



# 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)



2 March 2025

## 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:

Sun 7.00-7.45 pm

### Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

First Saturday: 8.45 am - suspended

### Rosary

After 9.30 am daily Mass during the week

### Confessions

Sat 10 am, 5.15-5.45 pm  
Sun 7.00-7.45 pm  
or by request

### Baptism

See Parish Priest  
Preparation obligatory

### Marriage

See Parish Priest  
Six months' notice required  
Preparation obligatory

Last week's collection

£1,397.71

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

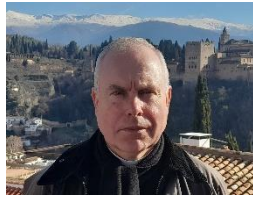
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Lawrence Dunham**

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## Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C



**Fr. Mark writes:** In school on Monday I spoke to Year 5 about Lent, which is imminent. The discipline we take on in Lent is to help us draw closer to God. 'Have a plan,' I told the children, we otherwise risk it not happening. Think now, not on the evening of Ash Wednesday, what Lent is going to look like in practice for us. What will our commitment to prayer consist of – daily Rosary, weekday Mass, Adoration on a Sunday evening? What will we fast/abstain from? Which charities will we support and to what extent? Making a plan now will make Lent more fruitful.

### Rite of Signing & Sending Forth

At the 9.15 Mass we promise to pray for John, Tom, Michelle, Joshua, Verity, Daisy, Izzy, Amity, Joyce, Petronela, Slawomir, Rajbant, Lewis, Steven and Keith as they are sent forth to be accepted formally as candidates for Easter sacraments by the Cardinal at the Rite of Election at the Cathedral on Saturday.

### Confirmation Enrolment Mass

Please pray also for our 16 young parishioners preparing to be confirmed that they receive the fullness of the gifts of the Holy Spirit to witness to their Catholic faith. They are formally enrolled on the programme at the 11.00 am Mass. Appropriately, the Enrolment Mass is celebrated by Bishop James Curry, who will confirm the candidates in June.

### Messy Family Project

The Messy Family Project is run by Mike and Alicia Hemon in the US to empower parents to embrace their sacred calling. They are speaking at number of venues in the UK. This **Thursday, 6 March** they will speak on 'Growing a Family Culture' at the Good Shepherd School, 35 Gayford Road, starting with a light meal supper at **8.00 pm**. No fee, but donations are invited. It will be worth attending for the content, but also for the opportunity to meet one another, which we don't always have at Sunday Mass. Please let me know you want to join the 20+ parents who have already signed up for the evening. For more details see <https://messyfamilyproject.org/>

### Lent

Lent begins this Ash Wednesday. We accompany Our Lord into the wilderness on our journey of purification and conversion that we might celebrate the Resurrection with joy and renewed faith.

1. **Ash Wednesday.** There are Masses with the imposition of ashes at **7.00 am, 9.30 am and 7.00 pm**. It is a day of fasting and abstinence when we abstain from meat and make do with one simple meal. KS2 children from the Good Shepherd School will join us at the 9.30 am Mass.
2. **Stations of the Cross.** We pray the Stations of the Cross together, following Our Lord on His path to Calvary, in church at **7.30 pm** on **Fridays** during Lent.
3. **Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2025.** In this Jubilee Year we are invited to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We are invited to support projects across the Diocese to bring hope to many lives. Donations support vital projects across the Diocese: Youth & Evangelisation; Social Action; Marriage & Family Life, and Catholic Education initiatives. The Cardinal is grateful to everyone who supports his Appeal. Please take a donation envelope from the back of church. There will be a retiring collection at the end of Mass next week or you can use the QR code to make your donation online.
4. **White City Food Bank.** Sadly, hunger exists close to home. Perhaps you might to focus your Lenten giving on helping the food hub run out of Our Lady of Fatima parish in White City. They are supporting over 100 families each week who rely on donations from parishes such as ours. Donations of non-perishable food, toiletries, and cleaning and laundry products can be left in the crate in the church porch, and are taken to the food bank weekly
5. **Confession.** All Catholics should be making use of the sacrament of Confession during Lent. Confessions are heard at the normal times of 5.15-5.45 pm on Saturdays and 6.45-7.45 pm on Sundays. A visiting priest will be hearing Confessions at all the Sunday Masses on the weekend of 29/30 March.

