



# 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)



**18 May 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

**£927.61**

**Thank-you**

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

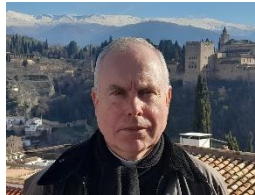
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Lawrence Dunham**

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

## Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year C



**Fr. Mark writes:** We continue to pray for our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV as the Mass of his Inauguration is celebrated in St. Peter's Square. People have asked whether his 'policies' will differ from those of Pope Francis. We haven't had a general election and change of government. Rather, one pope has succeeded another as the successor of St Peter. Popes bring their different personalities and experience to the office, but there will always be fundamental continuity. The job

Specification is to be a witness to the Resurrection, to strengthen his brothers and sisters, to maintain unity, to pass on the unchanging faith of the Church. We have seen enough of Pope Leo in the last week to realise that a personal relationship with Christ is paramount, that he is grounded in prayer and Scripture, and has a deep love for Our Lady and the Church Fathers. God bless our Pope.

### Priest Training Fund

Thank-you for your generosity in supporting the appeal for the Priest Training Fund last Sunday. The parish gave £732.40, in addition to any donations given electronically. If you were away last week, donations can be made at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations) Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood.

### John McKernan, Gerard ('Ged') Carolan & Noreen Hickey, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of John McKernan, Ged Carolan and Noreen Hickey. John's funeral Mass will be at **9.30 am** this **Tuesday, 20 May**. Ged's funeral Mass is at **9.30 am** this **Friday, 23 May**. Noreen's funeral Mass is at **11.00 am** on **Friday, 30 May**.

### First Holy Communion

Please pray for our children who will make their First Holy Communion at the Mass at **12 noon** this **Saturday, 24 May**. There will be no 9.30 am Mass this Saturday.

### Easter Offerings

The envelopes at the back of church are for Easter offerings. With Christmas offering, Mass stipends and stole fees, this income is treated differently to the normal collection. It is important to show the Diocese we have sufficient 'clergy income' to pay our priests. Also, this 'clergy income' is 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.

### Assisted Suicide

I am grateful to the three parishioners who accompanied me on Monday to visit our MP Andy Slaughter to make known our opposition to the assisted suicide proposals. Andy Slaughter was courteous and gave us an hour of his time. He made it clear, however, that, while he would examine the proposed safeguards, he supported the principle. By the time you read this, we should know whether the legislation will proceed. If it does, it will be a very sad and disturbing day in which Parliament alters the current presumption that human life is to be protected. Please pray for our legislators and all those affected by this proposal.

### Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope

Canon John O'Leary, Rector of Allen Hall Seminary and our former parish priest, will speak on Hope and the Holy Spirit at Allen Hall, 25 Beaufort Street, Chelsea SW3 5AA at 3.00 pm on Saturday, 7 June. You are invited to stay for refreshments, a tour of Allen Hall (built on the site of St Thomas More's house) and Vespers with the Allen Hall community. The afternoon finishes at 6 pm. To help plan for numbers, please register by email with Monica at [parector@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:parector@rcdow.org.uk) Just coming for the talk without staying for any other part of the afternoon is fine. However, kindly indicate for which additional elements of the programme you wish to stay.

**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

07956 260964

[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.

**Readings at Sunday Mass**

Acts 14:21b-27

Apocalypse 21:1-5a

John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Psalm 145 Response: I will bless your name for ever, my God and king.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

**A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Alleluia.**

Church cleaning: Friday, 23 May: Rose & Ruth.

## Mass Intentions for Week: 17 - 25 May 2025

Saturday, 17 May	18.00	Phyllis Cooke, int.
Sunday, 18 May	9:15	Patrick Openibo, RIP
<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	11:00	Pro populo
	18.00	Ruth O'Leary, RIP
Monday, 19 May	9.30	Loni Adams, Anniv.
Tuesday, 20 May	9.30	John McKernan, RIP: Funeral Mass
Wednesday, 21 May	7.00	Martin Walshe, RIP
Thursday, 22 May	19.00	Mary Scherer, RIP
Friday, 23 May	9.30	Gerard Carolan, RIP: Funeral Mass
Saturday, 24 May	9.30	<b>No Mass</b>
	12.00	First Holy Communion Children
	18.00	Felix Gimesz, RIP
Sunday, 25 May	9:15	Bernadette & Angela Bernard & Denise Lewis, RIP
<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	11:00	Andy Forkin, RIP
	18.00	Pro populo

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

Christopher Browne, 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

**Youth Conferences**

A determining factor in deciding whether a young person continues to practise faith can be getting away from their family and parish to attend a Catholic youth conference. They see for themselves the beauty of our faith, make like-minded friends and find they enjoy it. Conferences being held this summer include:

1. The Faith Summer Conference, 28 July-1 August at Ampleforth Abbey, York. There are compelling talks on the Eucharist, Mass and prayer, but also plenty of time for sport and socialising. Cost: £225/£200 students and unwaged. Subsidies available. Contact the conference coordinator Angela Hughes at [angela.hughes@blueyonder.uk](mailto:angela.hughes@blueyonder.uk) or visit [www.faith.org.uk/events](http://www.faith.org.uk/events)
2. Faith Summer Break, 11-14 August, St. Mary's School, Ascot. An exciting four days for 11-15 year olds combining both faith and fun activities in a relaxed holiday setting. The week is structured around getting to know God and each other and includes daily Mass, talks about the Catholic Faith, discussions, prayer, quizzes, art and craft, games, sports and a visit to Thorpe Park. More information: <https://www.faith.org.uk/events/faith-summer-break-2023-1-1>
3. Evangelium Conference, 15-17 August, Oratory School, Reading RG8 0PG. Sponsored by the CTS, an array of guest speakers on Catholic faith, life and culture aim to equip young Catholic adults aged 18-35 for mission. Cost: £159/£119 students and unwaged. (Early bird discount of £129 for bookings before 1 June.) To book visit [www.saintant.com/product/evangelium-2025](http://www.saintant.com/product/evangelium-2025) or call 01834 812643

Please see the posters and leaflets at the back of church for further information and QR codes.

**Good Counsel Network**

The Good Counsel Network is a Catholic pro-life pregnancy centre providing friendship, practical help and ongoing support of all kinds to assist pregnant women to choose life for their children. It runs pro-life vigils near an abortion centre in Ealing 10am - 4pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; and 10:30am - 4pm on Thursday. You are invited to join volunteers in prayer/offering help for an hour or two. We don't know whose presence and prayers at the vigils will make the difference to help a mother keep her child. Vigils are entirely peaceful and are held in accordance with government regulations. You are requested to ring 020 7723 1740 before attending.