



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove
London W12 9BU
Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



9 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

£1,381.81

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

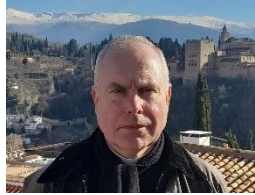
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Lawrence Dunham**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

First Sunday of Lent - Year C



Fr. Mark writes: At the start of Lent we hear the familiar account of Jesus's temptation in the wilderness. It is striking how easily the devil can quote Scripture. The Word of God is always about more than coming up with a sentence or two to support our own particular position. It is a challenge for us to know our Bibles better, that we are able to see Scripture in context and interpret it correctly. The Bible is not a book to be plundered for helpful soundbites, but an encounter with the living God Who both consoles and challenges those with ears to hear.

Rite of Election

We continue to pray for John, Tom, Michelle, Joshua, Verity, Daisy, Izzy, Amity, Joyce, Petronela, Slawomir, Rajbant, Lewis, Steven and Keith, who were accepted by the Cardinal at the Rite of Election in Westminster Cathedral yesterday as candidates to receive sacraments and become full members of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

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 the lives of many. 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. There is a retiring collection at the end of Mass today. Please use a donation envelope from the back of church, or the QR code to make your donation online.

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** this **Thursday, 13 March**. One of our members, Gareth Russell, will speak on Peter Kreeft's book, 'The God Who Loves You'. A great way to begin our spiritual preparation for Lent. To place your curry order, contact Dario at darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk

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.

Confessions

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

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

CAFOD is the Catholic bishops' agency for overseas relief and development. Their Lent Fast Day is this **Friday, 14 March**. We are asked to pray and make a Lenten sacrifice by eating simply and giving generously. This is a way for us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope' in this Jubilee Year. By giving practical help to people affected by war, poverty and climate change, they can build hope for their future. There will be a second collection at the end of the Masses next weekend – please take one of the CAFOD envelopes from the back of church so you can Gift Aid your donation, or give online at www.cafod.org.uk/envelope

Messy Family Project

Mike and Alicia Hernon gave a wonderful presentation to parents on Thursday evening. For those who weren't able to make it, you can listen to their podcasts at www.messyfamilyproject.org They are also running a Lenten programme for couples at www.cana90.org You can access this through the QR code on the poster at the back of church.

Readings at Sunday Mass

Deuteronomy 26:4-10 Romans 10:8-13 Luke 4:1-13

Psalm 91 Response: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory and praise to you, O Christ.****One does not live on bread alone,****but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.****Glory and praise to you, O Christ.**

Church cleaning: Saturday, 15 March: Catherine, Gina & Akosua.

Mass Intentions for Week: 8 - 16 March 2025

Saturday, 8 March	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
Monday, 10 March	9.30	Martin Hanley, RIP
Tuesday, 11 March	9.30	Mary Costello, RIP
Wednesday, 12 March	7.00	Sheila Smailes, RIP
Thursday, 13 March	19.00	Margaret & William McGovern, Anniv.
Friday, 14 March	9.30	Doreen McGuinness, RIP
Saturday, 15 March	9.30	Brian Hanley, RIP
	18.00	Mark Davenport, Anniv.
Sunday, 16 March	9:15	Mary Costello, RIP
<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	11:00	Mark Anthony Herbert, 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, Milly Redhead, Jay St Clair, Rose Stanislaus, Gemma Sweny, & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents

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.

Lourdes Pilgrimage: 25 July- 1 August

Cardinal Nichols will lead the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage to Our Lady's shrine at Lourdes this summer. Registration forms are available at <https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane or train are available. There are many volunteering opportunities for those who wish to serve. Applications to join this year's pilgrimage must be submitted by **30 April**.

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.

Adoration, Confessions & Benediction

Last autumn we began experimenting with moving the time for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions and Benediction from a Saturday morning to after the 6.00 pm on Sunday evenings. This allows more people to attend. A number have expressed their gratitude for this oasis of peace and prayer on a Sunday evening. The change will, therefore, be permanent. Part of our Lenten discipline is an increased commitment to prayer (as well as receiving the Lord's mercy in the sacrament of Confession). Perhaps we could avail ourselves of the opportunity during Sunday evenings in Lent.

Parish OfficeMonday, 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

Tabitha Brenninkmeijer

07746 697132

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**Young dads group**

Thurs. 8.00 pm monthly

Input, discussion and curry

darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk**Sunday Scriptures**

Fridays, 4.45-5.45 pm

For further information:

jroberts@thetablet.co.uk**Catholic Book Club**

Contact Lawrence

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.