



# 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)



**7 September 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

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Jack Harsley**

E-mail: [markvickers@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:markvickers@rcdow.org.uk)

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

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

## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C



**Fr. Mark writes:** I arrived in the parish ten years ago today. Those years seem (to me!) to have flown by. They have been eventful. Who would have imagined that we would have had to close the church during the pandemic? The church has been redecorated for the first time in a generation. The greatest joy has been preaching the Gospel, ministering the sacraments, accompanying people in our lives of faith. I love our parish. The nature of the parish continues to change.

We are blessed with a large and diverse congregation. I suspect the average age is younger now than it was then. I am conscious that I have not always got everything right, and apologise for any mistakes. I look forward, however, to moving forward with you in our shared discipleship of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Rev Theogenes Madushi

We say farewell to Deacon Theogenes, who returns to Rome this weekend after five weeks in London for language studies. We wish him well in his final months of preparation for priesthood.

### Jack Harsley

We welcome Jack Harsley as our parish Catechetical Co-ordinator. Jack is from Brough in East Yorkshire. He studied at the University of Hull and has worked in primary schools for the last five years. Jack is currently discerning priesthood for the Diocese of Middlesbrough.

### Summer Schedule

With the schools back, normal parish life resumes. There is tea and coffee again in the Parish House basement after the 9.15 am Mass. The 6.00 pm Sunday Mass, followed by Adoration, Confessions and Benediction, starts again today. The Children's Liturgy Group also resumes today. This is not a creche or a kindergarten, but the opportunity for those at the 9.15 Mass between Reception and School Year 3 to follow the readings in age appropriate language with activities.

### Good Shepherd School

The KS 2 children of the Good Shepherd School join us at the **9.30 am** Mass on **Monday, 8 September**.

### Baptism

We welcome Guy Codrington, who is baptised this weekend. The next baptism preparation sessions for parents attending Mass here each Sunday are in the Parish House at **7.30 pm** on **Monday, 8 and 15 September**. If you attend both sessions, we can arrange a date for the baptism after the second.

### The Seven Churches of the Revelation

I was privileged to visit a number of Scriptural sites on my trip to Turkey and Greece back in June. I will share thoughts and photos on the Seven Churches of the Book of Revelation to which St. John wrote his letters in the first three chapters of the Book of Revelation: the context, the cities, the content of the letters, and their relevance to us today. The talk is in the Parish House basement at **4.00 pm** this Sunday afternoon. All welcome. Tea and coffee on arrival.

### First Holy Communion

The First Confession and First Holy Communion programme starts with a parents' meeting in church at **3.00 pm** on **Sunday, 5 October**. The programme is for the children of families attending here Mass each Sunday who are entering school Year 3 next month. The commitment to Sunday Mass – before, during and after the programme – is crucial if we are to practise our own faith with integrity and help our children grow in their faith. The children meet in the Good Shepherd School on Sunday mornings during school term time (normally alternate weeks) and attend the 11 am Mass together afterwards. The celebration of First Holy Communion itself will be at two Masses at 12 noon on **Saturday, 16 and 23 May 2026**. Green application forms are available at the back of church.

**Last week's collection**

**£941.30**

**Thank-you**

### 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 Sunday Scriptures group meets in the Parish House basement at 4.45 pm on Fridays. All welcome.

## Food Bank

Thank-you for your donations. Please keep them coming. They are a lifesaver to many families. The food bank welcomes non-perishable foods, toiletries, laundry and cleaning products. (No clothes, books or electrical goods, please.)

## Readings at Sunday Mass

Wisdom 9:13-18

Philemon 9b-10, 12-17

Luke 14:25-33

Psalm 90 Response: O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Let your face shine forth on your servant,  
and teach me your decrees.**

**Alleluia.**

Church cleaning: Friday 12 September: Rose & Carmelina.

## Mass Intentions for Week: 6 - 14 September 2025

Saturday, 6 September	18.00	Louise Edington, RIP
Sunday, 7 September	9:15	Teresa Kudese, RIP
	11:00	In Thanksgiving
	18.00	Pro populo
Monday, 8 September	9.30	Kathleen Harkin, Anniv.
<i>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>		
Tuesday, 9 September	9.30	Jimmy O'Reilly, int.
Wednesday, 10 September	7.00	Maureen O'Reilly, int.
Thursday, 11 September	19.00	Sally Elais, int.
Friday, 12 September	9.30	Holy Souls
Saturday, 13 September	9.30	Jimmy O'Reilly, int.
<i>St. John Chrysostom</i>		
	18.00	Patrick McCormack, int
Sunday, 14 September	9:15	Darnell & Shani Jordan, int.
<i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	11:00	John Webster, RIP
	18.00	Pro populo

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

Christopher Browne, Pasquale de Stefano, John Harrington, Kay Healy, Mary Hill, Marilyn McDonald, Maria Nicholls, John O'Neill, Milly Redhead, Jay St Clair, Rose Stanislaus, Gemma Sweny, & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents.

## Fire Drill

We are required to have a fire drill every three years. This takes place at the end of today's Masses. Don't panic; it is only a drill. Please exit the church promptly, offering assistance to those who need it.

## Catholic Curry Club

This group for the dads of young children meets next in the Parish House basement at 8.00 pm on Thursday, 18 September. Professor Jacob Phillips will speak on freedom and obedience in our faith. Please notify Dario of curry orders: [darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk)

## Thinking of becoming a Catholic? RCIA

In the past the sacraments of baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion were normally received at a young age. Increasingly, this may not be the case – the reason for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. The RCIA group meets at **8 pm** most Tuesdays, starting on **Tuesday, 30 September**. It is for those previously of no faith or other faiths, other Christians who wish to become Catholics, and Catholics who missed out on sacraments when younger. We reflect on what Catholics believe, how we pray, and how we live our faith in the world. It is a journey of discovery and explanation which those in previous years found enormously fulfilling. There are no expectations. Only if right for the individual, do they receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, 4 April 2026. Several people have expressed an interest in joining the group. If this interests you, please contact me at [markvickers@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:markvickers@rcdow.org.uk) There are yellow leaflets with further details at the back of church.

## Catholic Secondary School Applications

I am available in the Parish House to sign priest references for Catholic secondary school applications (including VI Form transfers): **2-4.30 pm, Saturday, 27 September** and **6-8.30 pm, Monday, 13 October**. The parent/carer who attends Mass here and child should attend. Please bring the Certificate of Catholic Practice (one per school, having completed your child's details) and your child's baptism certificate (if the baptism did not take place here). There is **an appointment system**. To book an appointment, please E-Mail Jack, the catechist, at [shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk) letting him know which date(s) you can make. He will E-Mail you to confirm the time. In seeking a reference, you are asking the priest to confirm whether you have attended Mass each Sunday here over a number of years. If you have recently moved into the parish or attend Mass more regularly elsewhere, it makes sense to seek a reference from that other parish. (Primary school references will be offered later in the year.)