



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



26 March 2023

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

Last week's collection

£1,198.23

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

Catechetical Co-ordinator: **James Morris**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A



Fr. Mark writes: I encourage people to attend the remaining sessions of our 'Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible' series. For too many, the Bible, especially the Old Testament, is a closed book, a collection of random stories with little apparent relevance to each other or to us. With a little application and explanation, however, we can see that that is absolutely not the case. The Bible is a record of God's plan through human history. It is clearly going somewhere – and for a purpose. It is particularly at this most solemn moment of the Christian year that we see that. With a little understanding of the Old Testament, we see how wonderfully God's plan unfolds, how it culminates in the Person of Jesus, particularly in His Crucifixion and Resurrection. His is the Blood of the Lamb, established by Moses at the first Passover, which saves us from everlasting death. He is the One who leads us through the waters of baptism from slavery to sin to the Promised Land of heaven. He brings us home after our exile from God. Jesus is the Universal and Eternal King promised to David. All this concerns God's desire that I find life and love in Him.

Baptisms

We welcome Sonny Ferguson, who is baptised this weekend.

The next baptism preparation sessions for parents attending Mass here who like young children baptised are at **8.00 pm** on **Thursday, 13 and 27 April**. If you attend both sessions, we can arrange a date for the baptism after the second. (There is no need to attend if you have already attended sessions here for an older child. In this case, just request a baptism application form.)

Adoremus

We have an hour's candlelit prayer in the church after the 6 pm Mass this (Sunday) evening. There will be the opportunity for Confession, finishing with Benediction at **7.45 pm**. A time for Lenten prayer and recollection.

Confession

Lent is a time for spiritual stocktaking, being honest about where we stand with God. Confession should be part of our Lent, allowing God to deal with anything that needs to be forgiven, receiving His grace and mercy. Fr. Mark will be hearing Confessions at the regular times each Saturday, 10-10.45 am and 5.15-5.45 pm, as well as for an hour after the 6 pm Mass this (Sunday) evening.

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

You are very welcome to join us for this series of DVDs presented by Jeff Cavins of the Bible Timeline, giving an overview of the Bible. This evening we reflect on a key moment in the history of Israel: the Babylonian Exile and the return to the Promised Land. The DVDs are shown at **7.30 pm** on **Wednesday** evenings. You don't need to have been to previous evenings to benefit from the DVDs.

Palm Sunday

The veiled statues are a reminder that Holy Week is close at hand. Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, we mark Our Lord's entry into Jerusalem to accomplish the saving mysteries of our faith. Palms will be blessed at all Sunday Masses. Weather permitting, we will start the **11 am Mass** with the blessing of palms and procession from the Goldhawk Road end of Ashchurch Grove. Please collect a hymn book from the church and assemble there by **10.50 am**.

Details of the Holy Week and Easter services are on the attached sheet. Please take a copy with you. If you are travelling over Easter, take a moment to find the Mass times at the local church.

Easter Offerings

The attached envelope is for your Easter offering to the parish. All the proceeds are kept by the parish rather than being 'taxed' by the Diocese. (If you have a box of envelopes, there is an Easter offering envelope there and can ignore this.) Thank-you.

Parish Office

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

Good Shepherd**Catholic Primary School**

35 Gayford Road
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 Officer

Cathrin Sarll
shepherdsbushsg2@safeguardsdow.org.uk

Planned giving scheme

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

St. Vincent De Paul (SVP)

Mobile: 07925 560538

Young mums group

Fri. 10.30 am monthly
Contact Charlotte or Izzy
ashchurchmums@gmail.com

Young dads group

Thurs. 8.00 pm monthly
darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk

Young adults group

Monthly, Sun. evenings
shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Sunday Scriptures

Fridays, 4.45-5.45 pm
For further information:
jroberts@thetablet.co.uk

Altar Microphone

Hopefully, having had a sound engineer visit. the sound quality from the altar has improved. Please let me know if there are problems like this. It isn't always apparent up at the altar.

Food Bank

Many thanks for your donations. Please do keep them coming – many rely on them. We are looking especially for non-perishable foods, toiletries, laundry and cleaning products.

Readings at Sunday Mass

Ezekiel 37:12-14 Romans 8:8-11 John 11:1-45

Psalms 129 Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;

whoever believes in me will never die.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Church cleaning: Next Saturday (1 April): Everyone.

Mass Intentions for Week: 25 March - 2 April 2023

Saturday, 25 March	18.00	Tom & Phyllis Cooke & family, int.
Sunday, 26 March	9:15	Paul Johnson, RIP
<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	11:00	Pro populo
	18.00	McMorrow family, int.
Monday, 27 March	9.30	Benny Hickey, RIP
Tuesday, 28 March	9.30	Healy family, int.
Wednesday, 29 March	7.00	Holy souls
Thursday, 30 March	19.00	Christine & Roy Beaton, int.
Friday, 31 March	9.30	John Brick, RIP
Saturday, 1 April	9.30	Tony Griffin, int.
	18.00	Mary Sweeney, RIP
Sunday, 2 April	9:15	Frank McGovern, RIP
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	11:00	Bridget McMorrow, RIP
	18.00	Pro populo

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH:

Christopher Browne, Agnes Charles, Tom Cooke, Finian & Helen Cox, Joe Davenport, Pasquale de Stefano, Kay & Rosemarie Healy, Mary Hill, Sandra Jones, Maria Nicholls, Bridget Parker, Harriet Paterson, Sally Pilkington, James Roberts, Elaine Samuels, Peter Sands, Jay St Clair, Gemma Sweny, Franco Vuoto, Laura Walsh, Ellen White & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

The Cardinal invites all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023 to the Annual Mass of Thanksgiving in Westminster Cathedral at **2.30 pm** on **Saturday, 13 May**. If you are celebrating an anniversary and wish to attend, please give Fr. Mark the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

Teas & Coffee

The SVP are kindly providing tea and coffee in the Parish House basement after the 9.30 am Mass on Tuesday mornings. An opportunity to catch up and socialise. All welcome.

Stations of the Cross

We pray the Stations of the Cross in church at **7.30 pm** this **Friday, 31 March**. This will be the final Friday evening Stations of Lent.

Catholic Curry Club

The group for dads with young children meets next in the Parish House at **8.00 pm** this **Thursday, 30 March**. One of our own members, Richard Sarll, will be sharing his thoughts and choices of religious verse. From the Psalms onwards, some of the deepest and most beautiful expressions of faith have been expressed in poetry. The conversation continues over curry. If you would like to join us, please let Dario know at darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk

Planned Giving

The boxes of the new planned giving envelopes, for use from Sunday, 9 April are available for collection from the table at the back of church at the end of Mass. Please let us know if you have changed address, ceased/begun to pay tax in the last year, are new in the parish and would like to set up a standing order or have a box of envelopes, or have any other questions. Planned giving is a vital source of parish income as the Government refunds the parish the basic rate UK income tax you have already paid at no extra cost to yourself. Thank-you to all those who support the parish.