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

1st March 2026 ✠ Second 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

NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT OR CONFESSION

MASS BOOK THIS SUNDAY *Year A*

Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg. 155
Preface: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD, pg.72

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

21/22 Feb 2026	
Envelopes	£ 165.00
Loose	£ 361.01
Total	**£ 526.01**

Church Cleaning TEAM 3: C Dos Passos & N Dunu (Saturday)

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025–26: The *upcoming* session will be held on Sunday 1st March, 10:30am-11:20am, Loyola Centre.

Upper Thames Deanery Confirmation Retreat: The retreat will take place on Saturday 7th March 2026 at St Mary's University, beginning at 9.30am in the University Chapel and concluding with Mass at 4.00pm celebrated by Bishop James Curry. Lunch will be provided Please keep our Confirmation candidates in your prayers.

Stations of the Cross and Fish & Chips Supper: Join us for a Lenten evening of reflection and fellowship! Fridays, 6th and 20th March, from 6pm at St. Ignatius Church for *Stations of the Cross* followed by a fish & chips supper in the Manning Room**.** Please place your food order by Wednesdays 4th and 18th March to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190. All parishioners are welcome!

Repository: The Repository will be open before and after all Masses this weekend. Please call by and take a look!

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.

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

Thank you from CAFOD: The collection will take place this weekend. Thank you for your generous support this Family Fast Day – your kindness is helping families like Shorai's in Zimbabwe and Rejoice's in South Sudan grow food, even in the face of drought and floods. You have shown what it means to love your neighbour this Lent – fasting, praying and giving so families can put food on the table. Find out how your donations are helping to build a better world at cafod.org.uk/thankyou. PS It's not too late to donate – pick up a CAFOD envelope in church or visit cafod.org.uk/envelope

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

As we continue along our journey towards Easter we see in today's gospel a little reflection of what is to come. The apostles are about to go up to Jerusalem with our Lord and will see Him arrested, mocked, tortured and crucified. Imagine the strength needed to stay true through all of that, to stay true. As always, our Lord is merciful well beyond what is necessary, so He does not expect the apostles to stay true without having given them a little taste of who He really is. In this sense the Transfiguration, as we call it, is not a transformation of Our Lord but the revealing for a short time of who He really is, what He really is and has been from all eternity. Not only that, He stands between the two greatest prophets, Moses and Elijah of the Old Testament, who each represent the two halves of the ancient Jewish scriptures: the law and the prophets.
Perhaps much like the apostles we, in this difficult time, also need confirming in our hope. Often things can seem bleak. All of us have been under great strain, and we know this strain will go on for some time longer. This comparatively small strain is, however, one which we know, sooner or later, will end. The transfiguration can remind us that, in the end, this is true of all our earthly sufferings. The shining glory of the Risen Christ stands for us as a permanent sign and symbol of the divine mercy which has been poured out on us and will continue to be so long as we ask for it.
In Lent we continue to look particularly towards the cross, to look upon the sufferings of Christ for our sake. In that we see what God would do for each and every one of us. But let us not lose sight of the whole: that the suffering and death of Our Lord are part of the single Paschal Mystery, the mystery which ends in the triumph of the resurrection. We do not deny the importance of suffering or pretend that it is nothing at all. It is important and it is very real, but it is part of a wider story, a story of new birth.

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+