

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
WORSHIPPING AT
SACRED HEART CHURCH.**

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Saturday 4th May 6.00pm. Vigil Mass 6th Sunday in Easter Time
Sunday 5th May 9.30am. Sunday Mass

Tuesday 7th 10.00am Mass

Wednesday 8th May 10.00am Mass

Thursday 9th **10.00am Mass. Ascension of the Lord.**
2.30pm Primary School Mass
6.15pm Exposition and Benediction
7.00pm **Mass**
Today is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Friday 10th 10.00am Mass.

Saturday 11th 11.00-11.30 Confessions during Exposition

Saturday 11th 6.00pm. Vigil Mass 7th Sunday in Easter Time
Sunday 12th 9.30am. Sunday Mass

Key:	Ap.	Apostle
	Ab	Abbott
	Bp	Bishop
	D	Doctor
	M	Martyr
	P	Priest
	R	Religious
	V	Virgin

The Mission Possible Team were clearly made very welcome here last Saturday and Sunday. Also very clear was the massive impact their presence and message had on some of our parishioners, some of whom were particularly generous.

The total donated as a result of their appeal here last weekend, including collection baskets, sales of 'Mama' goods, card machine and direct deposits to their bank account totalled **£4,110.90.**

That has got to be the highest amount ever generated in a single weekend appeal in this parish. Very well done, everyone. We can be sure that many lives will be touched and possibly changed forever by that amount.

The team have been in touch to say that the horrendous floods have been devastating in that region and thanks to your generosity they are expecting to be able to do a great deal for the people of the area, most of whom have lost everything, even the window-less 'shed' they lived in.

CAFOD Sudan Crisis Appeal This Weekend

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis - extreme hunger. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it.

Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

You can give to CAFOD's SUDAN Crisis appeal in Church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal or you can text CAFODSUDAN to 70450 to donate £10.

Pastoral Care of the Sick and the Housebound.

Once again, please let us know if anyone who lives in the parish and cannot get to Mass would like a visit and would like Our Blessed Lord to be taken to them in Holy Communion at home.

Fr. Peter

Reader Rota for May and June

A new rota for readers is on the website and the sacristy notice board. Please arrange someone to cover if you cannot complete your allocated date.

Church Cleaning

There will be church cleaning on Tuesday 7th of May after Mass. (approximately 10.30am)

May is traditionally a time of extra prayer and devotion to **Our Blessed Lady**.

Perhaps it is a good time to renew the practice of saying the Rosary each day or praying the Angelus at noon and 6pm as a gesture of consecrating the whole day to God through his Blessed Mother.



A picture of helplessness as entire worldly goods are swept away in the floods outside Nairobi.

The Mission Possible team are expecting that the floods will have receded in time for their visit and a chance to assist in the rebuilding of lives and homes.

I have received an email from Catherine Robinson from RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Dear Mgr Wilkinson,

Thank you for your ongoing support for the unborn in your parishes - we now have a date for the debate and votes on the abortion amendments.

Yesterday, the Leader of the House of Commons, Penny Mordaunt, announced that Report Stage of the Criminal Justice Bill is going to be on **Wednesday 15 May**.

This means that we have under two weeks until the biggest battle on abortion in a generation.

On Wednesday 15 May, MPs will be given the opportunity to vote on two pro-life changes to the law:

- One amendment tabled by Caroline Ansell MP lowers the abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks.
- The other, tabled by Liam Fox MP, would bring the abortion time limit for babies with Down's syndrome in line with the time limit for babies that do not have disabilities (as you likely know, abortion for Down's syndrome is currently legal right up to birth).

MPs will also have the opportunity to vote on two extreme abortion up to birth amendments that have been tabled by pro-abortion MPs Stella Creasy and Diana Johnson.

We now only have two Sundays to encourage your communities to support these life-saving campaigns.

There are 3 key ways that you can support the campaign over the next 10 days and further details are below.

- 1 Order postcards and distribute them in your church
- 2 Include a notice in the newsletter
- 3 Pulpit announcement during a Sunday Mass

Distribute postcards

Postcards can be ordered here: <https://righttolife.org.uk/post-card-order>.

Newsletter or pulpit announcement

For parishes with a digital newsletter, there may still be time to promote the date of the vote in this week's newsletter. We appreciate that many newsletters will have already gone to print so please mention it during your Masses and ensure it is included in next Sunday's notices.

Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment and oppose abortion up to birth

Support an amendment to lower the abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks and oppose two abortion up to birth amendments. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks gestation can now survive outside the womb.

Take action: *Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP in support of this amendment! Email your MP by visiting righttolife.org.uk/littlefighters and righttolife.org.uk/uptobirth before the debate on **Wednesday 15 May**.*

Thank you so much for your continued support.

We know from experience that support from the Catholic community could be key to demonstrating the high numbers of people who wish to see our abortion laws changed. Your support with encouraging parishioners to send postcards to MPs could well be the critical activity that ensures the success of these pro-life amendments - likely saving many lives.

Given the upcoming general election, this could also be our last opportunity to make a positive change to our abortion laws for a number of years.

Best wishes,

Catherine