christ and the opportunity to meet other young people on their journey of faith. Organised by SPEC Retreat Centre of Westminster Youth Ministry, the festival will feature: live Praise & Worship, interactive workshops, Eucharistic Adoration and closing Mass celebrated by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. For more information and registration please visit https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/jubilee-year-2025/emmausfestival/

Rediscover Your Marriage – Retrouvaille offers you the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10s of 1000s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work. The next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 20th - 22nd June 2025 Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

During this past week, we celebrated the great Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. It is perhaps a peculiar thing to celebrate. After all, would it not be a wonderful thing if we were able to speak with our Lord face to face, just as we speak to one another? To see Him with our own eyes, to hear Him say those words of forgiveness, to receive from His own hands the promise of eternal life—this would surely be a joy beyond words.

And yet, the Ascension is no loss. It is, in truth, the crowning of our Lord's earthly mission. It marks not His departure, but His glorification. For in ascending to the Father, He takes His proper place as head of the Church—present now not in one place, but in every place; not to one people, but to all peoples; not only in the flesh, but sacramentally, in power and in glory.

The miracle of the Incarnation has not been reversed. Christmas is not undone. Christ is still Emmanuel—God with us. His body has not been taken from the earth. Rather, it has been extended, through His Church, which is His Body. He remains the head, but we the members: His hands to reach out to those in need, His eyes to look with compassion, His lips to speak words of grace and forgiveness. Where the Head has gone—heaven—the Body is destined to follow.

And He is with us still in the sacraments. Where the Mass is celebrated, where absolution is spoken, where a child is baptised or the sick are anointed, there Christ is truly present. The priest is merely the vessel; Christ is the true minister of every sacrament.

It is especially moving, then, that this Sunday we celebrate First Holy Communions in our parish. For those children, the mystery of the Ascension is already at work: Christ who ascended now comes to them in the Blessed Sacrament. He who reigns in heaven now dwells in their hearts. This is not a sentimental ritual. It is a true participation in the life of the risen Christ, and a cause for great joy.

So let us rejoice that Christ has ascended: not to be distant, but to be near in a new and greater way. Let us rejoice that He now works in His Church, through her teaching, her sacraments, and her charity. And let us pray for those children who receive the Eucharist for the first time this Sunday: that it may be the beginning of a lifelong friendship with the risen and ascended Lord.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:
Leonie Andrews, Margaret Tuck, James (Jim) Webb, William Ogle, Richard Chapman, Eileen Sargent, Derek Hook.

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