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

10th May 2026 ✠ Sixth Sunday of Easter

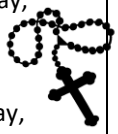
MASS TIMES

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm & Sunday 9:30am & 11:30am.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:30am. *Friday abstinence.*

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: Thursday 14th May is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. There will be Mass at 9:30am and 7:30pm.

PUBLIC ROSARY: In honour of Our Lady Queen of the May, there will be public rosary in the Church at 10am on Wednesdays. All are welcome.



CHURCH OPENING TIMES: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 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. 268
Preface I of Easter: THE PASCHAL MYSTERY, pg.74

Ascension of the Lord
Order of Mass: pg.7
Hymns: see hymn board
Reading and Prayers: pg.272
Preface I: THE MYSTERY OF THE ASCENSION, pg.75

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

	25/26 Apr	2/3 May
Envelopes	£ 191.00	£ 213.23
Loose	£ 420.07	£ 827.39
Total	**£ 611.07**	**£ 1,040.62**

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

PARISH NOTICES

Fr Christian and the Parish warmly congratulate all the Confirmation candidates who were confirmed on Tuesday 5th May, as well as all the children receiving their First Holy Communion today. We also extend our heartfelt congratulations to their families on this joyful and blessed occasion. May God continue to guide and bless you all as you grow in faith and in your love of the Lord.

First Holy Communion Rehearsals: The rehearsal for our *third* First Holy Communion Mass will be on Friday 15th May, 4:00pm in the church. Only children who are receiving their Communion on Sunday 17th May should attend.

First Holy Communion Mass: The *third* group will receive their First Holy Communion at the 11:30am Mass on Sunday, 17th May. All parishioners are welcome to attend if they wish. Some pews will, however, be reserved for the children's families.

Repository: The Repository will be open before and after all Masses this weekend. First Communion and Confirmations cards are available as well as suitable gifts. Please call by and take a look.

St Ignatius 100 Club: The end of year Draw will take place on Sunday 24th May after 9.30am Mass, a very exciting time as we will have £645 worth of prizes to pay out to our current members. Please do join us in the Manning Room for celebrations, tea, coffee and cake! Father Christian will also be presented with a cheque which will go toward the cost of a Special Project. Keep an eye on your inbox for your renewal to the 100 Club, huge thanks to all our members who helped to raise £5220 last year, Good Luck in the draw!

Priest Training Fund – Thank you: Thank you for your generosity towards the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. We are pleased to share that £620.61 was raised. If you are still able to donate, envelopes are available in the church porch, or you can scan the QR code. Please also continue to pray for vocations and for those currently in formation.

HCPT Group 51 had a wonderful pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter. We were delighted to have several helpers and beneficiaries from St Ignatius Parish with us. Thank you for all your help and support throughout the year. We lit candles and prayed for the intentions of the parish at the Grotto.

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.

Sunday Tea/Coffee Morning: Every Sunday after 9:30am Mass in the Manning Room. All are welcome.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: The next one will be on Friday 5th June 2026 – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by Wednesday 3rd June to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190

Knit & Knatter: Don't forget there's no Knit & Knatter on Monday 25th May due to the Bank Holiday. If you'd like to come and join our friendly knitters and crocheters, please feel free to come along on Mondays between 10am - 12 noon. All ages and abilities are most welcome. We also have a very active crew of remote knitters if you'd like to help knit 20cm squares for blankets for the homeless. Keep knitting....

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.

EVENTS

An Evening with Dr Scott Hahn (London): Thursday 28TH May, 6:00pm – 10pm at St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road, London SE1 7HY. Scripture scholar Dr Scott Hahn will give two talks on: 'Road to Emmaus: Cultivating Eucharistic Amazement' and 'Understanding Our Father: Reflections on the Lord's Prayer'. Ticket cost £20 per person. Please scan the QR code for more details and to book tickets.

CELEBRATE Trust - new webinars for parents and carers of teenagers: Raising teenagers in a Catholic family. Tuesday 2nd June @ 8pm As children enter adolescence, parenting can feel brand new. Mike and Alicia from the Messy Family Project share faith filled wisdom and practical tools to help parents guide their tweens and teens with patience, modelling, and stronger relationships. To reserve your place, book now by visiting https://www.celebratetrust.org/faith-parenting

Divine Mercy Pilgrimage for Young Adults in Vilnius, Lithuania with the Assumption group from 6th to 12th June. Take part in the World Apostolic Congress on Mercy, an international Catholic gathering held in the birthplace of the Divine Mercy devotion. Cost: £600 + travel. Register by 30th April, for more information visit www.assumpta-eu.org/divine-mercy-pilgrimage-in-vilnius/ or email rebecca@assumpta-eu.org

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

As we approach the great feasts of the Ascension, on Thursday, and Pentecost to follow, we find that the readings of the Church speak to us more and more about the Holy Spirit. Eastertide is not simply a looking back to the Resurrection of the Lord, but also a preparation for the sending of the promised Spirit. The risen Christ prepares His Apostles for the life and mission of the Church, and He teaches them that they will not be left alone. He will return to the Father, but He will send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to strengthen, guide, sanctify, and sustain His people.

In this week's readings we hear both about the gift of the Spirit at the hands of the Apostles and about our Lord's promise that the Spirit will come upon all at Pentecost. The Spirit is not given as a vague comfort or a merely private feeling of religious encouragement. He is given to the Church as the living presence and power of God. Through the Holy Spirit, the Apostles are made bold in preaching, the sacraments bear fruit, sins are forgiven, and the faithful are drawn into deeper union with Christ. The Spirit who came down at Pentecost is the same Spirit who continues to be at work in the Church today.

The first outpouring of the Spirit was while our Lord was still upon earth, when He breathed on the Apostles and gave them the power to forgive sins. This moment shows us something very important about the mission of the Church. The forgiveness of sins is not a secondary matter or a minor part of Christian life. It is at the very heart of the Gospel. Christ came to reconcile sinners to the Father, and He entrusted that ministry of reconciliation to His Apostles. That same power continues in the Church in our own day through the Sacrament of Penance, or Confession. When we go to confession, we are not merely unburdening ourselves before another human being. We are meeting the mercy of Christ, made present through the ministry of His Church.

The ministry of the forgiveness of sins is therefore intimately bound up with the work of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit reveals sin, not to crush us, but to heal us. He moves the heart to repentance, gives us the grace to confess honestly, and restores us to friendship with God. As our Lord says in the reading, if we truly love Him then we will follow His commandments. This is the ordinary shape of Christian life. Love of Christ is shown not only in words or feelings, but in obedience, faithfulness, and the desire to live according to His will.

By His mercy, however, the Lord knows our weakness. He knows how often we fail in this simple task. He knows how easily we choose ourselves over Him, and how often we fall short of the commandments we desire to keep. For that reason, He gives us the gift of confession, so that even when we fail, we are not left in our sins. We can return to Him. We can begin again. The Holy Spirit does not abandon us in our weakness, but draws us back to the mercy of Christ, who is always ready to forgive those who come to Him with contrite hearts.

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