



# 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)



15 May 2022

## Mass Times:

### Sunday Masses

6.00 pm (Saturday)

9.15, 11.00 am & 6.00 pm

### 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 & 7.00 pm

### Parish Office

Monday, Tuesday, Friday:  
10:00 -14:00

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Sat 10.00-10.45 am

### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

First Saturday: 8.45 am -  
suspended

### Rosary

After 9.30 am daily Mass  
during the week

### Confessions

### Confessions

Sat 10.15-10.45 am,

5.15-5.45 pm

or by request

### Baptism

See Parish Priest

Preparation obligatory

### Marriage

See Parish Priest

Six months' notice  
required

Preparation obligatory

Sunday, 1 May collection  
£1,640.62

Sunday, 8 May collection  
£851.65  
Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Laurence Plant**

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## Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year C



**Fr. Mark writes:** There is an unhealthy fascination sometimes with some of the stranger details of the Book of Revelation. We need to appreciate, as the early Christians did, that John writes using signs and symbols. There are some things not to be taken literally, but which nevertheless convey important truths.

As the Book of Revelation draws to its conclusion, John describes the consummation of God's plan. Thanks to the supreme sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, there is now union between God and His people. There is no more separation, no more doubt or despair. God dwells among us; He has made His home with us. This relationship with God is described in the language of marriage. It is about love and it is about

beauty. It is about permanence and this overwhelming sense of acceptance and belonging. This is what we look forward to and even now celebrate – because of Easter.

### First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our 20 children who received Jesus for the first time this weekend/. Please pray for the 11 children who will receive Jesus in Holy Communion next Saturday. There will be no 9.30 am Mass next Saturday.

### Welcome

Congratulations also to Carolina Carvalho Duarte, who is baptised this weekend.

### Priest Training Fund – Thank-you

Thank-you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. The parish raised **£998.16** – in addition to any donations made online. Donations can still be made either using the envelopes at the back of church or online at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)

### Adoremus

We have an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament after the **6.00 pm** Mass next **Sunday, 22 May**, concluding with Benediction at **7.45 pm**. The church doors are open to the street and passers-by invited in to pray and light a candle. There will also be the opportunity for Confessions. There is the much-needed opportunity to rest and be still with the Lord.

### Returning to Mass at Pentecost

At their plenary meeting last week, the Bishops invited those who have yet to do so to return to Mass for Pentecost.

The period from March 2020 was very trying and traumatic for everyone. Thank God that the pandemic, although it has not disappeared, has abated significantly. It is good that technology allowed us to follow the Mass virtually when we were not able to do so physically. This could not, of course, be a fully adequate substitute for physical attendance and does not fulfil the 'Sunday obligation' for those able to come to church. The Mass is our most precious possession. In it Jesus gives Himself wholly to us. A beautiful hallmark of our Catholic faith is our participation in Sunday Mass each week, receiving Holy Communion and supporting one another in the community.

Inviting us to return to Mass for Pentecost, the Bishops understand that there are some who, for health reasons, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It remains the case that it is not a breach of the Sunday obligation if we are prevented from doing so by a serious reason such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear.

### Platinum Jubilee Appeal

Shortly, the nation marks a unique milestone as the Queen celebrates seventy years on the throne. We plan to mark the occasion, giving thanks for her years of service and the peace and prosperity we have enjoyed during this time, by inviting donations to support those less fortunate than ourselves. More information to follow shortly.

## Parish Office

Monday, Tuesday, 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 Gersende on  
07523 501508

## Young dads group

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

## Young adults group

Monthly, Sun. evenings  
[shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk)

## Sunday Scriptures

Fridays, 4.30-5.30 pm  
For further information:  
[jroberts@thetablet.co.uk](mailto:jroberts@thetablet.co.uk)

## Father Stu

This true story of the most unlikely candidate for priesthood has been turned into a film (Cert. 15), now showing at Vue Shepherd's Bush – the other side of the Green from Westfield.

