

# TODAY'S READINGS

## Entrance Antiphon:

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;  
proclaim to the ends of the earth:  
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

**Collect:** Grant, almighty God,  
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of  
joy,  
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,  
and that what we relive in remembrance  
we may always hold to in what we do.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

## First Reading:

**Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**

**'They laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.'**

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

**R/ THE WORD OF THE LORD**

**C/ THANKS BE TO GOD**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Ps 66(65):1-7. 16, 20. R.1**



Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;

O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God, 'How wondrous your deeds!' **(R)**

'Before you all the earth shall bow down,

shall sing to you, sing to your name!'

Come and see the works of God:

his wondrous deeds among the children of Adam. **(R)**

He turned the sea into dry land;

they passed through the river on foot.

Let our joy, then, be in him;

he rules for ever by his might. **(R)**

Come and hear, all who fear God;

I will tell what he did for my soul.

Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer,

nor withhold from me his merciful love. **(R)**

**Cf. Is 48: 20**

## Second Reading:

**'Being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.'**

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

**R/ THE WORD OF THE LORD**

**C/ THANKS BE TO GOD**

## Gospel Acclamation:

**(ALL STAND)**

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,  
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

*Alleluia.*

## Gospel:

**John 14:15-21**

**'I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper.'**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.'

**P/ THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD**

**C/ PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST**

## Prayer over the Offerings

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,  
together with the sacrificial offerings,  
so that, purified by your graciousness,  
we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## Communion Antiphon

**Jn 14: 15-16**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord,  
and I will ask the Father and he will send you another  
Paraclete,  
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

## Prayer after Communion:

Almighty ever-living God,  
who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ,  
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament  
and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**1 Peter 3:15-18**



# CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY OF HAL Camden Town

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## 10th MAY 2026 | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

### Sunday Mass Times:

6pm (Saturday Vigil), 10am  
(Family) & 12 Noon (Solemn)  
5pm (Portuguese)

### Other Mass Times:

Mondays & Fridays: 12 Noon  
Wednesdays & Thursdays: 9:30am

### Holy Days of Obligation:

As announced



### Confession Times:

Fridays 12.35-1pm, Saturdays  
11-11.30am & 5.15-5.45pm or by  
appointment.

### Eucharistic Adoration:

Fridays: 12:30pm-1pm,  
Saturdays: 5.15-5.45pm

### Parish Office Opening Times:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays &  
Fridays: 10am-2pm  
Wednesdays: Closed

## REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

### The Holy Spirit, Our Helper and Advocate

In today's Gospel, Jesus promises that he will ask the Father to send us an Helper. The word used in the Gospel is sometimes translated as Paraclete, from the Greek parakletos, or Advocate. It means someone who stands beside us, especially when we are under pressure, confused, or in need of help.

We often think of the Holy Spirit through the beautiful image of a dove: gentle, peaceful, consoling, and full of grace. That is true and deeply comforting. The Holy Spirit does bring peace to troubled hearts. But the Gospel also reminds us that the Spirit is more than a gentle presence. The Spirit is our Advocate: the one who strengthens us, guides us, and helps us to stand firm in faith.

An advocate is someone who speaks up for us, supports us, and helps us make wise decisions. That is exactly what the Holy Spirit does in the life of a Christian. When we are unsure what is right, the Spirit gives wisdom. When we are anxious, the Spirit gives courage. When we are tempted to give up, the Spirit reminds us that we are not alone.

This is a great comfort for us as a parish and as individual disciples. Life often asks us to make difficult choices. We have to decide whom to trust, how to act, when to speak, when to be patient, and how to remain faithful when circumstances are not easy. The Holy Spirit does not remove every difficulty, but he helps us face them with the mind and heart of Christ.

Jesus does not leave his Church orphaned. He sends the Spirit to dwell with us and within us. So this week, let us pray for a deeper openness to the Holy Spirit: to guide our judgement, strengthen our faith, and help us live as witnesses of Christ's love in the world.

Have a blessed week.

*Father Mark*

**SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE TO THE PARISH (SUNDAY COLLECTION ETC):**



# FOR YOUR PRAYERS

## SICK, HOUSEBOUND, THOSE WHO RECEIVE COMMUNION AT HOME:

Mike Power, Father Anthony, Margaret Quinn, Michael O'Brien, Christine Smith, Rachel Cottrell, Alice O'Neill, Jilly Taylor, Marie Cawdery, Pauline Guthrie, Maureen Lyden, Richard Ainsworth, Francesco Sesia, Joe Owen, Doreen O'Callaghan, Wesley Gilead, Henrik Sperlich, Allan & Lynne Mackintosh, Ray Norris, Raj Puri, Stephen de Winter, George Spencer, Ann Olive, Esmeralda Costa.

