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

22ND February 2026 ✠ First Sunday in Lent

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

MASS BOOK THIS SUNDAY *Year A*

Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg. 151
Preface: THE TEMPTATION OF THE LORD, pg.71

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

	31/1 Feb 2026	7/8 Feb 2026
Envelopes	£ 184.20	£ 180.00
Loose	£ 457.05	£ 243.75
Total	**£ 641.25**	**£ 423.75**

14/15 Feb 2026

Envelopes	£ 206.00
Loose	£ 295.30
Total	**£ 501.30**

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

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

PARISH NOTICES

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

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

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.

CAKES, EASTER TREATS & VASES SALE to be held on Mother's Day, Sunday 15th March after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses. Don't forget to bring your cash and if you can bake a cake for us to sell that would be marvellous. All proceeds will go to the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Irish Night | 21st March: Our next parish social event will be an Irish Night, taking place on Saturday, 21st March, at Sunbury Cricket Club. Join us for a fun-filled evening of music, singing, dancing, and great food! For more details, please see the poster in the Church porch. Profits will be going to HCPT 51 Children to Lourdes & CRUSE Bereavement Support. For tickets, please call Rose 07783 799895 or Liz 07794 036608 or email Mary at group51@hcpt.org.uk.

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: Huge thanks to all those who have donated wool to our knitting project, we really appreciate it. If you have spare wool in your house we will gladly put it to great use. If you enjoy knitting and want to join our thriving bunch of Knitters and Crocheters we have remote knitters as well as our friendly

bunch who meet on Monday mornings 10am - 12noon in the Manning Room. 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.

EVENTS

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.

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.

Young Adults LENT RETREAT DAY with the Assumption Sisters on Saturday 21st March 2026 10am – 6pm. Venue: Milleret House, 20 Kensington Square, W8 5HH Programme includes talks • prayer, adoration and confessions • faith sharing • mass and social time. Register by scanning QR code or email rebecca@assumpta-eu.org

Lenten Appeal 2026: *"Because we are formed in faith, we are sent in love."* Our annual Lenten Appeal across the Diocese supports one shared mission: helping people encounter Christ and live that faith in love and service. Through **Education, Youth & Evangelisation, and Marriage & Family Life,** the diocese forms hearts, nurtures faith, and strengthens families within our parishes. Through Social Action, that formed faith reaches outward, ensuring that no one in our communities faces life's hardest moments alone. Your generous support this Lent will enable the Church to continue walking with people at every stage of life and be a visible sign of Christ's love, both within our parishes and among our neighbours. To donate today please visit www.rcdow.org.uk/LentenAppeal. Alternatively, envelopes are available in church. Thank you for your support and for helping our diocesan family to continue this vital work.

Scan Me

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

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm.
The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the Parish Office at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk with the following details: husband and wife's full names, wedding date, full postal address and email or telephone number *by Monday 20th April 2026.*

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

At the beginning of His public ministry our Lord had one simple message: "repent, and believe the gospel." Repentance: the setting aside of everything within us which is not of God and turning towards the gospel with all our hearts is the very essence of being a true disciple, true conversion. But true interior conversion must, naturally, lead us to express our new outlook in actions. We need, in short, to become better people. We must get rid of bad habits, vices, and build up good habits, virtues. During Lent in a particular way we are called to do this by imitating our Lord's forty days of fasting in the desert. As St John says "by my works will show you my faith."
We do this in three ways: prayer, fasting and alms giving. Each helps us in a different way to discipline ourselves, shedding our sinful vices and building up virtues.
Prayer is certainly the first and most important part of becoming a better Christian. As our Lord says "without me you can do nothing." Christ carried the sins of the whole world on His back as He claimed the hill of Calvary. It was hard, but He alone had the strength to do it. He wants us to put our own sins, and all our troubles, onto His back. As He said just before His suffering: "I was born for this." Even when we do not feel the repentance we should feel, we can at least ask God to give us the grace of true repentance. More than that, we can also ask for the grace we need to be strong in the future.
Fasting is something we do less than in the past. Our ancestors in the faith, for more than a thousand years, would have eaten no meat for all of Lent and only eaten on full meal a day! It would probably be unwise for most of us to try to copy them, but we can and should give up something. This helps to crush the sin of greed within us, helps to build up our self-control and can also leave aside a little spare money which we can use to help the needy.

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+