



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



12 July 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

Mon.: 10.00-14.30

Tues. & Fri.: 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

£1253.46

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Awaiting appointment**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



Fr. Mark writes: We do our part, but the outcome lies in God's hands. That is the message of both the Parable of the Sower and the prophet Isaiah. I in many ways that is a great comfort. As the saints have said, we aren't called to be successful in this world; we are called to be faithful, to play our part. We are not off the hook. Without the sower, there will be no harvest. God gives us an essential role to play. Yet we don't have to worry about what happens after we have done our part. That is a matter of God's grace and human freedom. We can see, however, how potentially great the results are when we do cooperate with God: an increase of 30, 60, even 100 fold.

Catholic Student Network

Many thanks for your donations to the Catholic Student Network last week. We raised £1,124, supporting Catholic societies in our universities and helping form a new generation of Catholic leaders.

Baptism

Congratulations to Arlo Allcott, who is 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** tomorrow **Monday, 13 and 20 July**. If you attend both sessions, we can arrange a date for the baptism after the second session. The sessions are for parents who attend Mass here each Sunday and 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.

Cake Sale

Two of our parishioners, Zitha and Malcolm, have worked enormously hard to help found and fund a Catholic school in Cameroon. There will be a cake sale after the 9.15 and 11 am Masses this (Sunday) morning to raise funds to support their work.

Good Shepherd School

We welcome the Year 6 children from the Good Shepherd School who celebrate their Leavers' Mass at **9.30 am** this **Tuesday, 14 July**.

Catholic Curry Club

The Catholic Curry Club is for dads with children of primary school age or under. The final meeting of the school year will, as previously, be a picnic in Wendell Park at **8.00 pm** this **Thursday, 16 July**. Please bring food and drink to share.

Claire Flynn, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Claire Flynn. Her funeral Mass will be at **11.30 am** on **Tuesday, 4 August**.

First Holy Communion

The 2027 programme for First Confession and First Holy Communion will start with a parents' meeting in church at **3.00 pm** on **Sunday, 4 October**. The programme is for the children of families already attending Mass here each Sunday who are entering school Year 3 in September. 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 specifically for the children at 12 noon on **Saturday, 15 and 22 May 2026**. Application forms will be available at Mass from the beginning of September.

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: 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

Sunday Scriptures Group

The Sunday Scripture group meets in the Parish House at 4.45 pm on Fridays. After this Friday, the group resumes on 4 September.

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

Isaiah 55:10:11

Romans 8:18-23

Matthew 13:1-23

Psalm:65 Response: Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;

all who find him will live for ever.

Alleluia.

Church cleaning: Saturday, 18 July: Catherine & Gina.

Year A - Volume 2, 102-105

Mass Intentions for Week: 11 - 19 July 2026

Saturday, 11 July	18.00	Pro populo
Sunday, 12 July	9:15	Bernard & Aaron Webb, int.
	11:00	Dennis Flynn, Anniv.
	18.00	Jack Fletcher, Anniv.
Monday, 13 July	9.30	Frank Fitzgerald, Anniv.
Tuesday, 14 July	9.30	Henrick & Stephen Lewis, RIP
Wednesday, 15 July	7.00	Mary Parkinson, Anniv.
St Bonaventure		
Thursday, 16 July	19.00	Murphy family, int.
Friday, 17 July	9.30	Patricia Taland, int.
Saturday, 18 July	9.30	John Bergin, Anniv.
	18.00	Gleeson family, RIP
Sunday, 19 July	9:15	Lucy O'Brien, RIP
	11:00	Joseph Downey & Angelique Wall, RIP
	18.00	Pro populo

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.

Sea Sunday

Next Sunday the Church prays for those who live and work at sea. Seafarers and fishermen play a vital role, working in difficult and hazardous conditions. Many seafarers are Catholics and the Church provides chaplaincy ministry to them. Your support can make a huge difference. You can donate to next week's second collection, visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5.

Catechists' Courses

The Diocese of Westminster is offering free courses for catechists on three Saturdays after the summer. All are being held in Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street SW1P 1QN (by Westminster Cathedral and Victoria Station) between 10 am and 4 pm:

1. 12 September: Introduction to Catechesis & Practical Skills for Catechists;
2. 26 September: The Spirituality of the Catechist, and Baptism and the Catechumenal Model;
3. 17 October: First Confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation & Children's Liturgy

For further information or to book tickets, visit: <https://rcdow.org.uk/events/>

Thinking of becoming a Catholic? RCIA

Jesus Christ calls everyone to the greatest degree of unity imaginable with Himself through receiving the sacraments of baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion as members of the Catholic Church. This is reflected in our faith in Him and lives of worship, truth, morality and compassion.

In the past these sacraments 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** mostly on Tuesdays, starting on **Monday, 21 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 First Communion and/or Confirmation when they were 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 have found enormously fulfilling. Sixteen adults were baptised, confirmed and received here last Easter – probably the highest number ever. There are no expectations. Only if right for the individual, do they receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil on **Saturday, 27 March 2027**. Several people have expressed an interest in joining the group in the autumn. If this interests you, please contact Fr. Mark at markvickers@rcdow.org.uk There are yellow leaflets with further details at the back of church.