SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Introit: ***Cf. Ps 32: 5-6***
The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
Alleluia.

Collect
Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: ***Acts 2:14a, 36-41***

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Ps 23:1-6.***

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading: ***1 Peter 2:20b-25***

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation: *John 10:14*

Allelula, allelula.
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.
I know my sheep and my own know me.
Allelula.

Gospel: ***John 10:1-10***

At that time: Jesus said, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.' This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them,
'Truly, truly, I say to you,
I am the door of the sheep.
All who came before me are thieves and robbers,
but the sheep did not listen to them.
I am the door.
If anyone enters by me, he will be saved
and will go in and out and find pasture.
The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.'

Prayer over the Offerings
Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,
so that the renewal constantly at work within us
may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon
The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion
Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 26th April 2026 **Vocations Sunday**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This Newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year A
Weekay Mass Readings
Easter Week 4
Divine Office
Easter Week 4

For children, download a weekly sheet:
http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 26 April	**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER** ***Good Shepherd Sunday for Vocations to the Priesthood***
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
8.30am	John Scullion RIP
9.45am	Neil Cummins RIP
11.15am	Spencer Coomarewel RIP
5:30pm	Liam Carbery Birthday Intentions
Mon 27 April	**Easter Feria**
9:30am	Anne McGovern RIP
Tues 28 April	**Easter Feria**
9.30am	Sahayanayakai Birthday Intentions
Weds 29 April	**S. Catherine of Siena**
9.30am	Anne McGovern RIP
Thurs 30 April	**Easter Feria**
9.30am	William Aubrey Balhetchet
Fri 1 May	**S. Joseph the Worker**
9:30am	Maria & Clifford Mascarenhas (Wedding Anniversary Intentions)
11:00am	**FUNERAL MASS** Chris Cooney RIP
Sat 2 May	**S. Athanasius**
9:30am	Spencer Coomarewel RIP & Holy Souls
Sun 3 May	**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	George Hillier RIP
8.30am	Kit Sullivan RIP
9.45am	Fatima Ferdinando RIP
11.15am	Boguslawa Kubica RIP
5:30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TODAY'S MASS

"Christ the Good Shepherd brings us life."



God has appointed Christ as the Shepherd of the whole human race. He has become our gateway to eternal life because he lays down his life for us. Even though we have gone astray through sin, nevertheless by his wounds we are healed and given a new direction in our lives.

First Reading: ***Acts of the Apostles 2:14a,36-41***
Peter and the other apostles baptize 3,000 people.

Responsorial Psalm: ***Psalm 23:1-6***
The Lord is my shepherd.

Second Reading: ***1 Peter 2:20b-25***
We have been healed by the wounds of Christ.

Gospel Reading: ***John 10:1-10***
Jesus is the gate for his sheep.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The Resurrection became the confirmation of his victory; the victory of the love of the Good Shepherd who says: They follow me.'

Pope Saint John Paul II

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr Jude Avwata judeavwata@rcdow.org.uk
Catechetical Coordinator: Mr. Peter Kingsley peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary: Mrs. Mary Walsh sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
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Safeguarding Rep: Hanna Gorgis sudburysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Tel 07751804978
Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE
Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVP Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 4. Fr Jude; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.
Charity No: 233699
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.
HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.
CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*
DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.
ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

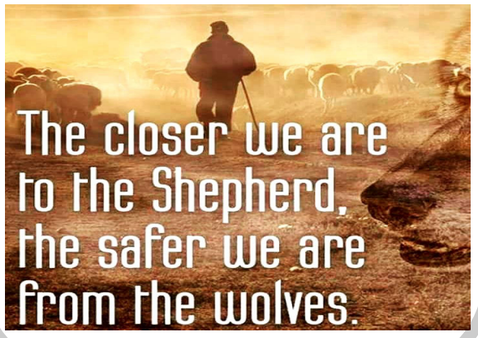
SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Dee Auriol, Christopher Browne, Fiona Power, John, Aaran Thayaparan, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Martha Conway, Edward Granger, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Leslie De Lima, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Ramzan, Larry Sicat, Andras Nagy, Sheena Chambers, Tony Eivers*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Kingsley Kaluarachchi, Marvin Kaluarachchi , Gyorgyi Gulyas, Raphael Odamtten*
RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Chris Cooney, Noel Gill*
RECENTLY MARRIED:-
RECENTLY CONFIRMED: *Kingsley Kaluarachchi, Marvin Kaluarachchi , Gyorgyi Gulyas, Raphael Odamtten, Noel Gill*
ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: -*Patrick Loughlin (1st), Neil Cummins (5th)*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
Intentions of Audrey, Joel & Vivielle Fernandes

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
In Memory of Patrick Loughlin

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for May
That everyone might have food
Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



This Sunday is traditionally called 'Good Shepherd Sunday', because of the Gospel references to Jesus as the Good Shepherd. It is also the day of prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood. On this Sunday we hear one of the great 'I am' statements of Jesus from Saint John's Gospel: 'I am the door of the sheep.'

Through Jesus we enter into life and safety, and we 'go through Jesus, the door' by baptism. This image is implied in all of today's readings: the people listening to Peter find this gateway and enter through it: Peter writes to remind us that we have come back to the Good Shepherd, who heals us by his wounds.

Moreover, the most comforting of the Psalms begins "The Lord is my shepherd." It ends with the line: "Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

Goodness and mercy are present in the person of the Good Shepherd. Thus, they have to follow the lost sheep, because the shepherd is heading out after them, to look for them.

In the Gospel, on the other hand, the order of leading and following is reversed. Jesus says that his sheep know his voice, and so they follow him. Now, a sheep doesn't recognize the voice of the shepherd unless it already knows the shepherd! The difference, then, between being a lost sheep who is followed by the Shepherd and being a faithful sheep who follows the Shepherd is a matter of knowing the Shepherd. It's a matter of personal relationship. Personal relationship requires openness to love, with all its risks. That openness is the reason why Jesus is not only the Good Shepherd, he is also the Door into the fold, open to the sheep that are his own. To be a sheep that is Christ's own, a person has to be open to love of the Lord. You have to go within Jesus, through Jesus, who is the Door as well as being the leader, along the way. Here is the good news, then. Whether a person is faithful or astray, they will be surrounded by the love of the Good Shepherd. Saint Patrick's prayer says it well: ***Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ with me.***

NEWS UPDATE

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church underneath the photo of Pope Leo.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday—Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, **urgent** matters can be directed to the Presbytery.

FUNERAL LITURGY of **Maria Honoria del Carpio** on Tuesday 28th April at 12noon at West London Crematorium. May she Rest in Peace.

FUNERAL MASS of **Chris Cooney** on Friday 1st May at 11am followed by cremation at West London Crematorium. May he Rest in Peace.

FUNERAL MASS of **Michael Alan Scott** on Friday 8th May at 11.30am followed by burial in Carpenders Park Cemetery. May he Rest in Peace.

FUNERAL MASS of **Noel Gill** on Wednesday 13th May at 11.00am followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium. May he Rest in Peace.

THIS SUNDAY IS GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place after all masses. This fund supports those in training and the on-going enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code on the poster to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

MAY is the Month traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Lady. Many families have discovered the importance of the prayer of the rosary. Why not give it a go either by yourself or with your family? In addition THE ROSARY will be said in the church each evening, Monday to Friday, at 6pm throughout the month of May. Everyone welcome.

SVP COLLECTION OF FOOD FOR LOCAL FOOD BANKS - this weekend, Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th April. Any cash donated will be used to buy food for our beneficiaries. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

CHURCH CANDLES must always be placed on a candle stand (and NOT beside a particular statue on the wood) as this poses a fire risk. Please ONLY use candles that are supplied in the church.

LET THE CHILDREN LIVE! was our Lent charity and we are totting up all the different funds raised. We will let you know the full total soon.

