



# Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

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[www.rcshepherdsbush.org](http://www.rcshepherdsbush.org)



**1 March 2026**

## 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**

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## Second Sunday of Lent - Year A



**Fr. Mark writes:** From the very beginning, faith has been about journey and pilgrimage. That necessarily involves disruption, a willingness to be uprooted from the familiar. We see that in today's first reading with Abraham, 'our father in faith'. God calls Abraham to leave his home and his own people in order that he can encounter God.

Our faith may not require the same physical upheaval, but it will in some way require us to say farewell with a lifestyle and circumstances with which we were perhaps very comfortable and unwilling to leave behind. This can be part of the 'suffering for the gospel' of which St. Paul speaks. It is the experience of the apostles and all disciples. And yet it is not a call to endless wandering and isolation. We can never outdo God in generosity. He will give us a new family and friends. He calls us to our true homeland and to the Light, which is Christ our Lord.

### CAFOD Lent Fast Day

CAFOD is the Catholic bishops' agency for overseas relief and development. Last Friday was their Lent Fast Day. We were asked to fast and help some of the most needy people in the world. This year CAFOD is highlighting how donations help communities in South Sudan, Zimbabwe and Bangladesh who are striving to grow food and care for their families despite increasingly severe droughts and floods. There is a second collection at the end of this Mass – and CAFOD Gift Aid envelopes at the back of church, or give online at [www.cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://www.cafod.org.uk/envelope)

### Lenten Talks

These Lenten talks give us the opportunity to come together with our Anglican neighbours from St. Saviour's, Wendell Park. We look forward to welcoming the Rev Chris Lee and his parishioners here at **8.00 pm** this **Thursday, 5 March**, when he will speak on prayer. This will be followed by Night Prayer of the Church, concluding by 9.00 pm. There will be further talks on almsgiving and fasting on 19 and 26 March.

### Seamus Hubbort, Lucy O'Brien & John O'Neill, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Lucy O'Brien, Seamus Hubbort and John O'Neill. Seamus's funeral Mass is at **9.30 am** this **Friday, 6 March**. Lucy's funeral Mass will be at **11.30 am** next **Friday, 13 March**.

### 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 starting this Friday.

### Catholic Curry Club

The Catholic Curry Club is for fathers with children of primary school age or under. The next meeting will be in the Parish House basement at **8.00 pm** on **Thursday, 12 March**. Fr. George Bowen is a member of the London Oratory, a former chaplain of the Oratory School. He is the person who saw through the recent declaration of St. John Henry Newman as a Doctor of the Church. He will speak on 'Newman: the Ideal of the Teacher'. For more information or to place your curry order, please contact Dario at [darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk)

### Last week's collection

**£1,335.43**

**Thank-you**

### Diocesan Lenten Appeal

The annual diocesan Lenten Appeal will take place on the weekend of 14/15 March to support the work of the Church in the areas of youth & evangelisation, social action, education, and marriage & family life. Your donations help young people discover more about their faith, help feed vulnerable families, support the next generation of Catholic leaders, and support couples in crisis.

**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

[shepherdsbushg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:shepherdsbushg@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**

The Sunday Scripture 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**

Genesis 12:1-4a      2 Timothy 1:8b-10      Matthew 17:1-9

Psalm 33    Response: May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O LORD.

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.**

**From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:**

**'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.**

**Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.**

Church cleaning:      Saturday 7 March: Harriet, Nancy & Anna.

**Mass Intentions for Week: 28 February - 8 March 2026**

Saturday, 28 February	18.00	John (Sean) Gleeson, Anniv.
Sunday, 1 March	9:15	Pro populo
<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>	11:00	Michael Nee, Anniv.
	18.00	Sherry & Jo Samele & family, int.
Monday, 2 March	9.30	Zadok & Elijah Roach, int.
Tuesday, 3 March	9.30	Mary Fitzgerald, int.
Wednesday, 4 March	7.00	Holy Souls
Thursday, 5 March	19.00	Roy Panting, int.
Friday, 6 March	9.30	Seamus Hubbort, RIP Funeral
Saturday, 7 March	9.30	John Conroy, RIP
	18.00	Winnie Corrigan, RIP
Sunday, 8 March	9:15	Pro populo
<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>	11:00	David Oliver, Anniv.
	18.00	Mary Scherer, Anniv.

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

Christopher Browne, Pasquale de Stefano, James Gerraghty, John Harrington, Kay Healy, Mary Hill, Georgie Ivors, Marilyn McDonald, Maria Nicholls, Milly Redhead, Jay St. Clair, Mary St. Pierre, Rose Stanislaus, Gemma Sweny, Kelly Young & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents.

**Passion Play**

RISE Theatre is putting on a powerful one-hour drama at St Thomas of Canterbury School, Estcourt Road, Fulham SW6 7HB at **7.30 pm** next **Tuesday, 10 March**. Rise Theatre's unique style creates a fast-paced, emotionally impacting performance to enrich our Lenten devotion. For tickets visit [www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatre) or call St Thomas' Parish Office: 020 7385 4040. Cost: £10 or £5 for under 16 years. For further information see the poster at the back of church.

**Confession**

We should all 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, Fr. Gerard Sheehan, will be available to hear Confessions at all the Sunday Masses the weekend of **21/22 March**.

**Lenten Concert**

Westminster Cathedral Choir and the Britten Sinfonia are performing a meditative concert at the Cathedral at **6.45 pm** on **Wednesday, 18 March**. The programme consists of Sir James Macmillan's setting of the *Stabat Mater* (the ancient hymn contemplating Mary's sorrow at the foot of the Cross) and Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*. A 50% discount is being offered for certain seats. Visit <https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F00638BCD835BA6?did=50off> and use the Password 'WC SBDO'. Before the concert Sir James Macmillan will be in conversation with Fr. Patrick van der Vorst, the Cathedral Precentor and founder of Christian Art, who spoke here last year.

**Catholic Lenten Online Bible Study**

A parishioner has found this helpful and recommends it to others. This is a free online Bible study programme taking place at 7.00 pm on the Tuesday evenings of Lent led by Mauro and Janet Iannicelli of the Come & See Ministry. Each session lasts one hour and offers clear insight into the text of the Sunday Mass readings. Registration at <https://comeandsee.org/lenten-bible-studies> Recordings of previous sessions can be viewed at the portal.

**Loop System**

The sound engineer returned during the week. There has been a problem with the induction loop system. He has replaced the system, and, hopefully, this will make a significant difference for those with hearing impairment.