



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



19 October 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

£1,283.44

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

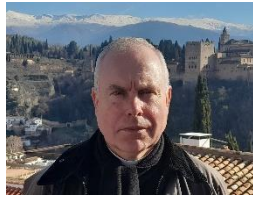
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Jack Harsley**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C



Fr. Mark writes: St. Paul urges us to engage with Scripture. 'All Scripture,' he reminds us, 'is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness'. It is important that we have a good overview of the Bible as a whole. The passages we hear at Mass are obviously only a small selection, even sometimes of the particular book of the Bible they are taken from. We need to hear God's whole message – a message of challenge and of consolation. The importance, therefore, of owning and reading our own Bible, of having a plan how to tackle it – starting probably with the Gospels, then St. Paul's Letters, the major prophets and the psalms.

World Mission Sunday

Today the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for world mission, through the second collection at the end of Mass. To donate, please use the Missio envelopes at the back of church, call 020 7821 9755 (during office hours) or visit www.missio.org.uk Please Gift Aid your donation, if possible.

Harvest Lunch

Many thanks to those who attended last Sunday's harvest lunch, those who made donations and all those who worked so hard to make it a success. £320 was raised for a new school in Cameroon built and equipped by parishioners.

Mum's & Toddlers Group

The mums and toddlers' group meets in the Parish House basement at **10.30 am** this **Friday, 24 October** sharing faith and friendship over tea, coffee, and toys. For more information, please contact Ellie at ashchurchmums@gmail.com

Annual Mass Count

There was an average of 596 people at Mass each Sunday in the parish over the last month, an increase of 8% over the preceding year. (The two evening Masses saw the greatest growth.) This confirms what we are hearing of a modest revival in Church attendance. We are still a little below the pre-pandemic figure, but it is encouraging that we seem to be a significantly younger congregation than a few years ago.

British Summer Time

British Summer Time ends next weekend. Please remember to put your clocks back one hour on Saturday evening to ensure you arrive at Mass at the correct time on Sunday.

Children's Liturgy Group

The Children's Liturgy group won't meet next Sunday or the following Sunday due to the school half-term. It resumes at the 9.15 am Mass on Sunday, 9 November.

Catholic Primary School Applications

Fr. Mark is available in the Parish House to sign priest references for primary school applications: **2-4.30 pm** on **Saturday, 22 November**; **6-8 pm** on **Monday, 8 December**; and **6-7 pm** on **Friday, 9 January**. The parent/carer who attends Mass here should attend. Please bring the Certificate of Catholic Practice (one per school, having completed your child's details) and their 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 indicating which of the three sessions you can attend. He will confirm the time. In seeking a reference, you are asking the priest to confirm that your child is a baptised Catholic and you have attended Mass here each Sunday 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.

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

Tabitha Brenninkmeijer

07956 260964

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 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

Exodus 17:8-13 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 Luke 18:1-8

Psalm 121 Response: Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The word of God is living and active,
discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
Alleluia.**

Church cleaning: Saturday, 25 October: Catherine, Carmelina & Gina.

Mass Intentions for Week: 18 - 26 October 2025

Saturday, 18 October	18.00	Pro populo
Sunday, 19 October	9:15	Maureen & Tom Roberts, RIP
	11:00	Dave Castle, RIP
	18.00	Annie & Patrick Joseph Murphy, RIP
Monday, 20 October	9.30	Michael, Agnes & Breda Devine, RIP
Tuesday, 21 October	9.30	Alston Joseph Gibbs, RIP
Wednesday, 22 October	7.00	Martin & Solomon Roach, int
Thursday, 23 October	19.00	Della Panting, int.
Friday, 24 October	9.30	Colin & Yvonne Williams, int.
Saturday, 25 October	9.30	Michael Nee, RIP
	18.00	Gleeson family, RIP
Sunday, 26 October	9:15	Jenny Storey, Anniv.
	11:00	Jack & Bridget Downey, Anniv.
	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.

Our Beloved Dead

November is the month when we pray particularly for the faithful departed:

1. **All Souls Day** will be kept this year on **Monday, 3 November**. Mass will be offered for the Holy Souls at **9.30 am** (when we are joined by the School) and at **7.00 pm**.
2. There are Holy Souls envelopes at the back of church. If you take one and return it with a list of your deceased family and friends and any Mass offering, Mass will be offered for them.
3. Our Parish Requiem Mass is at **7.00 pm on Friday, 7 November** for the repose of the souls of parishioners who have died over the last year. They will be prayed for by name and there will be the opportunity to light candles for them during the Mass. I have contacted the families to invite them to the Mass.
4. **Sunday, 9 November** is **Remembrance Sunday**. The **11.00 am** Mass will be a Requiem for the war dead.

Marriage Preparation

Catholics should marry in church to receive all the graces and blessings God wishes to give and we need for married and family life to flourish. Whether you plan marrying in the UK or overseas in 2026, there is a certain amount of documentation and preparation to be undertaken here. It is relatively straight forward provided a start is made at an early stage. If you plan to marry in 2026, please speak to Fr. Mark. One of the requirements is attendance at a marriage preparation course. We will have a course here over two afternoons, **2-5 pm, Saturday, 31 January** and **7 February**. This is the only course we will provide in the parish in 2026, although it may be possible to attend courses elsewhere.

Catholic Teaching Internships

The diocesan Education Department offers a Catholic Leadership Programme to increase the number of Catholic teachers and promote teaching as a vocation. Paid internships allow Catholic university students to spend three weeks working in a Catholic school. There is a particular focus on RE, but the programme also welcomes students interested in other subjects and the primary sector. Bursaries are offered to pursuing QTS in RE. For more information: <https://education.rcdow.org.uk/working-in-catholic-education/leadership/> Applications close on 30 November 2025.

Dilexi Te

Pope Leo's first Apostolic Exhortation, 'I have loved you,' concerns care for the poor. It can be read at https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20251004-dilexi-te.html