



# Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

[www.rcshepherdsbush.org](http://www.rcshepherdsbush.org)



13 September 2020

## Mass Times:

### Sunday Masses

6.00 pm (Saturday)

9.15, 11.00 & 18.00

### Weekday Masses

Mon. Tues., Fri & Sat.:

9.30 am

Wed.: 7.00 am

Thurs: 7.00 pm

### Holy Days of Obligation

Mass: 9.30 am & 8.00 pm

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Sat 10.00-10.45 am -

suspended

### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

First Saturday: 8.45 am -  
suspended

### Legion of Mary

Every Friday after the 9.30  
am Mass – suspended

### Rosary

After daily Mass during  
the week – suspended for  
the moment

### Confessions

Sat 10.15-11.00 am,  
or by request

### Baptism

See Parish Priest  
Preparation obligatory

### Marriage

See Parish Priest  
Six months' notice  
required  
Preparation obligatory

Last week's collection

£725.34

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

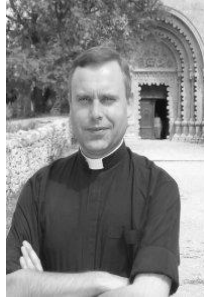
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Daniel O'Brien**

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E-Mail: [shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk)

E-Mail: [shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk)

## Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A



**Fr. Mark writes:** Peter no doubt thought he was being generous in offering to forgive his brother's wrongs seven times. Jesus's response is seventy-seven times. Hearing that, Peter knows Jesus is saying that there is to be no limit to our willingness to forgive. Is that reasonable? According to human reason: no. But that is not our standard. According to our reckoning, it was not 'reasonable' that God forgives us all our wrongdoing in the Crucifixion of His Son, the fruits of which we receive in baptism. God's measure of forgiveness is not human reason, but divine love. If God is prepared to forgive us without limit, how can we withhold our forgiveness to others? That is the point of the parable and the Lord's Prayer: 'Forgive us our trespasses – as we forgive those who trespass against us.'

### First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the eleven children who received Jesus in the Holy Communion for the very first time yesterday.

### Confirmation Rehearsals

There are rehearsals in church this **Tuesday, 15 September – 7 pm** for those being confirmed on 18 September; **8 pm** for those confirmed on 25 September. The candidate and one parent should attend.

### Public Masses

The Government's new restrictions, fortunately, do not affect our ability to celebrate Mass. Given the restrictions and the increasing numbers returning to Mass, however, there are a few things to bear in mind to ensure the church continues to be a safe environment:

1. We need to fill up the church from the front and sit where indicated by the green ticks on the benches. Otherwise, the stewards cannot see what spaces remain and people are deprived of the chance to attend Mass. Please be flexible and generous. (Those in the same household can sit together, but please ensure you are always at least 1 metre from the next person/household.) Please maintain social distancing in the area in front of the 'exit' door and in leaving the church.
2. Arrive before Mass starts. The doors open 15 minutes before Mass begins.
3. Last week the 11 am Mass was full. The two evening Masses were slightly less busy.
4. The obligation to be at Sunday Mass remains suspended. Therefore, please consider attending one of the quieter, weekday Masses. We have ten Masses each week. If we can spread attendance across the week, we can accommodate everyone.
5. Face covering are required except for those with health conditions and children under the age of 11.
6. Please only use the loos if necessary, as they will have to be cleaned between each Mass.

### Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Baptisms, weddings and funerals are possible in church subject to the Government limit of 30 guests and the wearing of face coverings.

### Rev Albert Lawes

Our former parish catechist was ordained deacon in July. He is returning to the parish and will preach at the 9.15 and 11.00 am Masses next Sunday.

### Holy Places Appeal

Anyone who has been to the Holy Land know that the Franciscans do a fantastic job in maintaining the Holy Places of our faith in Bethlehem, Jerusalem and elsewhere. With very few pilgrims due to the pandemic, the Franciscans rely on our support. Traditionally, the collection on Good Friday is for them. Of course, that did not take place this year. If you can help, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'Holy Places' and put it in the collection next week – or send a bank transfer to the parish account, reference 'Holy Places.' Thank-you.

