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

20th September 2026 ✠ Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS TIMES

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

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

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

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. 131
Preface VI: THE PLEDGE OF THE EXTERNAL PASSOVER pg.67

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

Collection	**12/13 Sep**
Envelopes	£ 243.20
Loose	£ 397.77
Total	**£ 640.97**

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

Lavina will not be available on Mondays & Tuesdays.
Parish queries:sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk,
Bookkeeper (Luciana): sunburyonthamesbk@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH NOTICES

Secondary School Transfer 2027 (Year 7):

Parents who require a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) signed by Fr Christian can book an appointment via the Parish Website, *under Schools or Events,* or by scanning the *QR code*. Appointments will be held during the *second week of October* and must be booked in advance by *Friday, 2 October*. The closing date for on-time secondary school applications is *31st October 2026.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026-27

The course is only for children in Year 3 or Year 4. To register, please visit the Parish Website or scan the QR code. Please take your time to complete all the details carefully.

Please ensure that your ***child's Baptism Certificate*** is either emailed to the Parish Office or posted through the Rectory letter box as soon as the online registration form is completed and before the registration deadline.

Please note that the ***Parents' Introductory Meeting*** will take place on Tuesday, 3rd November at 6pm. The ***Reconciliation book*** will be issued and payments will be processed on the same day. More information will be available soon.

If you experience any difficulties completing the online form, please email, Parish Office at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk and await further instructions. All email enquiries will be responded to on Thursdays.
The registration forms will close on **Wednesday, 14th October.**

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.

Knit & Knatter: Please feel free to join us on Monday mornings from 10am - 12noon in the Manning Room for a relaxed and friendly Knit & Knatter, you will be made most welcome.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: Next Friday 2nd October – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by *Wednesday 30th Sep* to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190

Missio – Foreign Currency & Red Boxes: All currencies, including old and withdrawn currencies, are welcome. Please donate any leftover holiday money, however small, by securely packaging it, marking it "Missio", and leaving it in the Parish Office. Red Boxes are collected every 4–6 months. For collections, please contact Vince Grayson at the 6pm Mass or through the Parish Office. To *request a Red Box*, please complete a form at the back of the church and place it in the Rectory letter box. *Mission Today* is available in the church porch for Red Box holders outside Sunbury. Thank you to all our supporters for your continued generosity to Missio!

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 2026-27: 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.

PARISH SCHOOLS

Parish Schools: St Ignatius Catholic Primary School and St Paul's Catholic College (Secondary) are this parish's two Catholic Schools, though some parishioners have children at Catholic secondary schools outside the parish bounds. Both are thriving schools. All Catholics are encouraged to have their children educated in a Catholic context.

Signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP) for Catholic Schools

Important Information for Parents:

1) School Admissions Guidance: Before booking an appointment for the CCP, parents are requested to contact the relevant school office to understand the admissions process. Further information can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/schools-admissions

2) Parish Newsletter: Please check the Parish Newsletter regularly for updates and to find out when appointment slots are released.

3) Booking an Appointment with the Priest: CCP signing is by appointment only. Parents will be able to book an appointment through the online booking system on the Parish Website. Appointments will be available during the following periods:

- *Secondary Transfer (Year 7): September – October (see pg. 1)*
- Reception Admissions: November – January
- Nursery Admissions: February – April

4) For Admissions to Year Groups (Years 1 to 6): Please email the Parish Office directly to request an appointment: sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

"We brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it". These words from St Paul's First Letter to Timothy are both familiar and plainly true. The attachment to earthly goods can be a source of great evil. Indeed, it is often said that "money is the root of all evil." What St Paul actually condemns, however, is the love of money, rather than money itself. It is certainly something we should be wary of. After all, our Lord famously said in another place that "it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God."

Are we then to see all earthly goods as bad in themselves? Not exactly. There is nothing wrong with money in itself, or even with having a lot of money. Abraham was, after all, a rich man, as were several other ancient patriarchs. But what is certainly the case is that jealously guarding our money or becoming obsessed with acquiring more money is very often a serious sin. The three primary sins here are selfishness, greed and idolatry. Selfishness and greed are fairly obvious: the selfish and greedy person hoards wealth while others suffer grave want or becomes obsessed with gaining more and more unnecessary riches. Idolatry seems less obvious but is the worst of all. Whole societies have very often been consumed by such idolatry. We need only think of materialist political ideologies and the horrors of the Atlantic slave trade. Placing money and material gain at the centre of our lives, as the summit of our ambition, is to dethrone the one who alone should occupy that place: Almighty God Himself. God is Goodness itself, Truth itself, Love itself. Of course, He alone should be the summit, yet He so often is not. Where God has been dethroned, the dignity of human beings, whom He has made in His own image and likeness, is usually under grave threat.

Poverty, on the other hand, has no merits in itself. That said, it is an easily observable fact that those with fewer earthly goods to cling to less often suffer from the temptations which the rich have to pride, selfishness and greed. If one has little, one has little to cling to!

Are we all to give away what money we have then? Is there no other way to be saved? Some certainly should. Some are called to live out the gospel as perfectly as Christ Himself. They are the ones God has chosen to become his monks and nuns. Their embrace of poverty for the sake of the gospel is a witness to us all. For most of us, however, that is not an option. Many people have families who must be provided for, businesses to run and so on. What we can do, however, is to resist within ourselves the sins which our Lord and St James condemn so severely. How do we do this? Through generosity and keeping ourselves fixed on God. If we find ourselves becoming greedy, the best way to fight that is by training ourselves to be generous.

Above all we must not forget that Christ has come to bring us grace. He will give us all the grace we need to be holy and to draw close to God. The apostles asked our Lord how anyone could be saved after He said it was hard for the rich, and He answered with these comforting words: "with man it is impossible, but with God nothing is impossible." We are reliant on Him, and if we know anything, it is that we can always trust Him.

EVENTS

Padre Pio's Feast Day - 23rd September 2026: Join us at Sacred Heart Church, Teddington, TW11 9JQ, to celebrate the Feast Day of St Padre Pio. We will begin with the Holy Rosary at 6:15pm, followed by Holy Mass at 6:30pm and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00pm. This will be followed by a recount of Padre Pio's final hours and light refreshments, with the evening finishing at 9:00pm. All are very welcome.

St. Ignatius Catholic Primary School: Is your child due to start Reception in September 2027? You are warmly invited to our Open Events at 9.30am on: Wednesday 30th September, Monday 19th October, Wednesday 18th November, Monday 7th December 2026. To book please go to https://www.st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk/. If you cannot attend, please contact the school office to arrange an alternative visit. We look forward to welcoming you.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

Ted Edgar, Kathleen Mansell, John Shanley, Kathleen Connolly, Pat Brown, Edward Fay, Bridget Stenning, Thérèse Jones.

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