



Catholic Church of the Holy Ghost & St. Stephen

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

www.rcshepherdsbush.org



6 April 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

£1,075.93

Thank-you

Parish Priest: **Fr. Mark Vickers**

Parish Secretary: **Sherry Samele**

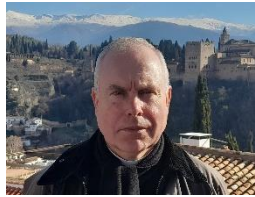
Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Lawrence Dunham**

E-mail: markvickers@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbush@rcdow.org.uk

E-Mail: shepherdsbushcat@rcdow.org.uk

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year C



Fr. Mark writes: Compassion always comes first with Jesus. Not only does he reject the harsh judgmentalism of the mob, but He effectively turns the tables on them, challenging them to examine their own lives and acknowledge their own sinfulness. There is nothing weak or naïve about Jesus's actions. He challenges the woman too. She has received God's mercy, now is she to live in accordance with it: 'Go, and from now on sin no more.' Jesus challenges us too: not to compromise with sin, but always to extend His compassion to those who have fallen.

Welcome

Congratulations to Gabriel Denzo, who is baptised this weekend.

Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals does amazing work 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 feeds 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 is an appeal for the work of Mary's Meals at the end of the Mass today. Alternatively, you can donate online at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/campaigns/emergency-in-southern-africa>

Children's Liturgy

The Children's Liturgy group at the 9.15 am Mass pauses for the school holidays until 27 April.

Tony Bedeau, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Tony Bedeau. His funeral Mass will be at **11.00 am** this **Friday, 11 April**. (This takes the place of the 9.30 am Mass.)

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.

Palm Sunday

The veiled statues remind us that Holy Week is close at hand. Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, marks Our Lord's entry into Jerusalem to accomplish the saving mysteries of our faith. Palms will be blessed at all Sunday Masses. Weather permitting, we will start the **11 am Mass** with the blessing of palms and procession from the Goldhawk Road end of Ashchurch Grove. Please collect a hymn book from the church and assemble there by **10.50 am**.

Details of the Holy Week and Easter services are on the attached sheet. Please take a copy with you. If you are travelling over Easter, take a moment to find the Mass times at the local church.

Church Cleaning

Anyone able to help give the church a thorough clean for Easter is welcome at **10.00 am** on **Saturday, 19 April**, especially if you arrive with duster, brush or polish. Many thanks to our regular volunteers who keep the church clean throughout the year. Is anyone interested in joining the rota?

Easter Offerings

The envelope attached to last week's newsletter is for Easter offerings. (There are more envelopes at the back of church.) With Christmas offering, Mass stipends and stole fees, this income is treated differently to the normal collection. It is important to show the Diocese we have sufficient 'clergy income' to pay our priests. Also, 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.

Readings at Sunday Mass

Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:8-14 John 8:1-11

Psalm 126 Response: What great deeds the LORD worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.****Even now, says the LORD,****return to me with all your heart, for I am gracious and merciful.****Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.**

Church cleaning: Saturday 12 April: Alexandra R., Michelle & Assiatu.

Mass Intentions for Week: 5 - 13 April 2025

Saturday, 5 April	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
Monday, 7 April	9.30	Murphy family, RIP
Tuesday, 8 April	9.30	Barney O'Reilly, int.
Wednesday, 9 April	7.00	Canon John O'Leary, int.
Thursday, 10 April	19.00	Neil Panting, int.
Friday, 11 April	11.00	Tony Bedeau, RIP: Funeral Mass
Saturday, 12 April	9.30	Kay Healy, int.
	18.00	Kay Gleeson & family, int.
Sunday, 13 April	9:15	Brian McDermott, RIP
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	11:00	Frank McDermott, RIP
	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

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

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/>

Assisted Suicide

As the Cardinal says in his Pastoral Letter there is profound unease about this proposal – not only that vulnerable people will come under pressure to end their lives, but also that the normal scrutiny is not being given to such a momentous proposal. Those of us already concerned were saddened that promised safeguards are already being withdrawn. This is deeply disturbing. The crucial Third Reading in the House of Commons is on **25 April**. The Bishops urge us to contact our MPs requesting them to vote against the Bill. If you are in the Hammersmith & Chiswick constituency, contact Andy Slaughter MP at andy@andyslaughter.com If you are in the Ealing Central & Acton constituency, contact Rupa Huq MP at rupa.huq.mp@parliament.uk To be fair to Rupa Huq, she changed her mind and voted against the proposal last time round. Andy Slaughter is still saying he intends to vote for it. In writing to your MP, you may find it helpful to take a copy of the Cardinal's Pastoral Letter, which I have left at the back of church. Alternatively, take a postcard from the back of church provided by the disabled community, add your details and your MP's name and post it to them. The most powerful tool available to us is prayer. The hour's prayer before the Blessed Sacrament after the 6.00 pm Mass this evening will be specifically for the intention of the protection of human life and the defeat of this legislation. Please join us, if you can.

Parish OfficeMonday, 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: 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.