**Parish Office**

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 10:00 - 14:30; Friday: 10:00-14:00

**Good Shepherd**

**Catholic Primary School**  
35 Gayford Road  
[www.goodshepherdrc.lbhf.sch.uk](http://www.goodshepherdrc.lbhf.sch.uk)

020 8743 5060

Head: Mrs. Imogen Lavelle

**Catholic Chaplaincies**  
**Charing Cross Hospital**  
020 3311 1042

**Hammersmith Hospital**  
020 3313 4574

**Safeguarding Officers**

07561 588717  
Lucy Road  
[shepherdsbushsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
Cathrin Sarll  
[shepherdsbushsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Planned giving scheme**

(envelopes/standing orders)  
Gary O'Brien  
07392 203005

**St. Vincent De Paul (SVP)**

Mobile: 07925 560538

**Young mums group**

Thurs. 7.30 pm monthly.  
Call or text Laura on  
07944 135275

**Young dads group**

Thurs. 7.30 pm monthly  
[darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk)

**Young adults group**

Meets Sun. 6 pm monthly  
[santiagopise@hotmail.com](mailto:santiagopise@hotmail.com)

**Saturdays**

There will be no Saturday morning Mass for the next two Saturdays. The First Communion Masses are for families only. I am happy to hear Confessions at any mutually convenient time. Please contact me.

**Basement Project**

We are creating meeting space below the Parish House, enabling us to meet together after Mass on a Sunday morning and for other parish purposes. Plumbing, wiring and IT facilities have been installed. A new kitchen is being installed, and the rooms will be decorated.

**Readings at Sunday Mass**

Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7

Romans 14:7-9

*Year A – Volume 2, 128-131*

Matthew 18:21-35

Psalm Response: 102 The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Speak, Lord, your servant is listening;  
you have the message of eternal life.**

**Alleluia**

Church cleaning: Suspended until further notice

**Mass Intentions for Week: 12 September - 20 September 2020**

Saturday 12 September	18.00	Dominic Egan, Anniv.
Sunday 13 September	9.15	Sue Hennessy, RIP
	11.00	Robert Smialek, int.
	18.00	Pro populo
Monday, 14 September	9.30	Ruby Roach, int.
<i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>		
Tuesday, 15 September	9.30	Geraldine Doyle, RIP
<i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>		
Wednesday, 16 September	7.00	Andrzej Zapasnik, int.
<i>Ss Cornelius &amp; Cyprian</i>		
Thursday 17 September	19.00	Anna Zawadska, RIP
Friday, 18 September	9.30	Darnell Jordan & Agnes Charles, int.
Saturday 19 September	12.00	First Holy Communion children – families only
	18.00	Susan O'Brien, RIP
Sunday 20 September	9.15	Ken Hall, Anniv.
	11.00	John Paddy Cox, Anniv.
	18.00	Pro populo

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH:**

Pierina Beltrami, Christopher Browne, May Carter, Agnes Charles, Tom Cooke, Pasquale de Stefano, Sheila Dineen, Michael Evens, Hannah Galis, Tony Inkim, Sandra Jones, Bridget McMorro, Jinny Morris, Kathleen Nee, Imelda O'Sullivan, Maria Samele, Gemma Sweny, Franco Vuoto, Laura Walsh, Ellen White, Sarah Williams and the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents.

**First Holy Communion & First Confession 2021**

The programme is for the children in school Year 3 attending Mass. We start with a parents' meeting in church at **3.00 pm on Sunday, 4 October**. The children meet in the Good Shepherd School most Sunday mornings during term time. It may not be possible at the moment for them to attend the 11 am Mass together as in previous years. First Holy Communion itself will be at two Masses at noon on Saturday, 15 & 22 May 2021. If you have a child who wishes to join the programme, E-Mail Daniel, the parish catechist, on [shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk). He will send you an application form and other details.

**Thinking of becoming a Catholic? Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

Jesus Christ calls everyone to be a full member of His Catholic Church through the sacraments of baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. The RCIA group meets Tuesday evenings, starting on **6 October**. It is for those previously of no faith or other faiths, other Christians who wish to become Catholics, and Catholics who missed out on sacraments when they were younger. It is a chance to reflect on what Catholics believe, how we pray and live our faith in the world. There are no set expectations. If appropriate, the individual receives the sacraments next Easter. If this interests you or someone you know, please E-Mail Fr. Mark at [markvickers@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:markvickers@rcdow.org.uk) for further details.

**School References**

Fr. Mark is available to sign priest references for applications to Catholic secondary schools: **4-6 pm, Friday, 9 October; 2-4 pm, Saturday, 17 October** and **7-9 pm, Monday, 19 October**. Both parent/carer and the child should attend. Please bring the Certificate of Catholic Practice (one per school) having already completed the details you are required to give and, if the baptism did not take place here, a copy of your child's baptism certificate. There are no specific appointments for the signing sessions. Provided everyone does not arrive at the start of the first session and people stick to the dates given, it will run smoothly.

In seeking a reference, you are asking the priest to confirm whether you attend Mass each Sunday – at least before the outbreak of the pandemic – over a number of years. If you have recently moved into the parish or attend Mass more regularly at another church, it may make sense to seek a reference from the priest in that other church. (There will be the opportunity for signing primary school references later in the year.)