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

18TH JANUARY 2026 ✠ SECOND 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.

PUBLIC ROSARY: Every Wednesday 10am. All are welcome.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8am - 5pm. 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 A*

Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg. 125
Preface II: THE MYSTERY OF SALVATION, pg.68

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

10/11 January 2025	
Envelopes	£ 236.24
Loose	£ 421.74
Total	**£ 657.98**

Church Cleaning TEAM 4: Umelia and Juvenile Joao (Saturday)

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

PARISH NOTICES

CHILLI'N QUIZ NIGHT in aid of HCPT Group 51:

Our annual Quiz, in aid of HCPT (Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust) will be on Saturday 31st January. Teams of up to 6 people, come as part of a team, or we can add you to one.

Tickets: £15. Available at Masses or by contacting Mary: 07737 899487 / group51@hcpt.org.uk . Please see the poster in the church porch and on the parish website.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025–26:

- There is no session this Sunday.
- First Confessions - Tuesday 20th January at 5pm in the Church for younger & older FHC children.
- The payment for the second course book (Eucharist), £21 is now due. The book will be issued at the Rectory and payments will be processed via the contactless device in the church on the same day (Tuesday 20th January). **Please do not use any other payment method, as this is important for accounting purposes.**

CONFIRMATION 2026: The Confirmation programme begins on Monday, 26th January, 5pm - 6.30pm in the Manning Room. For further updates, please continue to read the parish Newsletter or visit the parish website.

REGULAR NOTICES

Parish Registration: If you are new to the parish and would like to register, please scan the QR code.

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

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.

Funerals: To book a funeral, please contact 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.

Sunday Tea/Coffee Morning: Every Sunday after 9:30am Mass in the Manning Room. All are welcome.

Knit & Knatter: *Join Us!* Every Monday, 10am - 12noon in the Manning Room. Come along and bring a friend!

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: The next one will be on Friday 30th January 2026 – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by Wednesday 28th January to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190.

Missio 2026 Calendars are available in the church porch, please take one! If you've requested a **Red Box** but haven't returned your form, hand it to Vince Grayson at the 6pm Mass or drop it in the Rectory letterbox. Forms are also in the porch for anyone wishing to support Missio, the Pope's charity.

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 2025-26: 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 2025–26: Mass Attendance card:

- Stickers are issued to FHC children before Mass on Saturdays and Sundays. The child should be present for Mass with his/her card.
- Sticker will not be issued if your child is not present for Mass, has forgotten to bring the card to Mass, has missed to attend Mass or collect sticker.
- Please make sure that the Attendance Card has the Child's full name, this will help the Stewards to identify the card and in case its lost. If you find a lost card, please drop it into the Rectory letter box or give it to Fr Christian or the Stewards.

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

EVENTS

Ecumenical Pilgrimage – Friday, 23rd January: James Holland, Diocesan Ecumenical Coordinator, is leading an Ecumenical Pilgrimage on Friday, 23rd January. The pilgrimage will: Depart: Westminster Cathedral at 1:00pm. Visit: A Catholic church in Central London and Temple Church. Finish: St Paul's Cathedral in time for Vespers. See poster in the church porch.

Medjugorje Apostolate Annual Retreat: Friday, 13th March to Sunday, 15th March 2026 at Kairos Centre, Roehampton, London
Led by: Fr Svetozar Kraljević OFM. To book, please contact: Paul Spencer, pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com or 07710 567183.

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JUSTICE & PEACE LECTURE 2026: Join us on 25th March 2026 at 7:00 pm at Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH for the second annual Justice & Peace Lecture. Charles Wookey will speak on *"Living out Catholic Social Teaching in Today's Britain",* with a response from Dr Charles Bury. Access via Farm Street or Mount Street. Buffet reception in Arrupe Hall follows. All welcome. Please RSVP by 1 March: justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

"Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world." We are all very familiar with these words from the Mass. They are spoken at one of the most sacred and hushed moments of our worship. The altar has been prepared, the gifts have been consecrated, the sacrifice has been offered, and now we stand on the threshold of the great intimacy of Holy Communion. As so often in the Mass, these words come directly from Scripture, from the Gospel we have heard today.

Because we hear them so frequently, it is easy to let them pass over us without really pausing to consider their depth. Yet these few words proclaim the very heart of our faith. In them, we are invited to recognise who Christ truly is and what He has come to do. We look upon the Host and we acknowledge His real presence among us, body and blood, soul and divinity. He is not a symbol. He is not a memory. He is truly here.

But we also recognise Him as the Lamb, the one who comes for a purpose and a mission. That mission is nothing less than our salvation. The image of the lamb would have been immediately understood by the people of Israel as the sign of sacrifice. The lamb was offered in the Temple. The blood of the lamb saved the Israelites on the night of the Passover. The lamb was the victim whose life was given so that others might live.

Christ identifies Himself completely with this image. He is gentle and humble of heart. He is innocent and without sin. He allows Himself to be led to suffering and death without hatred or revenge. As the prophet Isaiah foretold, He goes to His passion like a lamb led to the slaughter, silent before His accusers, offering Himself freely for our sake.

Why does He choose this path? Why does God come among us in such humility and weakness? Why does He embrace the cross rather than power and glory? The answer is simple and yet overwhelming. It is love. As Saint John tells us, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." In Christ, God does not stand at a distance from our suffering and our sin. He enters into it. He carries it. He redeems it.

When we hear these words at Mass, we are not only making a profession of faith. We are being invited into that mystery of love and sacrifice. We are being asked to behold Him, to trust Him, and to receive Him, so that His life may become our life.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:
Eileen Sargent, Derek Hook, Daniel Fitzgerald, Cynthia Souza, Peter O'Leary, Ted Edgar, Kathleen Mansell.

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