



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



27 September 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

£1,393.76

Home Mission Sunday

£489.28

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

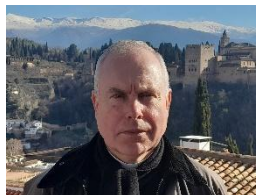
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Awaiting appointment**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



Fr. Mark writes: Actions speak louder than words. God is not particularly in long prayers and lots of devotions – if this is not translated into the way we behave, our practical concern for God and neighbour. This is not, of course, to say that prayer is wrong. Real prayer brings us into contact with God, opens us to His promptings, and gives us the grace to translate intention into action. If, however, we are just going through the motions, there is little point. Jesus makes that plain in today's parable. If it is simply a choice between fine words and actually putting into practice the will of God, then He will always prefer the latter.

Comings and Goings

David Reynolds finally received his visa allowing him to commence seminary at Valladolid in Spain last week. We pray for him as he starts his studies for the priesthood.

We will be joined on Sundays over the coming year by Nhlakanipho Mkhize, a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Johannesburg. Having completed his doctoral studies in Oxford, he worked for seven years as a material scientist in South Africa before commencing studies for the priesthood at Allen Hall.

Brendan Doherty, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Brendan Doherty. His funeral Mass will be at **9.30 am** tomorrow **Monday, 28 September**.

CAFOD Harvest Day

CAFOD is the Bishops' agency for overseas development and relief work. This Friday, 2 October is their Harvest Fast Day, when we are invited to pray, eat simply and give generously. We can help communities support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school with better access to water, nourishing school meals and gardens where food can be grown, even during times of drought. Please take a Gift Aid envelope from the back of church. You can make a donation in the second collection after Mass next Sunday or online at www.cafod.org.uk/envelope

First Holy Communion

The First Holy Communion programme starts with a parents' meeting in church at **3.00 pm** next **Sunday, 4 October**. It is for the children in school Year 3 whose families attend Mass here each Sunday. 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. First Holy Communion itself will be at two Masses at 12 noon on **Saturday, 15 and 22 May 2026**. Please return the completed application forms to the Parish House ASAP.

Catholic Curry Club

The Catholic Curry Club is for dads with children of primary school age or under. We meet next at **8.00 pm** on **Thursday, 1 October**. Joanna Whitaker will talk about the Nehemiah Project, which provides a recovery programme for those, often homeless or coming out of prison, helping them overcome addictions and make a fresh start. Please notify Dario of your curry order: darioesposito79@yahoo.co.uk

Installation

You are very welcome to join me for my installation, together with three others, as a Canon of Westminster Cathedral. This takes place during Vespers at the Cathedral at **4.45 pm** on **Tuesday, 6 October**, followed by Mass. There will also be an opportunity to celebrate the installation and my sixtieth birthday at a sung Mass here at **6.00 pm** on **Saturday, 10 October**, followed by a reception at the Good Shepherd School. Please bring finger food to share.

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. All welcome.

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.) Donations can be left in the crate in the church porch.

Readings at Sunday Mass

Ezekiel 18:25:28

Philippians 2:1-11

Matthew 21:28-32

Psalm: 25 Response: Remember your compassion, O LORD.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,

and I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia.

Church cleaning:

Saturday, 3 October: Harriet, Catherine, Anna & Elettra.

Year A - Volume 2, 134-136

Mass Intentions for Week: 26 September – 4 October 2026

Saturday, 26 September

18.00 Mary Conway, RIP

Sunday, 27 September

9:15 Mary McGovern, RIP

11:00 James Oliver Carty, RIP

18.00 Pro populo

Monday, 28 September

9.30 Brendan Doherty, RIP: Funeral

Tuesday, 29 September

9.30 Nora Kinsella, RIP

Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

Wednesday, 30 September

7.00 Kathleen Hickey, RIP

St. Jerome

Thursday, 1 October

19.00 James & Thomas Downey, Anniv.

St Thérèse of Lisieux

Friday, 2 October

9.30 Mary Cunningham, RIP

Holy Guardian Angels

Saturday, 3 October

9.30 People of Huliaipole, int.

18.00 Pro populo

Sunday, 4 October

9:15 Kathleen Curtin, RIP

11:00 Jimmy McDonnell, RIP

18.00 Sandra Fröhlich-McCormack, Anniv.

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

In the past 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 this **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. There are no expectations. Only if right for the individual, do they receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil on **Saturday, 27 March 2027**. Nine people so far have expressed an interest in joining the group. If this interests you, please contact Fr. Mark or simply come along on Tuesday evening.

Catholic Secondary School Applications

I am available to sign priest references for Catholic secondary school applications (including VI Form transfers): **6-8.30 pm** tomorrow **Monday, 28 September** and **10.30 am-1 pm** on **Saturday, 10 October**. The parent/carer who attends Mass here and child should attend. Please bring the Certificate of Catholic Practice (one per school, having completed your child's details) and your child's baptism certificate (if the baptism did not take place here). There is an **appointment system**. To book an appointment, please E-Mail Sherry, the parish secretary, at shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk letting her know which date(s) you can make. She will E-Mail you to confirm the time. In seeking a reference, you are asking the priest to confirm whether you have attended Mass each Sunday here over a number of years. If you have recently moved into the parish or attend Mass more regularly elsewhere, it makes sense to seek a reference from that other parish. (Primary school references will be offered later in the year.)

Annual Mass Count

The annual Mass count takes place today and over the next two Sundays.

Good Shepherd School

We welcome the children of the Good Shepherd School who join us for the **9.30 am** Mass this **Tuesday, 29 September**.