**Readings at Sunday Mass**

Sirach 27:4-74      1 Corinthians 15:54-58      Luke 6:39-45

Psalm 92 Response: It is good to give thanks to you, O LORD.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia!****Shine as lights in the world,  
holding fast to the word of life.  
Alleluia!**

Church cleaning: Saturday, 8 March: Alexandra R., Michelle &amp; Assiatu.

**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 Officer**

Tabitha Brenninkmeijer

07746 697132

[shepherdsbushsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)**Planned giving scheme**

(envelopes/standing orders)

Gary O'Brien

07392 203005

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

Mobile: 07925 560538

**Mums & Toddlers**

Fri. 10.30 am monthly

Contact Ellie

[ashchurchmums@gmail.com](mailto:ashchurchmums@gmail.com)**Young dads group**

Thurs. 8.00 pm monthly

Input, discussion and curry

[darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk)**Sunday Scriptures**

Fridays, 4.45-5.45 pm

For further information:

[jroberts@thetablet.co.uk](mailto:jroberts@thetablet.co.uk)**Catholic Book Club**

Contact Lawrence

[shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk)**Sunday Scriptures Group**This group meets in the Parish House at **4.45 pm** on Fridays to reflect on the Sunday Scripture readings. All are welcome to attend.**Food Bank**Many thanks for your generous donations. Please keep them coming. They are literally a lifeline to many families. We are looking especially for non-perishable foods, toiletries, laundry and cleaning products.**Mass Intentions for Week: 1 - 9 March 2025**

Saturday, 1 March	18.00	John (Gloss) Gleeson, Anniv.
Sunday, 2 March	9:15	Tim McElvoy, RIP
	11:00	In thanksgiving
	18.00	Pro populo
Monday, 3 March	9.30	Margaret Doherty, RIP
Tuesday, 4 March	9.30	Chantal & Nicolette Day, int.
Wednesday, 5 March	7.00	Michael Phelan, RIP
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<b>9.30</b>	Dave Rice, RIP
	<b>19.00</b>	Brigid McGinty, RIP
Thursday, 6 March	19.00	Josephine Sweeney, RIP
Friday, 7 March	9.30	Philip Jones, int.
Saturday, 8 March	9.30	Michael & Agnes Devine, RIP
	18.00	Phyllis Cooke & family, int.
Sunday, 9 March	9:15	Cliff & Nathaniel Jordan, int.
<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	11:00	Mary Bierne, RIP
	18.00	Pro populo

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

Christopher Browne, Joe Davenport, Pasquale de Stefano, Adrian Duggan, John Harrington, Kay Healy, Mary Hill, Anna McCarthy, Marilyn McDonald, Maria Nicholls, John O'Neill, Harriet Paterson, Jay St Clair, Rose Stanislaus, Gemma Sweny, &amp; the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents

**Catholic Curry Club**The Catholic Curry Club is for dads with children of primary school age or under. We meet in the Parish House basement for a talk with discussion continuing over curry. The next meeting is at **8.00 pm on Thursday, 13 March**. One of our members, Gareth Russell, will speak on Peter Kreeft's book, 'The God Who Loves You'. To place your curry order, contact Dario at [darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk)**Thanksgiving for Matrimony**The Cardinal invites couples celebrating significant anniversaries during 2025 to a Thanksgiving Mass for Matrimony in Westminster Cathedral for at **2.30 pm on Saturday, 17 May**. Couples are invited to renew their marital commitment, and we pray for them and their families. If you wish to attend, please let me have: your names, full postal address, wedding date and E-Mail address (or telephone number). A personal invitation will be sent to you closer to the date.**Repository**

The Repository is the small shop at the back of church open before and after the 11 am Mass on Sunday mornings. It stocks a range of Mass cards, candles, books, rosary beads and cards and items for baptisms, First Communions and Confirmations. Why not take a look?

**Curry Lunch**

Many thanks to those who organised and those who supported last Sunday's excellent curry lunch. We raised £300 for Mary's Meals, supporting hungry children around the world.

**2024 Accounts**

There is a summary of the 2024 parish accounts on the noticeboard at the back of church. Although we made a 'loss' of almost £64,000 last year, once the one-off cost of the redecoration and refurbishment of the church is taken into account, the underlying situation is healthy. Thank-you to everyone who supports the parish and allows us to function and flourish.

**Mass for Bereaved Parents**A Mass for bereaved parents is being celebrated in Westminster Cathedral at **2.00 pm on Saturday, 5 April**. You are very welcome to attend.