



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove

London W12 9BU

Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



6 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

£734.06

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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



Fr. Mark writes: We find fraternal correction very difficult. When we see someone doing something wrong, we tend to ignore it. We want to avoid conflict. Jesus tells us this shouldn't be the case. If we really care about the other, we should want to bring them back to God. Failure to attempt this is a failure of love. Jesus provides a model for approaching our brother who has gone astray. We are too likely either just to grow resentful within ourselves or to gossip to others. No, says Jesus, have this out between the two of you, quietly and charitably. If that doesn't work, involve others – but only those who also have the other person's best interest at heart, those who are discreet and wise. If this doesn't work, Jesus envisages a role for the Church community as a whole. In the last analysis, He counsels some form of excommunication. If someone's behaviour and intentions are radically at odds with His teaching, it lacks integrity for them to continue to act as if they are full members of the Church. Jesus sees this less as punishment, more as medicine. He wants to bring out about change. His only concern is the salvation of souls; so should ours.

Holiday

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

Summer Schedule

We are largely back to our normal schedule. The Children's Liturgy Group at the 9.15 am Mass (for children between Reception and school Year 3) resumes this morning, as does tea and coffee in the Parish House basement after the 9.15 am Mass.

The Sunday evening Masses also resume today. (Adoration, Confessions and Benediction will resume next Sunday evening.)

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 this Friday, 11 September**. (There will be no 9.30 am parish Mass this Friday.)

Nigel was secretary of our SVP. His funeral Mass will be at Ealing Abbey at **12 noon next 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.

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 the month. (Please keep the list of dates of the sessions for your records.)

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 33:7-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

Psalm: 95 Response: O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia.**

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Alleluia.

Church cleaning: Friday, 11 September: Alexandra & Michelle.

Mass Intentions for Week: 5 - 13 September 2026

Saturday, 5 September	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
Monday, 7 September	9.30	Michael Cullinan, RIP
Tuesday, 8 September	9.30	James & Nancy Curran & Anthony Stewart, RIP
Our Lady's birthday		
Wednesday, 9 September	7.00	Gerard Hackett, RIP
Thursday, 10 September	19.00	Sinead, Dawn & Michael Carey, RIP
Friday, 11 September	12.30	May Hanlon, RIP: Funeral
Saturday, 12 September	9.30	Iris, RIP
	18.00	James Anthony Doherty, RIP
Sunday, 13 September	9:15	Ruby Roach, int.
	11:00	Martha Carey, int.
	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.

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.

Oppose Assisted Suicide

The recent attempt to legalise assisted suicide failed due to lack of parliamentary time. Despite principled and strong opposition, supporters are persistent and are reintroducing the proposal. The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill has its Second Reading in the House of Commons this Friday, 11 September. It is important that we contact our MPs now to let them know our concern and the strength of feeling which exists. At least Andy Burnham is less committed to this than Keir Starmer was. The poster at the back of church has a QR code, which will take you to the Bishops' Conference website with further information and means of contacting our MPs. If you are in the Hammersmith & Chiswick constituency, the MP is Andy Slaughter andy@andyslaughter.com. If you are in the Ealing Central & Acton constituency, the MP is Rupa Huq, who is more sympathetic to human life issues. Her E-Mail is rupa.huq.mp@parliament.uk.