

# TODAY'S READINGS

**Entrance Antiphon:**  
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  
**'God has made him both Lord and Christ.'**

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.

**R/ THE WORD OF THE LORD**  
**C/ THANKS BE TO GOD**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 23(22):1-6. R1

*R: 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. (R)

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. (R)

You have prepared a table before me  
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. (R)

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. (R)

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 2:20b-25  
**'You have returned to the Shepherd of your souls.'**

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

Cf. Ps 32: 5-6 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.

**R/ THE WORD OF THE LORD**  
**C/ THANKS BE TO GOD**

**Gospel Acclamation:** John 10:14  
**(ALL STAND)**

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.

I know my sheep and my own know me.

*Alleluia.*

**Gospel:** John 10:1-10  
**'I am the door of the sheep.'**

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.'

**P/ THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD**

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

**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.



## CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY OF HAL Camden Town

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### 26th APRIL 2026 | FOURTH 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

#### May the voice of Christ's call be heard in many hearts and be answered.

This Sunday the Church gives us the beautiful and deeply reassuring image of **Christ the Good Shepherd**. It is an image full of tenderness, but also one that speaks powerfully to the reality of our lives. A shepherd does two things: he leads the sheep in, and he leads them out. Our Lord does the same with us. He leads us in, into the shelter of his presence, into the peace of prayer, into the safety of his mercy. We all know that life can sometimes feel burdensome and uncertain. There are worries about health, family, work, money, and the future. At such times, it is a great grace to remember that we are not left to find our own way in the dark. Christ our Shepherd gathers us close. He watches over us. He strengthens us through his word, through the sacraments, and through the quiet gift of his presence.

But the Lord does not only lead us in; he also leads us out. He sends us out to live the faith we profess: in kindness, in patience, in generosity, in care for those who are lonely or struggling. He calls us to be his presence in the world, in the very ordinary circumstances of our daily lives. The Christian life is never simply about being comforted; it is also about being sent. Both of these are essential. If we seek only comfort, faith can become too centred on ourselves. If we only labour and give without returning to the Lord, we can become exhausted and discouraged. The Good Shepherd knows we need both: rest in him, and mission for him. We come to him to receive, and then we go out in his name to serve.

This Sunday, Good Shepherd Sunday, the whole Church throughout the world also prays especially for vocations. We ask the Lord to raise up generous shepherds for his people: priests, deacons and religious, ready to give their lives in joyful service of the Gospel. May we pray with confidence that the voice of Christ will be heard in many hearts, and that those whom he calls will have the courage to answer. May the Good Shepherd keep us close to himself, guide us faithfully through the uncertainties of life, and lead us at last to the joy of his kingdom. 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: Fr Colin McLean & Dierk Meyer.

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



## LITURGICAL CALENDAR & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

W	Day	Date	Feast/Intention	Vigil	Times	Intention
W	Sunday	26th April	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>		6:00 pm 10:00 am 12 Noon	Denis Hussey (RIP) People of the Parish Mary Hooker (RIP)
W	Monday	27th April	Easter Feria		12 Noon	Guisseppa Said (ANN)
W	Tuesday	28th April	Easter Feria			<b>NO MASS</b>
W	Wednesday	29th April	Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe		9:30 am	Brigid Lyons (RIP)
W	Thursday	30th April	Easter Feria		9:30 am	Caro O'Shea (ANN)
W	Friday	1st May	Easter Feria		12 Noon	Veronica Josephine (Good Health)
W	Saturday	2nd May	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	Vigil	6:00 pm	People of the Parish

# NEWS AND VIEWS

### PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

PLEASE DO collect your new envelopes as you leave Mass this Sunday from the table near the church main door.

### Vespers (Evening Prayer)

Vespers will resume after Easter. Date to be announced over the following weeks.

### New Way to Donate to the Parish.

Many of us no longer carry cash making it tricky to donate to the Sunday collection and other collections for the Mission of our church. For your convenience, you can set up regular offerings and donations by scanning the QR Code on the front of this newsletter. Shortly, this QR Code will be displayed on church notice boards etc to make giving easier. We thank you for your generosity.

### Music at Sunday Masses

For the next few weeks, whilst our Hal Singers are on Easter break, there will either be no music at Sunday Masses or just congregation hymns accompanied by the organ.

### Priest Training Fund – Second Collection

Today, on Good Shepherd Sunday, there is a second collection for the Priest Training Fund. This fund supports the formation of men who are responding to God's call to serve as priests in our diocese. Their journey involves years of preparation — human, spiritual, and pastoral — equipping them to serve parish communities in the years ahead. Your support helps make this formation possible. It is a direct way of strengthening the life of the Church and ensuring that future generations will continue to receive the sacraments and pastoral care. If you are able, please give generously in today's collection. You may also donate via <https://rcdow.org.uk/priest-training-fund/>

Please also continue to pray for vocations and for those currently in formation.

### FUNERAL NOTICE – REVEREND FATHER COLIN PATRICK MCLEAN

Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Hal at 12 Noon on Wednesday 6th May followed by cremation (immediate family only) at Golders Green Crematorium. Presider: The Most Reverend Archbishop Richard Moth of Westminster. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to Our Lady of Hal Church.

#### **Account details:**

Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account No: 51096850

### Music for Father Colin's Requiem Mass.

Thanks to some very generous donations we are now able to cover the cost of the musicians for the funeral. The collection is now closed. May God bless 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.

### ORION SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Next Thursday 30 April at 6.30 pm in Westminster Cathedral Hall, The Friends of Westminster Cathedral welcome Orion Symphony Orchestra who will play Mozart Clarinet Quintet & Schubert Quartettsatz. Tickets are £12 including refreshments afterwards book online <https://tinyurl.com/FriendsConcert30042026> or email [friends@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:friends@rcdow.org.uk) Please book and bring your friends.

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES 2026

**First Holy Communion 2026:** The next class will be on Saturday 9th May at 11am in the hall.

**Confirmation 2026:** The next class will take place on Tuesday 28th April 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: £50.81 Envelopes: £288.00 Loose: £354.02 Total: £692.83  
Donation by Dona Card Machine on Sunday: £318.80 and £519 per week by standing order.