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

15TH FEBRUARY 2026 ✠ 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.

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday at 9:55am

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

ASH WEDNESDAY – 18th February
MASSES AT 9:30AM, 12:30PM & 7:30PM
Reading and Prayers: pg.147; Preface III of Lent: pg.71

MASS BOOK THIS SUNDAY *Year A*

Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg. 136
Preface VI: THE PLEDGE OF THE ETERNAL PASSOVER, pg.69

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

Figures will be provided next week

Church Cleaning TEAM 1: M Leslie & L Escalona (Friday)

PARISH NOTICES

Ash Wednesday 18th February: Please note this is a day of fasting and abstinence meaning that all Catholics aged 14 to 65 should refrain from meat and only eat one full meal (two snacks are acceptable). Anyone who cannot do this for health reasons is exempted.

As we enter the sacred season of Lent, a time of repentance and spiritual reflection, we kindly ask that **no flowers** be used to decorate the church during this period. Lent invites us to focus on prayer, sacrifice, and empathy with the suffering and spiritual journey of Jesus.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025–26: The *next* session is on Sunday 1st March, 10:30am-11:20am.

CONFIRMATION 2026: The *next* session is on Monday, 23rd February, 5pm - 6.30pm in the Manning Room.

My Day by Day: Lent 2026, Daily Reading booklets are available in the Church Porch for £1. Please place your donations in the basket provided or pay via contactless – REPOSITORY OPTION.

Save the Date – Irish Night | 21st February: Our next parish social event will be an Irish Night, taking place on Saturday, 21st February, at Sunbury Cricket Club. Join us for a fun-filled evening of music, singing, dancing, and great food! More details coming soon, watch this space. For enquiries, please contact Rose (07783 799895) or Mary (07737 899487).

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: We took 7 blankets and 15 beanie hats to Knit for Peace (a London Homeless charity) earlier this week. They were gratefully received and thanks to all our knitters! If anyone has any spare wool lying around at home we would be very

happy to make use of it. Please and Thank you. We meet every Monday in The Manning Room 10-12 noon, all are welcome!

Missio: 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.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: The next one will be on Friday 6th March 2026 – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by Wednesday 4th March to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190

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

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

CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday, 27th February:
This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support – collection will take place on the weekend of 28/1st March. You could also donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

This Sunday's readings place before us two very different ways of living. Jeremiah speaks of the person who trusts only in human strength and compares him to a dry bush in the desert. By contrast, the one who trusts in the Lord is like a tree planted beside flowing water. The difference is not in outward appearance but in where life is rooted.

In the Gospel, Jesus develops this contrast in sharper terms. He calls blessed those who are poor, hungry, and sorrowful, and he warns those who are rich, satisfied, and praised. These words are not meant to romanticise suffering, nor to condemn material comfort in itself. They are a challenge to ask where our security truly lies. Comfort can easily persuade us that we are self-sufficient. Need, by contrast, can open us to God.

Saint Paul reminds us why this teaching is not simply moral advice. Christian hope rests on the resurrection of Christ. If Christ is not raised, then the Beatitudes are empty words. But if he is risen, then present hardship is not the final measure of a life. The future God promises reshapes what we call success and failure now.

Together, these readings invite us to examine what we rely upon. Do we place our confidence in what we possess, in how we are seen, and in how comfortable we feel. Or do we allow our lives to be rooted more deeply in God. True blessedness is not found in having enough for ourselves, but in trusting the Lord who holds our future.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

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

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

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