# 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

21ST September 2025 ✠ Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 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. 140
Preface VIII: THE CHURCH UNITED BY THE UNITY OF THE TRINITY pg. 68

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

*Thank you for your generous donation*

**13/14 Sept 2025**

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|---|---|
| Envelopes | £ 199.46 |
| Loose | £ 398.03 |
| **Total** | **£ 597.49** |

**Standing Orders & Contactless**

**June 2025:** £2,551 & Contactless: £430.90
**July 2025:** £2,613 & Contactless: £387.75

**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.**

Please note that the Parents' Introductory Meeting originally scheduled for Friday, 24th October has been moved to **Friday, 7th November** due to the half-term break. 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.

**Parking Near the Church:** Parishioners are gently reminded to park with care when coming to Sunday Mass. Please ensure the Highway Code is followed at all times, avoiding parking on pavements, blocking entrances, or creating blind spots for traffic. Consideration for neighbours and other road users helps to ensure everyone's safety.

### 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 for the signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP) is available for parents to book via the Parish website under Schools or Events, or by scanning the QR code. Please continue to check the Parish Newsletter for updates. The closing date for on-time applications to secondary schools is 31st October 2025.

**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. Please check each school's supplementary form carefully. 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: December – 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

**CAFOD's Family Fast Day** is on Friday 3rd October. It's a day when we're asked to pray, eat simply and give generously. Please support our Family Fast Day Parish Collection on the weekend of 4th/5th October, sharing God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they work towards lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers real signs of hope in this Jubilee Year. It helps build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia, where women currently walk for hours each day to collect water. Use the CAFOD envelope available in church, please make cheque payable to 'CAFOD' or Scan the QR code. Thank you for your kindness, prayers, and generosity—especially in these difficult times when so many in our world are suffering.

## FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

The words of our Lord in today's gospel form part of a well known theme throughout the New Testament: the dangers of attachment to earthly goods. Our Lord famously said in another place that "it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God."

What are we to make of these statements? Are we to see all earthly goods as bad in themselves? Not exactly. There is nothing wrong with money in itself, or even with having a lot of money. Abraham was, after all, a rich man, as were several other ancient patriarchs. But what is certainly the case is that jealously guarding our money or becoming obsessed with acquiring more money, is very often a serious sin.

The three primary sins here are selfishness, greed and idolatry. Selfishness and greed are fairly obvious: The selfish and greedy person hoards wealth while others suffer grave want or becomes obsessed with gaining more and more unnecessary riches. Idolatry seems less obvious but is the worst of all. Whole societies have very often been consumed by such idolatry. We need only think of materialist political ideologies, and the horrors of the Atlantic slave trade. Placing money and material gain at the centre of our lives, as the summit of our ambition, is to unthrone the one who alone should occupy that place: Almighty God Himself. God is Goodness itself, Truth itself, Love itself. Of course, He alone should be the summit, yet He so often is not. Where God has been unthroned the dignity of human beings, who He has made in His own image and likeness is usually under grave threat.

Poverty, on the other hand, has no merits in itself. That said, it is an easily observable fact that those with less earthly goods to cling to less often suffer from the temptations which the rich have to pride, selfishness and greed. If one has little, one has little to cling to!

Are we to all give away what money we have then? Is there no other way to be saved? Some certainly should. Some are called to live out the gospel as perfectly as Christ Himself. They are the ones God has chosen to become his monks and nuns. Their embrace of poverty for the sake of the gospel is a witness to us all. For most of us, however, that is not an option. Many people have families who must be provided for, businesses to run and so on. What we can do, however, is to resist within ourselves the sins which our Lord and St James condemn so severely. How do we do this? Through generosity and keeping ourselves fixed on God. If we find ourselves becoming greedy, the best way to fight that is by training ourselves to be generous.

Above all we must not forget that Christ has come to bring us grace. He will give us all the grace we need to be holy and to draw close to God. The apostles asked our Lord how anyone could be saved after He said it was hard for the rich and He answered with these comforting words "with man it is impossible, but with God nothing is impossible." We are reliant on Him, and if we know anything, it is that we can always trust Him.

## 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+*