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

14TH SEPTEMBER 2025 ✠ THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

MASS TIMES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:30am.

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. 191
Preface: THE VICTORY OF THE GLORIOUS CROSS pg. 70

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

30/31 Aug 2025

Envelopes	£ 226.64
Loose	£ 310.95
Total	**£ 537.59**

6/7 Sept 2025

Envelopes	£ 218.00
Loose	£ 423.32
Total	**£ 641.32**

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

Lavina will not be available on Mondays and Tuesdays. For queries, Parish: sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk, Manning Room:sunburyparishcentres@rcdow.org.uk. Bookkeeping (Luciana): sunburyonthamesbk@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH NOTICES

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: The next one will be on Friday 3rd October – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by Wednesday 1st October to Dan (07535 958 924).

Empowering Vulnerable Children (EVC) Uganda – Appeal: we have raised £ 1,103.71.

First Holy Communion 2025–26

The course is only for children in Year 3 or Year 4. To register, please visit the Parish Website or scan the QR code. Please take your time to complete all details carefully. Ensure your *child's Baptism Certificate* is emailed to the Parish Office before the deadline: **Tuesday 21st October.**

The Parents' Introductory Meeting will be held on **Friday 24th October**. The *Reconciliation book* will be issued and *payments* will be processed on the same day via the contactless device in the church.

Please do not use any other payment method, as this is important for accounting purposes.

For session dates and further information, please visit the Parish Website. For queries, email: sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk

Confirmation 2025–26: Teenagers in Years 9 & 10 will be invited to join the Confirmation course by registering via the Parish Website during the first week of November. Please keep an eye on the Parish Newsletter for updates. The programme will begin in January 2026.

St Ignatius 100 Club: It's the September 100club draw this weekend. The draw will take place after the 9.30am mass in the Manning Room, come and join us for the fun of the draw where there's delicious cake too!

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: If you would like to support the parish by **Standing Order**, please complete the Parish Gift Aid & Standing Order Form available in the Church Porch. You can also **donate online** by scanning the QR code. **Contactless Giving**: The device is located in the porch to the right as you enter. Simply select a set amount or tap 'Other' to enter your preferred donation. If you are registered for Gift Aid, please use the same card linked to your Gift Aid. Donations made via the contactless device go directly to the parish account as Offertory Collection. For any queries, email: sunburyonthamesbk@rcdow.org.uk

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.

PARISH SCHOOLS

Secondary School Transfers: Appointments with Fr. Christian will be available for parents to book via the Parish website starting next weekend (20–21 September). Please continue to check the Parish Newsletter for updates.

The closing date for on-time applications to secondary schools is 31st October 2025.

For more information, please visit the Parish Website and go to the *Schools section.*

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

EVENTS

YEAR 7 OPEN DAYS/EVENTS 2025:

- **St Paul's Catholic College** – for open events, please see the poster in the Church porch or visit www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk.
- **The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School –** for open evenings, please see the poster in the Church porch. For online application form, visit www.cvms.co.uk/admissions.
- **Gunnersbury Catholic School -** For open days, to register and for further information visit our website: www.gunnersbury.com
- **Gumley House School** – for dates, please visit the website www.gumleyhouse.com. For individual tour, contact admissions on admissions@gumleyhouse.com
- **St Catherine's School** – For dates & to register, please see the poster in the Church porch or visit www.stcatherineschool.co.uk

Open Events for Reception 2026: St Ignatius Catholic Primary School – We warmly invite families to join us for one of our Open Events. For Event dates and more information, please see the poster in the church porch. Visit our website www.st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk to book your place.

Saturday Quiz Night – In Aid of Crohn's & Colitis UK: Saturday 20th September, 7:00pm at St Michael's Church, TW15 2QD. Join us for a fun and friendly adult quiz night to support Crohn's & Colitis UK. Bring your own snacks and beverages. Teas and coffees will be available to buy. Come along, test your trivia skills, and help raise money for a great cause!

Discovering Nostra Aetate – Tuesdays in October from 6 - 7.30pm at Vaughan House, SW1P 1QN. Fr Michael Barnes SJ will be giving a 4-week course exploring the origins of Nostra Aetate. **Celebrating Nostra Aetate** – Tuesday 28th October from 7-9pm at Farm Street Church, W1K 3AH. Join us for an evening to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Nostra Aetate. To book your free ticket, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/a-journey-into-hope-4485243, or contact westminsterinterfaith@rcdow.org.uk

Red Mission Boxes – Supporting Missio (APF): Our parish supports Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries through the Red Box scheme. If you have a Red Box, please return your donation using the envelope provided. To request a box or for more info, contact Vince Grayson via the Parish Office. Direct Debit and legacy forms are available in the church porch. Thank you for your support and prayers.

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

Unusually, this year, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross falls on a Sunday and so we will be celebrating it together as a parish. It is perhaps a peculiar thing that Christians, and Catholics in particular focus on the cross so much. We have crucifixes in our churches, our houses and in our school classrooms. It is an image of suffering, an image of death. From the earliest times, however, Christians have exalted in this image. As St Paul says first "God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." Why? Because it is the ultimate symbol of both God's loving compassion, and His almighty power.

When we look upon the cross we see before us the utter beauty of God's humility. That He who made heaven and earth, should stoop to become like us, to be born like us, to live like us, to suffer like us, and to die as we all will die. And further yet, we see the lengths that God will go to for us, for love of us alone. "Greater love hath no man than this, to lay down his life for his friends" says our Lord. In another place scripture is also explicit "Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man - though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Many people also find deep comfort in the image of the cross because it is the unbreakable sign of God's compassion. By this I mean the word literally: com-passion, to suffer-with. While God is almighty and transcends all, He has been where we are. When we are sad, when we are anxious, when we are in pain, we know when we look upon the Cross that Jesus Christ is truly 'Immanuel': God with us.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

Margaret Tuck, James (Jim) Webb, William Ogle, Richard Chapman, Eileen Sargent, Derek Hook, Daniel Fitzgerald.

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