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

25TH JANUARY 2026 ✠ THIRD 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. 127
Preface III: THE SALVATION OF MAN BY A MAN, pg.69

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

10/11 January 2025

Envelopes	£ 249.00
Loose	£ 551.41
Total	**£ 800.41**

Standing Orders & Contactless

November 2025: £2,750 & Contactless: £130.07
December 2025: £2,815 & Contactless: £707.01

Church Cleaning TEAM 5: S & C Rodrigues (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

LAST CHANCE – CHILLI'N QUIZ NIGHT in aid of HCPT Group 51: Our annual quiz, supporting 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 before Wednesday: 07737899487 / group51@hcpt.org.uk. Please see the poster in the church porch and on the parish website.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025–26: The *Eucharist* session starts this Sunday 25th January, 10:30am-11:20am.

CONFIRMATION 2026: The next session is on Monday, 26th January, 5pm - 6.30pm in the Manning Room.

Repository: The Repository will be open before and after all Masses this weekend. Please call by and see what's on offer.

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.

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

Diocesan Jobs – Please see the Notice board or for further details, please visit https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/

The Good Counsel Black Tie Ball on *St Valentine's Day*, Saturday 14th February, 6pm in Kensington, London. Live Band. Silent Auction. London's Catholic Pro-Life Ball raising money to help save lives and change lives. Tickets £135 each or a table of ten for £1,300. Contact: GCNBall@gmail.com or 07795205117

Medjugorje Apostolate Annual Retreat: Friday, 13th March to Sunday, 15th March 2026 at Kairos Centre, 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, 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. Buffet reception in Arrupe Hall follows. All welcome. Please RSVP by 1 March: justiceandpeace@rcdow.org.uk

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

This Sunday is one which has been recently dedicated in a particular way to meditating on the gift of the scriptures. The Holy Bible, a collection of histories, prophecies, parables, poems, prayers and revelations, is central to our Christian understanding of who God is and even of ourselves. As St Paul succinctly puts it: "All scripture is inspired by God andprofitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16).

As Catholic Christians we understand God as one who, while unknowable in Himself, has, by His infinite love and mercy, revealed Himself to us. God's revelation to us is very different from every other piece of knowledge we might have. Most knowledge we have not directly come to through our own senses is taken on faith. We might have faith that our doctor knows what he is doing. We might have faith that a scientist knows what he is talking about when he explains the inner workings of the atom. These are all things we believe which might or might not be true (though we may have good reason to think them true). Faith in the revelation of God is very different. Unlike the historian, the doctor or the scientist, God is the One who can neither deceive nor be deceived. If, then, we accept God's revelation as being truly from Him then we need have no fear of any part of it being wrong. The truths contained within it are not relative or uncertain. They are absolute truth.

The revelation of God to us has two forms: the Bible and our Sacred Tradition. Today we reflect on the first of these, but to truly understand the first we must include the second. The bible is filled with many stories and passages which have an uncertain meaning on a first read. Some parts seem contradictory and some other parts may seem fantastical. As Catholics we always read the bible in the way which has been handed down to us, through the Church, since the time of the apostles. This does not necessarily give us all the answers, but it certainly gives us some solid guidelines.

For example, some parts of the bible are parables or stories with a meaning which are more important than whether the events described happened exactly like that. Other parts are indeed history and should be taken at face value. By using the tradition handed down to use we can work out which is which. Two cases might be the days of creation and the resurrection of Christ. In the first case, there has never been a consensus among Christians as to exactly what "days" means in the creation story. Some have said it means a twenty-four hour period, while others have taken it to have symbolic meaning and that the time taken to create the world may have been instantaneous or taken billions of years. We are free to decide on what seems best to us. In the second case, the tradition is clear: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain." That Christ literally rose from the dead is something which every orthodox Catholic has believed since it happened, and will continue to believe until the end of time.

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+