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

28TH September 2025 ✠ Twenty- Sixth 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. 143
Preface I: THE PASCHAL MYSTERY AND THE PEOPLE OF GOD pg. 66

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

20/21 Sept 2025

Envelopes	£ 253.57
Loose	£ 402.38
Total	**£ 655.95**

Standing Orders & Contactless

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

Church Cleaning TEAM 2: J O'Connell & J Sellings (Tuesday)

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).

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

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** at 6pm 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.

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.

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.

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+

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SWIP 1QJ
Pastoral Letter on the 175th Anniversary of the Diocese of Westminster

My dear brothers and sisters,

Monday, 29th September, is an important birthday. It is the birthday of our Diocese of Westminster, established on that day 175 years ago. The first Archbishop of Westminster, Nicholas Wiseman, was appointed by Pope Pius IX on 29 September 1850 and created a Cardinal the very next day. He served as our Archbishop until his death in 1865 and is now buried in our Cathedral.

So today and tomorrow we may rightly celebrate the Catholic life of this great Diocese, in the spirit of the words of St Paul we have just heard: 'Fight the good fight of the faith, take hold of the eternal life to which you were called'(1 Timothy 6:12). To mark this moment, I have asked Fr Nicholas Schofield, the Diocesan Archivist, to prepare a brief history of the Diocese, and this is readily available for you.

There are two dimensions I would like to suggest for these moments of celebration. They are, of course, centred on the grace of God and the immensity of God's goodness to us, His people. This grace works according to God's intentions, and not our own, and in ways that ebb and flow within the patterns of our own history and personalities.

Our Diocese in 1850 was not the Diocese of today. Catholic life was slowly emerging from centuries of opposition and suppression. Only gradually did we regain a recognised place in public and political life. Since then, circumstances, economic conditions, and provisions of public services such as education and health have changed beyond recognition. The violence of wars and international conflicts has taken its heavy toll. Throughout it all, our mission has survived and been fruitful. Parish life has been established, giving stability in neighbourhoods, schools have been founded and give witness to our faith, failures and problems have been faced, and we have played our part in public life and communal effort. There are so many ways in which we can be proud of those who have gone before us and handed on to us this great inheritance. Our duty is to hand it on to the next generations, better tuned to contemporary circumstances, responding to today's challenges and strengthened as ever by the bounteous grace of God. For the enduring resilience and responsiveness of so many in our past, and of so many today, we give great thanks to our loving God and Father.

Then there is a second reason for our gratitude to God on this birthday of our Diocesan family. While the offer of salvation and eternal happiness given in our Blessed Lord does not change, the manner of its proclamation, the ways in which it enters our lives, and bears fruit change greatly. The gift of faith knows no boundaries of nationality, culture, identity, or race. Today, in our parishes, there are wonderful Catholics who have come from very many different countries. Our parish congregations have a variety of colours and customs that reflect the streets of our cities today. What binds us together, of course, is not our taste in food, nor in music, nor in pathways of piety or devotion. Rather, it is what lies at the heart of our faith: our intimate and shared love for Jesus, the Christ. He is the one who, in His life, death, and resurrection, gives joy to our days, forgiveness for our darkness, and hope for eternal life when our pilgrimage here is done. The gift of this faith finds a home in the people of every land. Their traditions, rich and varied, enliven and deepen the life of the Church in our Diocese. Together we stand before our Blessed Lord, welcoming one another, being formed into one body in Him, a visible demonstration of the universality of the Church which our forebears could never have imagined.

The appointment of Cardinal Wiseman as the first Archbishop of this Diocese of Westminster came as part of what is known as the 'restoration of the hierarchy in England and Wales'. This re-established in these lands a succession of bishops appointed by Rome. Today, we gladly thank God for the great gifts of ministry of the Archbishops who have served this Diocese. Together with the clergy, with countless religious sisters, with lay leaders, they have guided our Church through so many difficult times and challenges, often with courage and at great personal cost. We know, of course, that Archbishops come and go. We know that God always provides, through the Church, for their succession and, even more importantly, for the fidelity of the Church through its holy people.

May God continue to bless our Diocese, the God who, in the words of St Paul, 'is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honour and eternal dominion' (1 Timothy 6:15-16). May God continue to bless our Diocese. May the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, our patron saints, our Blessed Lady, St Joseph, St Peter, St Edward the Confessor together with all the saints closely linked to us, including St John Southworth, St John Henry Newman and St Carlo Acutis, pray for us on this anniversary, encouraging us always to greater faithfulness and joy in the Lord.

May God bless you all. Yours devotedly,
✠ Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster.