



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



30 August 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

£805.67

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

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



Fr. Mark writes: St. Paul makes a challenging appeal: 'Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.' St. Paul is writing to the first Christians in Rome, the centre of the most powerful empire the world had ever known, an empire which didn't tolerate opposition. And he urges his fellow believers to offer their very bodies 'as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God'. Paul knew what he was talking about. He himself was to be martyred in Rome for witnessing to the faith a few years later. It meant rejecting the idolatry and immorality which were sanctioned by the Roman elite. Do we likewise worship God with our bodies, rejecting the immorality and materialism of our time, allowing our minds to be renewed in Christ?

Holiday

I am very grateful to Fr. Christopher, who will be saying the parish Masses while I am on my annual holiday. I am back in the parish on Wednesday, 9 September.

SVP Summer Raffle

The SVP exists to help anyone locally in any kind of need. One of their greatest fundraising initiatives is their annual raffle. Last year this raised more than £95,000, supported by many parishes like ours. The first prize, drawn on 24 September is £5,000, a second prize of £1,000, and 15 prizes of £100 each. Tickets are on sale at the back of church at the Masses this weekend.

David Reynolds

David Reynolds is a parishioner who will begin his training for the priesthood for the Diocese of Westminster at the English College in Valladolid next month. As David does not have a family home in the Diocese, the Parish House here will be his base during holidays from seminary. Please pray for David as he commences his formation.

Summer Schedule

The Sunday evening Masses resume next Sunday, 6 September. (Adoration, Confessions and Benediction will resume the following week.) The Children's Liturgy Group at the 9.15 am Mass also resumes next Sunday, 6 September, as does tea and coffee in the Parish House basement after the 9.15 am Mass.

May Hanlon & Nigel Quinnen, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of May Hanlon and Nigel Quinnen. May's funeral Mass will be at **12.30 pm on Friday, 11 September**. Nigel was secretary of our SVP. His funeral Mass will be at Ealing Abbey at **12 noon on Tuesday, 15 September**.

Luminescence

Until the end of September Luminescence is transforming Westminster Cathedral into a 50-minute fully immersive world of sound and light. Actor Hugh Bonneville narrates the story of London and the Cathedral. Tickets must be booked in advance. Further information on the flyers at the back of church.

Confirmation

'I am tired of moans about the lapsing of the young. If the young leave the Church, it is not on account of bad will. It is because the claims of Christians seem irrelevant to the trials that await them. This calls for self-examination on the part of those of us who are adult Catholics. Do we live our Christ-conformed life in such a way that we merit the trust of the young? We should not just observe their Confirmation. We should confirm our own anointing, reviving graces received,' Bishop Erik Varden, *Towards Dawn*

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 a break for the summer, the group resumes this Friday, 4 September.

Food Bank

Thank-you for your donations. 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

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:21-27

Psalm: 63 Response: For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us. Alleluia.

Church cleaning: Friday, 4 September: Alexandra & Michelle.

Mass Intentions for Week: 29 August – 6 September 2026

Saturday, 29 August	18.00	Maria Hall, int.
Sunday, 30 August	9:15	Pro populo
	11:00	Kathleen McDermott, RIP
	18.00	No Mass
Monday, 31 August	9.30	Mike Henry, RIP
Tuesday, 1 September	9.30	Sinead, Dawn & Michael Carey, RIP
Wednesday, 2 September	7.00	Holy Souls
Thursday, 3 September	19.00	Roger Ford, RIP
St Gregory the Great		
Friday, 4 September	9.30	Patrick O'Grady-Walsh, RIP
Saturday, 5 September	9.30	Rocco Antonio Nisco, (40 th) Anniv.
	18.00	James Anthony Doherty, RIP
Sunday, 6 September	9:15	Pro populo
	11:00	Frank & Seamus McDermott & Mark Herbert, RIP
	18.00	Annie & Patrick Joseph Murphy, 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.

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 **Tuesday, 29 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.

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 are available at the back of church. Please return the completed forms to the Parish House by the end of September. (Please keep the list of dates of the sessions for your records.)