## HAL LAMPS: HOLY SOULS

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** We pray for all those who have died recently.

**DEAD ANNIVERSARIES:** We pray for all those who died around this time.



## LITURGICAL CALENDAR & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

W	Sunday	10th May	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	Vigil	5:15 pm 6:00 pm 10:00 am 12 Noon	Evening Prayer of the Church Mary Brady (RIP) People of the Parish Peter O'Connor(RIP)
W	Monday	11th May	Easter Feria		12 Noon	Thomas Vincent Finnerty (RIP)
W	Tuesday	12th May	Easter Feria			<b>NO MASS</b>
W	Wednesday	13th May	Easter Feria		9:30 am	Dolores Keane (RIP)
W	Thursday	14th April	<b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>		9:30 am	Fr Colin McLean (RIP)
W	Friday <b>Abstinence</b>	15th May	Easter Feria		12 Noon	Pauline O'Sullivan (INT)
W	Saturday	16th May	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	Vigil	6:00 pm	People of the Parish

# NEWS AND VIEWS

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

On Saturday evenings, Sung Evening Prayer is celebrated at 5:15pm before Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to join us.

### Donate to the Parish.

For your convenience, scan the QR code to donate to the Sunday collection and other collections for the Mission of our church. You can also set up regular offerings and donations. This QR Code will be displayed on church notice boards etc to make giving easier. We thank you for your generosity.

### FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

We welcome you to Mass in our church and especially at the 10am Family Mass. Please note you may be more comfortable sitting in Our Lady of Hal's chapel on the left hand side at the front of the church. The chapel doubles as a 'crying chapel' as it is soundproofed but one can still hear the Mass.

### Father Colin McLean R.I.P.

This week we said a fond farewell to our dear Father Colin, the 'grandfather' of our church, as we celebrated his Requiem Mass and laid him to rest. We continue to pray that he will rest in peace as his life's labours are over. We thank God for the full and varied life he led. Please continue to keep his family in your prayers that they may be comforted. Fr Mark thanks all those who worked so hard for the beautiful liturgy he deserved, and the caterers and other helpers. May God bless your kindness and generosity.

### Pray for Vocations.

Richard, our Archbishop, has asked the diocese to pray for vocations to the priesthood and, specifically, from now until Pentecost. We will dedicate Friday's Adoration (and when we have Vespers and Adoration on Saturday evening) to this intention, commencing Friday 1st May. These are the weekly prayer intentions: **1st May:** Pray for men to be open to God's call to the priesthood. **8th May:** Pray for those currently discerning the priesthood. **15th May:** Pray for seminarians in their formation. **22nd May:** Pray for your parish's priests and all clergy serving in the diocese. Those of us who pray the Rosary are encouraged to pray for vocations too.

### THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS: 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.

### Divine Mercy Recollection Day

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on Saturday 6th June 2026 from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Recollection Day will include Holy Mass, Talk, Hour of Mercy with Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Pls call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway, North London, Barking and Victoria.

### MUSICAL PILGRIMAGE ON THE AUGUSTINE CAMINO JUNE 8TH-14TH 2026

Setting off from Rochester Cathedral, we will walk about 10 miles a day through the Beautiful Kent countryside to Canterbury, then onto the shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate. Each evening, Eddie Gilmore will perform a little concert in a pub en route. Contact Eddie for more details: [gileag@gmail.com](mailto:gileag@gmail.com) [www.eddiegilmore.org](http://www.eddiegilmore.org)

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES 2026

**First Holy Communion 2026:** The next class will be on Saturday 16th May at 11am in the hall. Parents/guardians are to attend.

**Confirmation 2026:** The next class will take place on Tuesday 12th May at 6pm in the hall.

### TEA & COFFEE

Parishioners and visitors are all welcome to join us in the Van Pelt Hall after 10am Sunday Mass.

### COLLECTIONS: LAST SUNDAY (THANK YOU!)

Friday Collection: £35.55 Envelopes: £295.60 Loose: £213.90 Total: £545.05 **Priest Training Fund:** £10.00 Donation by Dona Card Machine on Sunday: £318.80 and £519 per week by standing order.