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

26th July 2026 ✠ Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS TIMES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES: Wednesday & Friday: 9:30am.
No Mass on Monday & Tuesday

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

CHURCH OPENING TIMES: Wednesday & 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. 108
Preface VII: SALVATION THROUGH THE OBEDIENCE OF CHRIST, pg. 67

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

	18/19 July
Envelopes	£ 128.82
Loose	£ 182.10
Total	**£ 310.92**

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

PARISH NOTICES

Feast Day of our Parton St Ignatius of Loyola
Friday 31st July 2026 Mass at 9:30am



Dearest Lord,
teach me to be generous; teach me to serve You as You deserve; to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that I do Your will.

A happy parish feast day to all!

Fr Christian's Walk to Canterbury

In Aid of St Ignatius Parish



Fr Christian will undertake a walking pilgrimage in the footsteps of the pilgrims of The Canterbury Tales, travelling from Blackheath to Canterbury Cathedral:

"To Canterbury they wend, the holy blessed martyr for to seek."

The pilgrimage is just over 50 miles and will be completed in a single day. Fr Christian has never attempted anything quite like it before and would be very grateful for the prayers of parishioners throughout the journey and, if possible, their sponsorship.

All the money raised will go towards the repair of the pews in our parish church. The easiest way to donate is by scanning the QR code below.

Please keep Fr Christian in your prayers as he undertakes the journey.

Event Details

Event: Fr Christian's Walk to Canterbury
In aid of: St Ignatius Parish
Date: Monday 27th July 2026
To sponsor, please scan the QR code:

Gift Aid Available, your donation can go further at no extra cost to you.

Thank You

Your generosity strengthens our parish family and supports our shared mission in Christ.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: The next one will be on Friday 7th August 2026 – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by Wednesday 5th August to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190

Knit & Knatter: Please feel free to join us on Monday mornings from 10.00 - 12noon in the Manning Room for a relaxed and friendly Knit & Knatter, you will be made most welcome.

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 the 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.

Sunday Tea/Coffee Morning: Every Sunday after 9:30am Mass 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.

6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Roots That Still Feed the Tree

By Deacon Roger Carr-Jones, Marriage and Family Life Coordinator

This year's theme for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which is being held on the Sunday 26th July, comes from Isaiah: *"I will never forget you"* (49:15). These are words that stand in sharp contrast to the throwaway mentality of modern societies, the very culture Pope Francis sought to challenge when establishing this celebration.

Civil society tends to remember people for what they produce; the Church remembers people for who they are. Our position is therefore radically different: God remembers, the Church remembers, families remember, and communities remember. Grandparents and the elderly are remembered because they are loved, not because they are economically useful.

Increasingly, society identifies people by job titles, productivity, and economic value. But when we recall our grandparents and the elderly, we do not recall what they once had; we recall who they are, and how their faith, tenderness, and love, continue to form us. Their relational identities, mother, father, grandparent, friend, neighbour, witness, are essential to the true architecture of society. They are the roots that feed the tree of our lives through their stories, presence, and prayers.

Pope Benedict reminds us that true remembrance is not mentally reviewing history but *anamnesis,* a sacred action in which past saving events become real and present. God's remembering is synonymous with God's acting. So, when the Church says to grandparents and the elderly, *"I will never forget you,"* we are promising them presence, care, and relationship. This is not optional kindness but mission: a participation in God's fidelity. The hug, the smile, the gesture of appreciation we offer makes this promise tangible.

Drawing together the insights of the last three popes, we see that the Church remembers grandparents and the elderly in a sacramental way. This is not nostalgia but a love that makes their sacrifices and their lives fruitful in the present. Although I have memories of only one grandparent, my life has been rooted in and fed by the experiences of the elderly. Even at ten, those who were eighteen seemed ancient, yet inspirational!

Not all of us will become grandparents, but each year we move closer to becoming elderly, a term my ninety-year-old mother-in-law steadfastly resists! Therefore, I too, like her, might need to reflect on the observation of Pope Leo, "It is healthy to realize that ageing is part of the marvel of creation… do not be afraid of fragility!" As we celebrate this World Day for grandparents and the elderly, reflect on how their stories shaped our story, how their faith rooted us in times of trial, and how their dreams formed our aspirations and onward path.

Prayer

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2026

Holy Father
Who watches over every person
Watch over me too when I am elderly.
You have revealed your name to me in Christ,
And You were not discouraged by my frailties.
You hold me tenderly in your hands,
And You caress my lines.
You will never forget me! (see Is 49:15).

Grant that I may not fear my weakness;
Help me learn to love it
Just as You love it.
Help me learn to listen to it
Just as You listen to it.
Help me embrace it
Just as You have chosen it –
You who, though all-powerful, clothed yourself in humility.

May growing old strip away all our pride and all division
So that we may live these years united in You.
You will never forget us! (see Is 49:15)

Amen.