## Confirmation

The Confirmation session for tomorrow, **Monday, 16 May**, is in the church again at 7.30 pm. We are then back in the Good Shepherd School the following Monday.

## Readings at Sunday Mass

Acts 14:21-27      Apocalypse 21:1-5      John 13:31-35  
Psalm 144: Response: I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.  
Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Jesus said: 'I give you a new commandment: love one another, just as I have loved you.'**  
**Alleluia!**  
Church cleaning:      Suspended until further notice

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## Mass Intentions for Week: 14 - 22 May 2022

Saturday, 14 May	18.00	Holy Souls
Sunday, 15 May	9:15	Pro populo
<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	11:00	John Joseph Howard, RIP
	18.00	Sheila Dineen, RIP
Monday, 16 May	9.30	Tim Nesbitt, Anniv.
Tuesday, 17 May	<b>7.00</b>	Noreen Hickey, int.
Wednesday, 18 May	7.00	James Moran, RIP
Thursday, 19 May	19.00	Patricia Burke, int.
Friday, 20 May	9.30	Chantal & Nicolette Day, int.
Saturday, 21 May	9.30	<b>No Mass</b>
	12.00	First Holy Communion children
	18.00	Maria Samele, RIP
Sunday, 22 May	9:15	Bernadette Bernard, RIP
<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	11:00	Bernard Doherty, Anniv.
	18.00	Pro populo

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

Christopher Browne, May Carter, Agnes Charles, Tom Cooke, Finian & Helen Cox, Pasquale de Stefano, Rita Ferns, Hannah Galis, Kay & Rosemarie Healy, Mary Hill, Sandra Jones, Bridget McMorro, Colm Nee, Maria Nicholls, Bridget Parker, Elaine Samuels, Peter Sands, Lorraine & John Searl, Jay Sinclair, Gemma Sweny, Franco Vuoto, Laura Walsh, Ellen White & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents.

## Ukraine

A number of parishioners have asked about hosting Ukrainian refugees. That is a good and generous thing to do, but think and pray seriously first and discuss your intention with family and others. It is a significant commitment to make for a minimum of six months. The Government has been frustratingly slow in processing applications, but information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/register-interest-homes-ukraine> There is financial assistance and other help available for those hosting Ukrainian refugees. Hammersmith & Fulham has a useful Website: <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/articles/news/2022/03/hf-ukraine-appeal-help-those-need> and has produced a welcome pack: <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/community/supporting-refugees-and-asylum-seekers/refugee-and-asylum-seeker-help-and-support-hf>

The Diocese of Westminster is providing an information session by Zoom for those interested in hosting Ukrainian families 6.30-8.00 pm on Wednesday, 18 May. To sign up, visit: <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/ukraine-hosting-scheme-supporting-people-seeking-sanctuary-1340.php>

Further information can be found at <https://resetuk.org/toolkits/homes-for-ukraine/useful-links>  
Donations can be made at: <https://www.ucc-gb.com/post/helpukraine-emergency-appeal>

## Internships/Formation

I have been asked to draw the following to the attention to those who might be interested. Both appear extremely worthwhile:

1. **Christian Leadership Formation Programme** seeks to forge the next generation of leaders for a Christian society. The programme is run by the Christian Heritage Centre in partnership with Catholic Voices, the Catholic Union and St. Mary's, Twickenham. It includes three residential modules; philosophy and theology; prayer and social time; workshops on public speaking, statesmanship and political virtues. Applications from those in school Year 12 should be made by 3 June to [www.christianheritagecentre.com/clf](http://www.christianheritagecentre.com/clf) The parish may be able to help with the cost.
2. **Global Volunteering** with the Order of Malta primarily for those under the age of 35. Volunteering roles include, for example, working on the Ukrainian border, working overseas with disabled/disadvantaged children. There are internships with the UN mission in Geneva. For further information, please see <https://www.orderofmaltavision2050.com/>