



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

44 Ashchurch Grove
London W12 9BU
Tel: 0208 743 5196

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



23 February 2025

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

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

First Saturday: 8.45 am - suspended

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

Last week's collection

£1,013.96

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

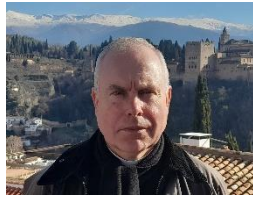
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Lawrence Dunham**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C



Fr. Mark writes: 'O loving wisdom of our God! When all was sin and shame/ a second Adam to the fight/ and to the rescue came.' St. John Henry Newman wrote those words in 1865 for his poem, 'The Dream of Gerontius', later set to music by Edward Elgar. They express an important truth which St. Paul also gives us in today's second reading. Jesus is 'the second Adam'. We all share descent from our first human ancestors; we are all of the same human stock. Like Adam we are dust; like Adam, there is a fundamental flaw running through us. Yet God loved the world so much that He sent His only Son, in the form of Adam. While we inherited mortality and corruption from the first Adam, the second is 'a life-giving spirit'. The second Adam offers us reconciliation, redemption, union with God Himself.

Children's Liturgy

There will be no Children's Liturgy Group at the 9.15 am Mass today due to the school half-term. The group resumes next **Sunday, 2 March**.

Baptism Preparation Sessions

Children should be baptised in the first weeks of their lives. We have baptism preparation sessions in the Parish House basement at **7.30 pm** this **Wednesday, 26** and **Thursday, 27 February** for parents attending Mass each Sunday. If you have not attended baptism preparation for an older child, you should do so now, and we can arrange a date for the baptism after the second session.

Andy Forkin & Michael Phelan, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Andy Forkin. His funeral Mass will be at **11.00 am** this **Friday, 28 February**. (This will take the place of the 9.30 am Mass.)

Michael Phelan was involved in many areas of parish life before moving to Edinburgh, where his funeral was held last month. There will be a memorial Mass for Michael here at **11.00 am** on **Saturday, 5 April**.

Bishop James Curry

Bishop Curry, formerly parish priest of Chiswick and then Kensington, was appointed an auxiliary bishop for Westminster last year with responsibility for the Western Area of the Diocese. He has asked to visit the parish next weekend and would like to meet as many parishioners as possible. The Bishop will celebrate the 11.00 am Mass next Sunday. Appropriately, this is the Enrolment Mass for the candidates he will confirm in June.

Stations of the Cross

Lent is less than two weeks away. One of the traditional Lenten devotions is to pray the Stations of the Cross, accompanying Our Lord, reflecting spiritually, on His final journey to Calvary. With the changing demographic of the parish, the numbers attending at 7.30 pm on Fridays are noticeably smaller. Would there be a preference to pray the Stations of the Cross after a weekday morning Mass instead? Please let me know this week, otherwise we will continue with Friday evenings.

Messy Family Project

The Messy Family Project is run by Mike and Alicia Hernon in the US to empower parents to embrace their sacred calling. They are speaking at number of venues in the UK in March. On **Thursday, 6 March, 8-9.30 pm**, they will speak on 'Growing a Family Culture' at the Good Shepherd School. This will be preceded by a light meal. No fee, but donations are invited to cover costs. It will be worth attending for the content, but also for the opportunity to meet one another, which we don't always have at Sunday Mass. A number of parents of young children have already expressed an interest, and I encourage you to join us. Please let me know if you wish to attend. For more details see

<https://messyfamilyproject.org/>

Parish Office

Monday, Tuesday, Friday:
10:00 -14:00

Good Shepherd

Catholic Primary School

35 Gayford Road
www.goodshepherdrc.lbhfsch.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

07746 697132

shepherdsbushsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Planned giving scheme

(envelopes/standing orders)

Gary O'Brien

07392 203005

St. Vincent De Paul (SVP)

Mobile: 07925 560538

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

This group meets in the Parish House at **4.45 pm** on Fridays to reflect on the Sunday Scripture readings. All are welcome to attend.

Food Bank

Many thanks for your generous donations. Please keep them coming. They are literally a lifeline to many families. We are looking especially for non-perishable foods, toiletries, laundry and cleaning products.

Readings at Sunday Mass

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Year C - Volume 1, 141-144

Luke 6:27-38

Psalm 103 Response: The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia, alleluia!**

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Church cleaning: Friday, 28 February: Mary & Rose.

Mass Intentions for Week: 22 February - 2 March 2025

Saturday, 22 February	18.00	Gleeson Family, RIP
Sunday, 23 February	9:15	Patrick Armstrong, Anniv.
	11:00	Pro populo
	18.00	Della Panting, int.
Monday, 24 February	9.30	Josephine Sweeney, RIP
Tuesday, 25 February	9.30	Dermot Jones, RIP
Wednesday, 26 February	7.00	William Tobin, RIP
Thursday, 27 February	19.00	Michael Phelan, RIP
Friday, 28 February	11.00	Andy Forkin, RIP: Funeral
Saturday, 1 March	9.30	Tommy Murray, RIP
<i>St. David</i>		
	18.00	John (Gloss) Gleeson, Anniv.
Sunday, 2 March	9:15	Tim McElvoy, RIP
	11:00	In Thanksgiving
	18.00	Pro populo

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH:

Christopher Browne, Joe Davenport, Pasquale de Stefano, Adrian Duggan, John Harrington, Kay Healy, Mary Hill, Anna McCarthy, Marilyn McDonald, Maria Nicholls, John O'Neill, Harriet Paterson, Jay St Clair, Rose Stanislaus, Gemma Sweny, & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents

Thanksgiving for Matrimony

The Cardinal invites couples celebrating significant anniversaries during 2025 to join him in Westminster Cathedral for a Thanksgiving Mass for Matrimony at **2.30 pm** on **Saturday, 17 May**. Couples are invited to renew their marital commitment, and we pray for them and their families. If you wish to attend, please let me have: your names, full postal address, wedding date and E-Mail address (or telephone number). A personal invitation will then be sent to you closer to the date.

Card Readers

Thank-you to everyone who gives to the parish by this method. I am conscious that the card readers can be rather temperamental. If the one by St. Jude is not working, there is a second card reader on the other side of the church, across from the statue of St. Stephen. We will seek to resolve the issues regarding connectivity.

Repository

The Repository is the small shop at the back of church open before and after the 11 am Mass on Sunday mornings. It stocks a range of Mass cards, candles, books, rosary beads and cards and items for baptisms, First Communions and Confirmations. Why not take a look?

Mass for Bereaved Parents

A Mass for bereaved parents is being celebrated in Westminster Cathedral at **2.00 pm** on **Saturday, 5 April**. You are very welcome to attend.

Conversion

'Although I abandoned You, Lord, You do not abandon me so completely as not to turn to raise me up by always holding out Your hand to me. And often times, Lord, I did not want it; nor did I desire to understand how often you called me again,' St. Teresa of Avila
'Fear not that thy life shall come to an end, but rather fear that it shall never have a beginning,' Sr. John Henry Newman
'As much as God may draw a soul, leading it to the day of recognition that He desires, it remains for a soul to choose. God never exercises a last compelling push or shove across the threshold that finally takes a soul to its knees in a surrender of itself to God. There is always an act of consent to God that must be exercised deep in the soul, an utterly personal choice,' Fr. Donald Haggerty