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

18TH October 2026 ✠ Twenty-Ninth 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.



October - The month of Holy Rosary

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. 143
Preface II: THE MYSTERY OF SALVATION, pg.66

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donation

Collection	**10/11 October**
Envelopes	£ 183.00
Loose	£ 425.65
Total	**£ 608.65**

Church Cleaning TEAM 7: Mr and Mrs Kennedy (Saturday)

*Please Note: **Lavina** will not be available on Mondays and Tuesdays.*
*For bookkeeping enquiries, **Luciana**: sunburyonthamesbk@rcdow.org.uk*

PARISH NOTICES

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026-27:

The course is only for children in Year 3 or Year 4. 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.

The *Session Dates* will be availabe on the parish website next weekend. If you have any queries, please email, Parish Office at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk

Confirmation 2027: Teenagers in Years 9 & 10 will be invited to join the Confirmation course by registering via the Parish Website during the first week of November. Please keep an eye on the Parish Newsletter for updates. The programme will begin in January 2027.

✝ ***November – The Month of the Holy Souls*** ✝

As November, the month of the Holy Souls, draws near, we take time to remember our deceased loved ones and all those we wish to commend to our prayers.

Blue envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please take one and insert a list of the names of your deceased family members, friends and benefactors, together with your donation. You may return the envelope to Fr Christian or post it through the Rectory letterbox.

Throughout November, all Masses will be offered for the repose of the souls of those whose names are included on our November Dead List.

Blessing of the graves at Sunbury Cemetery – Saturday 14th November at 2pm.

CHRISTMAS GOODS SALE: There will be a sale on Sunday 29th November after 9.30am Mass. Items for sale include knitted and crocheted tree decorations, baubles, bells, angels etc and delicious Home-made Cakes including Christmas Cakes. There will also be a raffle where hampers will be filled with Chocolates, Cakes, Biscuits, Savoury & Sweet Christmas Foods, Wine and Spirits and Toiletries. There will also be two beautiful knitted Cribs complete with their own Manger in the raffle. Tickets will be on sale shortly and flyer will be handed out after all masses this and next weekend asking for specific items. *A huge PLEASE and THANK YOU to you all.* All monies raised will be donated to our own Church.

World Mission Sunday: Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. The Holy Father has chosen the theme *'One in Christ, united in mission'* to celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and encourages us to unite with missionaries as they strive to reach out with God's love to communities in need. Please pray for the work of mission or visit missio.org.uk to donate.

Family Rosary and Fish & Chips on the first Friday of each month: Next Friday 6th November – Come and say the Rosary at 6pm in the Church, followed by Fish & Chips. Please place your food order by *Wednesday 4th Nov* to Cerys Bow 07884 005 190

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.

Missio – Foreign Currency & Red Boxes: All foreign notes and coins, including withdrawn currencies, are welcome. Please donate any unwanted foreign money to *Missio* by securely packaging it, marking it "Missio" and dropping it into 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.

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.

EVENTS

A Day with Mary at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 7 November 2026, 9.45am to 5.00pm. The Most Reverend Richard Moth, Archbishop of Westminster will be the Celebrant & Preacher at 10.30am Cathedral Mass on that day. Further information is available at https://www.adaywithmary.org/

World Premiere and CD Launch: Our Lady of Victories, Kensington, and Caritas Westminster invite you to the premiere of the Full Sung Mass of Our Lady of Victories, composed by Fr Nigel Woollen and arranged by Timothy Macklin. Performed by Joyful Light on Saturday 21 November at 6pm at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church, London W8 6SA, the event will also launch a charity CD supporting Caritas Westminster. Please see the poster in the church porch.

Plant a Seed: Paid Summer Internship Programme 2027: Are you a Catholic undergraduate in your second year considering a career in teaching or education? The RCDOW Education Service offers a three-week paid summer internship in a Catholic school, providing practical experience, opportunities to learn from experienced educators, and insights into careers in Catholic education. Apply by 30 November 2026. Limited places are available for this final year of the grant-funded programme. To apply, scan the QR code.

FR CHRISTIAN WRITES

This week's Gospel is a particularly famous one in the history of our faith. It is the foundation text for our entire understanding of how the faith and the state relate and, in turn, has had a vital part in creating the entire political world in which we live. Its exact meaning, however, can be, and has been, debated over the centuries. For a good interpretation, we should, as always, turn to the unchanging basic reading which the Church has given this text since the beginning. As with all of Scripture, the Church, which wrote the Scripture, is always the supreme interpreter.

The Church's understanding of how the state and the faith interact has always been built around an understanding that God has ordained that different authorities have command in different areas. What are these domains, though? And what are the authorities?

Firstly, there is the "secular" (i.e. worldly) sphere of life. This relates to those things which concern our material wellbeing and security here on earth, in this life. God created humanity as a social creature, a creature which is situated in social institutions. The first, and most basic, is the family. Besides this, there is our local community and our national community. The governing powers in all these institutions are, therefore, natural and good (when exercised justly). The government, hopefully, works for the earthly good of all and so is owed our respect and obedience.

The other area is quite different. It relates to all those aspects of our lives which are related primarily to our eternal destiny, not our earthly comfort. This means the faith: her teachings, her sacraments, her internal government and so on. Christ handed the administration of this area into the hands of His chosen apostles who, in turn, handed that authority on to their successors: the bishops of the Church today, with and under the Successor of St Peter, the pope. The Church was directly given her authority by the words of Christ Himself and, therefore, it can never be usurped by any other authority, be it a king, a republic or any other form of human organisation. The Church's independence is non-negotiable for a Catholic.

This does not mean, of course, that these two authorities cannot cooperate to help each other out. Not only can this be done, but it is sometimes a very helpful and good idea. Take our Catholic schools: their funding and some of their administration are looked after by the state, but they are also operated by the Church for the mutual benefit of all.

All this talk of authority and governance is very unfashionable these days, and perhaps we might worry about the corrupting power of authority. The last two hundred years certainly show that some fear of tyranny is well founded. For us, as Catholics, we must also have one major caveat to our obedience, which is built on our supreme loyalty to God: that no one in any authority, whether in the Church or in the state, has the right to order us to commit a sin. If we know something is wrong, we can and must always say: "We must obey God, not men."

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

Ted Edgar, Kathleen Mansell, John Shanley, Kathleen Connolly, Bridget Stenning, Thérèse Jones.

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