



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

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

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



30 March 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

£1,510.11

Walsingham

£481.37

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

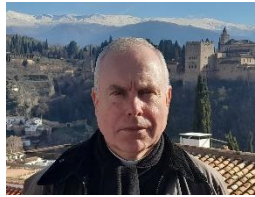
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Lawrence Dunham**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year C



Fr. Mark writes: The challenge of our faith is to be able to see the world, other people and the events of life differently. We should be able to view them in a different manner to those who have no faith. Things they find important, we don't; matters they think trivial are of crucial importance to us.

God tells Samuel that will be the case as he goes to Bethlehem to seek a new ruler for Israel. Samuel is not to select by the standards of the world. God chooses that which is apparently insignificant and weak to show the world that true strength is not to be found in worldly might and reputation. And so David, the youngest and smallest of Jesse's sons, is chosen and anointed. Centuries later another child will emerge from Bethlehem to show us definitively the ways of God. It is only in the light of Christ that we receive this true wisdom.

Stations of the Cross

We pray the Stations of the Cross together, following Our Lord on His path to Calvary, in church at **7.30 pm** on **Fridays** during Lent.

Confessions

All Catholics should be making use of the sacrament of Confession during Lent. Confessions are heard at the normal times of 5.15-5.45 pm on Saturdays and 6.45-7.45 pm on Sundays. A visiting priest, Fr Gerard Sheehan, is available to hear Confessions at all the Masses this Saturday evening and on Sunday.

Thomas Murray, Tony Bedeau & Michael Phelan, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Thomas Murray and Tony Bedeau. Thomas's funeral Mass will be at **11.30 am** tomorrow **Monday, 31 March**. (This takes the place of the 9.30 am Mass.) Tony's funeral Mass will be at **11.00 am** on **Friday, 11 April**.

Michael Phelan was active and well known in the parish for many years. His funeral was in Edinburgh, where the family had recently moved. There will be Mass for him here at **12 noon** this **Saturday, 5 April** to which everyone who remembers Michael is invited. (Again, this takes the place of the 9.30 am Mass.)

Easter Offerings

The attached envelope is for your Easter offering to the parish. Together with Christmas offering, Mass stipends and stole fees, this income is accounted for differently to the normal collection. It is important to show the Diocese we have sufficient 'clergy income' to pay our priests. Also, all this 'clergy income' is kept by the parish rather than being 'taxed' by the Diocese. (If you have a box of envelopes, there is an Easter offering envelope there and can ignore this.) Thank-you.

Mary's Meals

Many of us are aware of the amazing work done by Mary's Meals feeding hungry children in their schools across the world. Southern Africa is currently experiencing its worst drought in 100 years with six countries declaring a state of emergency. Crops have failed, cattle are dying, and food is scarce and expensive. Mary's Meals is currently feeding a nutritious school meal to 1 ½ million children in the region each day. But there is more they can do. Can you help? There will be an appeal for the work of Mary's Meals at the end of the Masses next weekend. Alternatively, you can donate online at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/campaigns/emergency-in-southern-africa>

Catholic Book Club

The initial sessions of the parish Book Club were greatly appreciated by those who participated. The next book on their reading list is *The Power and the Glory*, Graham Greene's gripping account of a priest trying to negotiate personal and political challenges in 1930s Mexico, where the Church has been outlawed. The Club starts their discussion of the book in the Parish House at **5.00 pm** on **Thursday, 10 April**. You are very welcome to join them. Please contact Lawrence at shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

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

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

Joshua 5:9a-12

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Psalm 34 Response: Taste and see that the LORD is good.

Gospel Acclamation: **Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.**

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you'.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Church cleaning: Friday, 4 April: Mary & Rose.

Year C - Volume 1, 168-171

Mass Intentions for Week: 29 March - 6 April 2025

Saturday, 29 March	18.00	Gleeson Family, RIP
Sunday, 30 March	9:15	Pro populo
<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>	11:00	Mary Sweeney, RIP
	18.00	Tom Cooke, RIP
Monday, 31 March	11.30	Thomas Murray, RIP: Funeral Mass
Tuesday, 1 April	9.30	John, Rosemarie, Tim, Stephen & Sean Healy, RIP
Wednesday, 2 April	7.00	Molly Burn, RIP
Thursday, 3 April	19.00	Sally Elias, int.
Friday, 4 April	9.30	McDonagh family, RIP
Saturday, 5 April	12.00	Michael Phelan, RIP
	18.00	John Davenport, Anniv.
Sunday, 6 April	9:15	Collette Armstrong, Anniv.
<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	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, Milly Redhead, Jay St Clair, Rose Stanislaus, Gemma Sweny, & the Chiswick Nursing Centre residents

Passion Play

RISE Theatre are putting on their 2025 Passion Play in the Parish Centre at Our Lady of Fatima, White City W12 7QR at **7 pm** this **Tuesday, 1 April**. Tickets are £5; proceeds go to Mary's Meals and CAFOD. (Not suitable for young children.) See the poster at the back of church for further details.

Thanksgiving for Matrimony

The Cardinal invites couples celebrating significant anniversaries during 2025 to a Thanksgiving Mass for Matrimony in Westminster Cathedral for 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 be sent to you closer to the date.

Lourdes Pilgrimage: 25 July- 1 August

Cardinal Nichols will lead the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage to Our Lady's shrine at Lourdes this summer. Registration forms are available at <https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane or train are available. There are many volunteering opportunities for those who wish to serve. Applications to join this year's pilgrimage must be submitted by **30 April**.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2025

Thank-you to everyone who has donated to the Cardinal's Lent Appeal. Donations support vital projects across the Diocese: Youth & Evangelisation; Social Action; Marriage & Family Life, and Catholic Education initiatives. The Cardinal is grateful to everyone who supported his Appeal. If anyone else wishes to do so, there are donation envelopes at the back of the church or you can give online at <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/cardinals-appeal/>

The Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the Face of Jesus

'Veronica takes a risk and braves the reaction of the soldiers to come forward to wipe His face, to dry the blood from His eyes. Still power comes out of Him, a strange power which preserves His image on the cloth as the Man of Sorrows, without beauty, without majesty. The challenge of every would-be disciple is to behold and love Him thus, so as to be able to recognise Him in His glorious Easter guise. Real faith is to see in my own sufferings the imprint of His own saving Passion,' Fr. Dominic Allain.