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

27TH July 2025 ✠ Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS TIMES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES: NO Mass. *Friday abstinence.*

CHURCH OPENING TIMES: Wednesday and Friday: 9am - 4pm. 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 C*

Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg. 114
Preface I: THE PASCHAL MYSTERY AND THE PEOPLE OF GOD pg.66

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR EASTER

Thank you for your generous donation

12/13 July 2025

Envelopes	£ 207.75
Loose	£ 294.41
Total	**£ 502.16**

19/20 July 2025

Envelopes	£ 148.00
Loose	£ 225.44
Total	**£ 373.44**

Church Cleaning TEAM 7: Mr and Mrs Kennedy (Saturday)

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

PARISH NOTICES

Repository: The Repository will be open before and after all Masses this weekend. This will be the last weekend before we take a short break over the summer.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: The next one will be on Friday 1st August – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Manning Room, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by Wednesday 30th July to Dan Robinson (07535 958 924).

Sea Sunday: Thank you for giving to Sea Sunday. Our parish raised £61.50.

Parish Picnic and Family Fun Day: It was lovely to see so many people at The Family Fun Day on 6th July; despite the weather it was a great success. Thank you to everyone who helped - preparing the hall, face painting, bracelet making, pass the parcel, making cakes, serving drinks and anything else we've forgotten! It was great to see young and old joining in with the treasure hunt and other games. Please get in touch if you have ideas or would like to get involved in future parish social events.

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.

Ministers of the Word – Rota Update: The *amended* rota is 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.

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.**

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

Important Information for Parents:

1) School Admissions Guidance: Before booking an appointment for the CCP, parents are requested to contact the relevant school office to understand the admissions process. Further information can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/schools-admissions

2) Booking an Appointment with the Priest: CCP signing will be done by appointment only via our online booking system**,** available on the Parish website**.** Appointment periods are as follows:

- Secondary Transfer (Year 7): September – October
- Reception Admissions: November – January
- Nursery Admissions: February – April

3) Parish Newsletter: Please continue to check the Parish Newsletter regularly for updates and the release of appointment slots.

4) For Admissions to Year Groups (Years 1 to 6): Please email the Parish Office directly to request an appointment: sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk

---



HOPE, RENEWAL AND CONTINUED PURPOSE IN LATER YEARS

By Deacon Roger Carr-Jones, Marriage and Family Life Coordinator

The theme of the **FIFTH WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY,** held this year on Sunday 27 July, is "*Blessed are those who have not lost hope"* (cf. Sir 14:2). Taken from the Book of Sirach, this highlights the blessedness of old age. It indicates hope placed in the Lord, as the Christian way to a reconciled old age. At a time when being old, infirm or even slightly unwell is viewed as a burden, we need a fuller appreciation of the ways in which old age is always fertile and an asset, not unproductive and disposable.

My mother-in-law, who is nearly 90 and living in a care home, does not regard herself as being elderly. Her attitude, frequently strongly expressed, brings to mind the Sinatra song, 'young at heart' with its line, 'And if you should survive to a hundred and five, look at all you'll derive out of bein' alive'. Her life is now different, no longer travelling along a preferred trajectory, yet it continues to feed and sustain others, as well as her being nourished in return.

The connection with her now adult children and their spouses, grandchildren and great-grandchild are facets of her life journey and legacy. Having always enjoyed a pencil thin figure, her family now runs the risk of what is called 'granny bingo': being the recipient of her frank and loud observations should anyone dare put on weight! Such are the moments of intergenerational connection, spiritual and relational, that define and enrich the lives of all.

It is morsels such as these that remind us time and time again that the elderly "are not leftovers from life, scraps to be discarded" (Pope Francis). The elderly and grandparents are essential sources of nourishment in our world, shaping and forming the lives of all. Faith is fundamentally relational and God provides the blueprint for all our relationships, one that is trusting and active.

By contrast the secular societal focus now is on individualism, where no one feels loved or needed. It should therefore come as no surprise that many young people now feel increasingly isolated, lonely and devoid of hope. The Christian way, though, is not in prioritising our personal goals over our social connections, nor in encouraging people to live alone, with limited contact with family. No! No! No!

The Gospels bid us to share what we have and possess in order that we will find true fulfilment in this life. Our society will flounder unless we value and celebrate multigenerational relationships and the unique gifts of the elderly. By contrast, when we feed on the wisdom, experience, and faith of grandparents and the elderly, sharing a hug or words of affirmation, we all grow, flourish and experience hope.

The elderly, like the young, are children of God and it is from this source that our beauty and meaning take form.

PRAYER

How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord!
Help us to continue our pilgrimage
through time,
animated by the hope that comes from You!
Help us in this divisive world,
to bring the hope of communion.
Help us in this world, wounded by wars,
to bring the hope of peace.
Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing,
to bring the beauty of an ancient smile.
Help us to be, for our grandchildren,
for our loved ones
and for everyone we meet,
the memory of your tenderness.
Help us to bring,
in a world distracted from You,
the Hope of a new life that only You can give!
For in You, Lord, nothing is lost
For in You, Lord, everything begins again!
Amen.

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+