



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



3 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

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year A



Fr. Mark writes: If we could only see or experience God, then we would believe. Shepherd Sunday. There is nothing new in that attitude. It is what the apostle Philip says in today's Gospel. He gets short shrift from Jesus: 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know Me, Philip? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father.'

After the coming of Christ, no one can say we don't know God. It is quite clear from this Gospel passage, and so many others, that Jesus claims to be God. God loves us so much that He came among us. If we want to know God better, we spend time with Jesus: in prayer, in the sacraments, in the Scriptures. It is never time wasted. It is the opportunity to know Him and to love Him.

Vocations Sunday/Priest Training Fund

Thank-you for all those who supported last week's second collection for the Priest Training Fund. We raised £565 – in addition to donations made electronically. Any further donations can be made online at www.rcdow.org.uk/PriestTrainingFund or using the Gift Aid envelopes at the back of church.

Archbishop Richard asks us to pray the rosary spend a Holy Hour in the company of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament praying for vocations. We will do this after the 6.00 pm Mass this evening for the intention of those currently discerning the call to priesthood.

Aquete Coker, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Aquete Coker. His funeral Mass will be at **11.00 am on Friday, 8 May**. This will take the place of the 9.30 am parish Mass.

Safeguarding

The Diocese of Westminster requires all clergy, employees and volunteers to complete online safeguarding training. This applies to all parish volunteers, whether or not they have contact with children and vulnerable adults in their role. The Level Module is relatively straightforward and takes around one hour to complete. It can be accessed at the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency training platform: <https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/course/westminsterarchdiocese> Once you have completed the training, please send a copy of the certificate to Tabitha, our parish safeguarding representative, at shepherdsbushsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk If you are unable to complete the training online, please let us know and we will organise a training session in person. Thank-you for your understanding and cooperation.

Baptism Preparation Sessions

Congratulations to Kellan Ghezzehey-Gee and Verity Linden-Rennie, who are baptised this weekend. Given the importance of the sacrament, children should be brought to baptism as soon as possible. The next baptism preparation sessions are at **7.30 pm** this **Tuesday, 5 May** and **19 May**. If you attend both sessions, we can arrange a date for the baptism after the second session. The sessions are for parents who have been attending Mass here each Sunday and who wish to have a first child baptised. If you have attended baptism preparation sessions here for an older child, we can simply arrange a baptism date for younger children.

Assisted Suicide

A government with a massive parliamentary majority made clear that it was determined to support a Private Member's Bill legislating for assisted suicide. Last week that legislation failed. This is real testimony to the power of prayer, the lobbying of so many people, and the brave and determined opposition of many good parliamentarians of all parties. It is a cause for quiet celebration – and an opportunity to ensure that those who are at the end of life receive the hospice and other care to which they are entitled. We must continue to be vigilant in defending human life at all stages.

Last week's collection

£1,227.08

Thank-you

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

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

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

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 6:1-7

1 Peter 2:4-9

John 14:1-12

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

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

Alleluia.

Church cleaning: Saturday, 9th May: Harriet, Nancy & Anna

Mass Intentions for Week: 2 - 10 May 2026

Saturday, 2 May	18.00	Michael Gleeson, Anniv.
Sunday, 3 May	9:15	Pro populo
<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	11:00	Joe Davenport, Anniv.
	18.00	Attilio Antonio Samele, Anniv.
Monday, 4 May	9.30	Eduartina Antunes de Castro, RIP
<i>English Martyrs</i>		
Tuesday, 5 May	9.30	John, Rosemarie, Timothy, Stephen Healy & Sèan Doyle, RIP
Wednesday, 6 May	7.00	Holy Souls
Thursday, 7 May	19.00	Roy & Della Panting, int.
Friday, 8 May	11.00	Aquete Coker, RIP: Funeral
Saturday, 9 May	9.30	Simon Comfit, RIP
	18.00	Annie & Patrick Joseph Murphy, RIP
Sunday, 10 May	9:15	Kathleen Cummings, RIP
<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	11:00	Coilin Nee, RIP
	18.00	Pro populo

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, & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents.

Catholic Youth Conferences

Attending a Catholic conference can be a decisive step towards young people owning faith for themselves, discovering that it can be joyful and meaningful, making new friends. Conferences include:

1. The Faith Summer Session for those 16+ taking place at Ampleforth Abbey in North Yorkshire, 27-31 July. A mixture of social, sporting, spiritual and catechetical activities. Daily Mass and prayer, and a series of talks on what it means to be human. For further information see the poster and leaflets at the back of church or visit <https://www.faith.org.uk/events/faith-summer-session-2024-1-1>
2. The Faith Summer Break for those aged 11-15, taking place at St. Mary's, Ascot, 10-13 August. A combination of faith and fun activities, including a day trip to Thorpe Park, in a relaxed, holiday setting. See <https://www.faith.org.uk/events/faith-summer-break-2026>
3. The Evangelium Conference for those aged 18-35, taking place at the Oratory School, Reading, 21-23 August. A conference on Catholic faith, life and culture to make young Catholic adults effective for mission. See <https://www.evangelium.co.uk/>

Chiswick Parish: Office & Property Manager

This full-time permanent role at Our Lady of Grace parish is for 37.5 hours per week, Monday-Friday. Salary: £18 per hour/£35K pa. Closing date: 12 noon, 5 May. For the job description and other information, please visit the diocesan website: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/office-and-property-manager-job-ref-857-chisw/> Diocesan HR will short-list candidates on the basis of each application and its merit in meeting the job description criteria.

Redecoration Works

Please take care if using the Parish House. The corridors and stairwell are being redecorated for the first time in twenty years. Hopefully, the work will be completed by the end of the week.

Sr. Mary David Totah, OSB

'If God created us and called us for His glory, there can be no real conflict between our vocation and fulfilment, between God's will, God's programme for us, and our interests. We are sometimes tempted to thin especially in times of discouragement, that our happiness lies one way and God's will another; or that God sometimes demands the sacrifice of our happiness ...

God's glory is going to be realised by the unfolding of all the potentialities He has put into our hearts. The glory of God and our fulfilment are quite inseparable,' *The Joy of God*