COLLECTION OF LENT APPEAL BOXES - If you still have one, please bring it back ASAP so we can tally up our amount and let our Lenten charity 'Let the Children Live' have our giving.

THE OVER 60's CLUB Lots of people and great fun too! Why not join them? All over 60's welcome—just turn up on Tuesday in the Café/Bar in the Parish Centre at 1.00pm. Everyone welcome—and not just Catholics!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - Thank you for keeping all those looking forward to receiving Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion in the coming weeks, in prayer. Parents/Carers are reminded that the Rehearsal for the FHC Mass on Saturday is on Tuesday & the Rehearsal for the FHC Mass on Sunday is on Wednesday. Full details should have been received by email last week. Thank you for **arriving in good time for your child's rehearsal** so we can begin the Rehearsals on time at 7pm.

CONFIRMATION 2026 - At **Session 7**, on **Monday 27th April**, **Westminster Youth Ministry** will be helping us reflect on the **'Receiving God's Mercy'** as the Candidates prepare to receive this gift anew in the Sacrament of Confession (Reconciliation) on 11th May. Candidates are reminded that the **deadline** for handing in their printed **'Letter to the Celebrant'** is this coming **Monday 27th April.** Thank you for arriving **promptly** for the start of the session at **7.30pm.**

BAPTISM PREPARATION - **Baptism Preparation** sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend **April's Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 27th April 2026.**

CALLING NEW CATECHISTS & HELPERS - We are delighted when new people come forward wishing to help with our **First Holy Communion** & **Confirmation Programmes**. These Programmes are fruitful thanks to the generous help of **volunteers from the Parish**. Might you consider **offering to help serve our children & young people** alongside a group of experienced Catechists? For further information, or to meet to speak about opportunities for helping in other ways at the Parish, please contact Peter, our Catechetical Coordinator, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CHRISTIAN OR JUST DISCOVERING MORE? If you are interested in becoming a Christian we would be delighted to accompany you on this journey. Please **speak to one of the clergy** or **email our Catechetical Coordinator**, Peter, at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk**, so we can provide further information. If you were baptised but have not yet received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in confirmation we would also be happy to support you on this journey.

SOUTH VALE PRE-SCHOOL summer registration is now open. We are based in St George's church Youth Centre. Free childcare places for children from 18 months. Tel: 07745 860 794 for further details.

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 17th – 24th July 2026. Registration is now open at https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk/registrationform/ or via the Pilgrimage Office on 0207 798 9173. If you would like to sponsor or fundraise for an Assisted Pilgrim, member of the medical team or volunteer then please also contact the Pilgrimage Office for further details.

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP & THE LAMP AT OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the month of July. Please contact the Parish Office.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY, Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm. The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the Parish Office on sudbury@rcdow.org.uk giving the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email). Thank you.

CELEBRATE TRUST is excited to announce two new webinars for parents and carers of teenagers. **Confident parenting in a world of screens. 29th April @ 8pm** Worried about the impact of phones and social media on your teen? A helpful webinar with Kate Duroux from Care for the Family, offering practical advice for supporting teenagers growing up in a digital world. **Raising teenagers in a Catholic family. 2nd June @ 8pm** As children enter adolescence, parenting can feel brand new. Mike and Alicia from the Messy Family Project share faith-filled wisdom and practical tools to help parents guide their tweens and teens with patience, modelling, and stronger relationships. **To reserve your place, book now by visiting https://www.celebratetrust.org/faith-parenting**

ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL Job Vacancies, please refer to the website for further details:- https://www.stjohnfisherschool.co.uk/vacancies-5/

THE BRENT IRISH ADVISORY SERVICE (BIAS) is looking for friendly volunteers to join our community. There are lots of ways to get involved from helping out at local clubs and activities, to visiting someone during the week for a chat and a bit of company. Even a small amount of your time can make a real difference to someone who might be feeling isolated. It's also a lovely way to meet people and feel more connected in the community. If you can offer a little time, we'd be delighted to welcome you. Please get in touch if you'd like to learn more - volunteers@biasbrent.co.uk, 0208 459 6655.