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

NEWSLETTER

29th March 2026 ✠ Palm Sunday

MASS TIMES

(Please refer to the Holy week & Easter Mass times)

MASS BOOK THIS SUNDAY *Year A*
Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg.176
Preface: THE PASSION OF THE LORD, pg.73

Maundy Thursday
Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg.192
Preface I: THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST, pg.73

Good Friday
Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg.197
No Preface

Easter Vigil
Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg.216
Preface: THE PASCHAL MYSTERY, pg.74

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

21/22 March 2026	
Envelopes	£ 254.50
Loose	£ 386.04
Total	**£ 640.54**

Church Cleaning TEAM 6: J Rodrigues, C Lobo & A Vadakathara (Wednesday)

Lavina will not be available on Mondays & Tuesdays. Parish Office is closed on Friday 3rd April.

PARISH NOTICES

Ministers of Word & Eucharist: Please check the updated sheet available in the church porch for the Triduum and Easter 2026 services. If you are unable to attend, please arrange for another minister to cover your duty and kindly update the sheet. Please select only one service, allowing other ministers the opportunity to serve.

Lenten Appeal 2026: The collection will take place *TODAY* after all Masses.

Stations & Veneration of the Cross for Children on Good Friday 3rd April, at 10:00am in the Church aimed at children in key stage 1 and below.

Good Friday: Day of fast and Abstinence. There will be a retiring Collection for the *Holy Places.*

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets will take place on Holy Saturday 4th April, at 10:00am in the church.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2026

29th March: Palm Sunday
Masses: 6:00pm (Sat Vigil), 9:30am and 11:30am

Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st March: Mass at 9:30am
(Church opens at 8:30am)
Wednesday 1st April: Church CLOSED

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM

2nd April: Maundy Thursday
(There will be no morning Mass, Church opens at 3:00pm)
8:00pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
followed by Washing of the Feet and
Watching at the Altar of Repose until Midnight
(Compline at 11:45)

3rd April: Good Friday
(There will be no morning Mass. Church opens at 9:00am)
10:00am: Stations of the Cross for children
3:00pm: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

4th April: Holy Saturday
(There will be no morning Mass. Church opens at 9:30am. NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Confessions)
10:00am: Blessing of Easter Food Baskets
8:00pm: Easter Vigil Mass

5th April: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection
Masses: 9:30am and 11:30am

Weekly Donation Envelopes (2026–2027):
Envelopes starting from 12th April are available for collection in the Church or from the Parish Office.

- Check your box number, name, and postcode.
- Use the new mauve/purple envelopes from 12th April.
- Please recycle old envelopes.

Thank you for your support!

Ministers of the Word & Eucharist – Rota Update: The next rota is available in the church porch and online on the parish website under Parish Groups. *Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass readers*, please take note of the changes in your reading dates.

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

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.

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.

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.

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

Divine Mercy Sunday 2026: Celebrations at St Andrews Church, Slough SL1 5RE on 12 April 2026 at 2:30 pm. The service will be led by Mgr Sean Healy and will include Enthronement of the Image of Merciful Jesus, Mass, Talk, Chaplet, Adoration and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome to celebrate this glorious feast. Please call Millie on WhatsApp 07957594646 for more information.

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 any great military parade there is always a particular mixture of tragedy and triumph. The enemy is vanquished, the right has triumphed (from at least one perspective) and the danger is usually over. There is also, however, the quiet, usually unmentioned, tragedy of the victims of a conflict. The defeated enemy, the soldiers of the victors, many have died. Strangely it is this mixture, perhaps, which makes the celebration worthwhile. A great parade to celebrate a bloodless victory would seem faintly comic, or even disrespectful, to most people.

Today we too have a victory parade. We hail the arrival of Our Lord into Jerusalem. Palms are waved, music is played. Traditionally we sing "hail to the Lord's anointed! great David's greater son!" We greet Him as the Son of David, another conquering hero. This tone of triumph will actually continue in some form all the way through Holy Week. On Maundy Thursday and Good Friday traditionally, the church sings the ancient hymn "vexilla regis." "The royal banners forward go, the cross shines forth in mystic glow." The metre this ancient hymn is sung too is the same as that used by Roman armies when they sang during their triumphal victory processions in the Eternal City.

Here too we see the mix of joy and tragedy present in any victory march. We sing to the Lord's anointed, yet we sing "ride on! ride on in majesty! in lowly state ride on to die! … The winged squadrons of the sky look down with sad and wondering eyes to see the approaching sacrifice." This will be no bloodless victory.

There will be a singular difference, however, between this ultimate triumph of God and the usual triumph of man over man. The blood poured out for this victory will not be the blood of the enemy but will all be that of the victor Himself. And what is this victory for? For the glory of God, surely, but also for those who would otherwise have been His enemies: sinful humanity. This is, for us, a bloodless victory, for the blood poured out is all from God Himself. We are not expected to fight, need not suffer, all is grace, all is a gift from He who loves us. As Abraham prophesied centuries before: "God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my 0son."

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

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

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