



# 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)



**17 May 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

### 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

### Funerals

For those who attended

Mass here or were

resident in the parish

**Last week's collection**

**£1,141.11**

**Thank-you**

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)

## Seventeenth Sunday of Easter - Year A



**Fr. Mark writes:** We are left waiting – as were Our Lady, the apostles and the first disciples. Jesus has returned to His heavenly Father. They wait for what He promised – no doubt not understanding entirely what that was and what it would involve.

This waiting is not, however, an aimless hanging around. It is an eager, active waiting, full of anticipation. Their time is spent united in prayer – with Mary, the Mother of God, in their midst. And this is how the Church has traditionally used these days between Ascension and Pentecost – as a period of more intense prayer. We should be praying insistently for the gifts of the Holy Spirit, particularly those which we, or those we know, stand most in need of. It may be peace, comfort, healing, strength or enlightenment. It is also a time to pray for Christian unity. The apostles didn't have to wait long, and nor do we. Pentecost and the Holy Spirit arrive next Sunday.

### Welcome

Congratulations to Angelina Castro-Tagarro, who is baptised this weekend.

### Vocations

Archbishop Richard has asked us this month to pray the rosary and make a Holy Hour for vocations to the priesthood. We will do this after the 6.00 pm Mass this (Sunday) evening for the intention of our parish priests and all clergy serving in the Diocese of Westminster.

### Marian Procession

The Good Shepherd School invite us to join them at 35 Gayford Road for their annual May procession in honour of Our Lady at **10.30 am** this **Tuesday, 19 May**. There will be the crowning of Our Lady, hymns, the rosary and the laying of flowers before Our Lady.

### Catholic Curry Club

The Catholic Curry Club is for dads with children of primary school age or under. We meet next in the Parish House basement at **8.00 pm** this **Thursday, 21 May**. There are probably more misconceptions concerning Opus Dei than any other organisation within the Church. Fr. Gerard Sheehan, who grew up and went to school locally, and is a regular visitor to the parish, will explain how Opus Dei fulfils the mission of Vatican II I helping priests and lay folk grow in holiness. Curry orders to Dario: [darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk)

### Daily Mass

There is no 9.30 am Mass this **Saturday, 23 May**. Please pray for the further seventeen children who will be receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend.

### Formation Co-ordinator

For many years we have had someone discerning their vocation helping in the parish, with particular responsibility for catechesis. That has had many advantages, not least encouraging a number of them to proceed towards the priesthood. A disadvantage has been the lack of continuity. Most have served for one year, and then a new candidate has to be trained up each year.

From September we are proposing a change. We are seeking a permanent, part-time employee, who will not be resident in the Parish House. They will have responsibility, working with me and the volunteer catechists, for catechesis – and also for the spiritual formation of those not in sacramental programmes. They will not be involved in the liturgy and sacristy, as in the past. The role will be for 15-20 hours a week during school term-time at £20 per hour. Details on the position appear on the diocesan website – <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/formation-co-ordinator-job-ref-862-shepb/> Online applications can be submitted by 25 May.

**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: 07599 503330

**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**

Acts 1:12-14 1 Peter 4:13-16 John 17:1-11a

Psalm 27 Response: I believe I shall see the LORD'S goodness in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

**I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord.**

**I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.**

**Alleluia.**

Church cleaning: Friday, 22nd May: Alexandra & Michelle.

**Mass Intentions for Week: 16 - 24 May 2026**

Saturday, 16 May	18.00	Pro populo
Sunday, 17 May	9:15	Michelle Delaney, RIP
<i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>	11:00	Micil Nee, RIP
	18.00	Mary Fletcher, Anniv.
Monday, 18 May	9.30	Diane Mulligan, RIP
Tuesday, 19 May	9.30	Frank Kenny, RIP
Wednesday, 20 May	7.00	Charity & Sophia Roach, int.
Thursday, 21 May	19.00	Patrick & Mary Farron, Anniv.
Friday, 22 May	9.30	John Lord, int.
Saturday, 23 May	9.30	No Mass
	12.00	First Holy Communion children
	18.00	Gleeson family, RIP
Sunday, 24 May	9:15	Bernadette & Angela Bernard & Daniel Lewis, RIP
<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	11:00	Pro populo
	18.00	Maria Samele, RIP

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

Christopher Browne, Francis Day, 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, & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents.

**Scott Hahn**

Dr Scott Hahn is a former Presbyterian minister and a prolific author. He is one of the most famous and accessible Catholic Scripture scholars of the last generation. He will be giving two talks, on the Eucharist and the Lord's Prayer, at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, London SE1 7HY (Lambeth North Underground) at **7.00 pm** on **Thursday, 28 May**. Tickets are £20. To book or for further information, scan the QR code on the poster at the back of church or visit <https://rcaos.org.uk/news-events/events/dr-scott-hahn-28-may-2026/>

**Mass for Children & Adults with Additional Needs**

Fr. Bernard Akoeso will celebrate Mass for children and adults with additional needs at Holy Cross parish, Parsons Green at **2.00 pm** on **Saturday, 27 June**, followed by light refreshments. All welcome, especially parishioners and visitors with additional needs, together with their families, friends and carers.

**Red Boxes 2025**

The parish raised £1,306.37 through the Missio red boxes, which people keep in their homes, collecting for the missions. Thank-you for supporting our missionaries overseas through your prayers and financial assistance. For further information, visit [www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk)

**Sr. Mary David Totah, OSB**

'True Christian freedom is not the freedom to do as one pleases; it is ultimately the freedom to give oneself without reserve, imitating the folly of Christ, the ability to lay down our lives in perfect self-offering to the Father, as Christ did,' *The Joy of God*

**Magnificat**

It is good to see a significant number of parishioners using *Magnificat* as a spiritual resource. It contains the readings and prayers for daily Mass, morning and evening prayers, spiritual reflections, and short articles on the saints and Catholic art. It is published each month, with a special issue for Holy Week. Helpfully, it is sufficiently compact to fit in a pocket or bag, so can be read while on the move. An annual subscription is £69. Available from [www.magnificat.com](http://www.magnificat.com) or call 0203 882 9432. Something which we can benefit from ourselves or give as a gift to others.