

Sacred Heart, Berkhamsted

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 11th September 2022 – Year C



SACRED HEART
BERKHAMSTED

Called and sent to minister God's mercy with the love and compassion of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd



As I begin another chapter in my priestly ministry here in Sacred Heart Parish, the Gospel reading for this Sunday reminds of the prayer I used for my ordination prayer card, "O God grant me the patience and compassion of Jesus, the Eternal High Priest, that I may be a true shepherd of thy flock."

In Jesus Christ, the Son of God, we see how incredibly merciful and compassionate God is towards us his sinful children. In Jesus, he offers us the grace and strength to turn away from our sinfulness, so that we can return to him, in whom alone our hearts find perfect peace. As Christians, we are called to imitate Jesus Christ and to be agents of God's merciful love to our brothers and sisters. It is my fervent desire and prayer that my ministry in our parish of Sacred Heart will embody God's mercy.

As a community of God's people, our guiding principle will be to seek to do God's will as Jesus teaches us in the scriptures and according to the traditions of his Church.

I arrived here in Sacred Heart last Thursday – the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I come to you with great joy and I look forward to an exciting and God-centred time with you all. As pilgrims, let us joyfully journey together in this common vocation of ours as disciples of Christ, following in the footsteps of our humble and compassionate Saviour.

After my priestly ordination at Westminster Cathedral on the 24th of June 2017, the solemnity of the Birthday of St. John the Baptist, I spent a very fulfilling and happy four years of priestly ministry at Holy Rood Parish Watford as assistant priest. In the last, it was in St Lawrence Parish Feltham – another wonderful and enriching year to my vocation. I am one of eight, the last of the five boys, and a Nigerian. I came to England 13 years ago, trained in Allen Hall Seminary and was ordained for ministry in Westminster Diocese. I love football and a great Chelsea fan! Looking forward to getting to meet you all in time, as we accompany one another in our journey of faith and to witness to the Good News of God's mercy to our world that is in so much need of love and compassion. **God bless you. Fr Joseph**

Mass Intentions:

Sun 11 Sep	Sacred Heart	10:45am	Carol & Peter Kerrigan Int (50 th wedding anniversary)
Mon 12 Sep	Sacred Heart	10:00am	Caroline Graham-Males RIP Ann
Tue 13 Sep	Sacred Heart	10:00am	Vicki Keating RIP
Thu 15 Sep	Sacred Heart	12Noon	Her Majesty The Queen Requiem Mass
Fri 16 Sep	Sacred Heart	10:00am	People of the Parish
Sat 17 Sep	Sacred Heart	10:00am	Michael O'Rourke RIP Ann
Sat 17 Sep	Sacred Heart	6.30pm	Frankie & Roisin Lafferty Int Golden Wedding Anniversary
Sun 18 Sep	Sacred Heart	10:45am	Peter Murray RIP Ann

* Livestream Mass ^ Public Mass + Note Mass Time change

Saturday - 9:00am – Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (and confession alongside) with Benediction at 9:45am

Confessions can also be arranged outside of these times, please contact Fr Joseph

We Pray for:

The Sick and the Housebound in our parishes

We pray especially for: Mike Watson, Vincent Paul Keen, Andrew Reilly, Liz Salmon, Elizabeth Le Juge de Segrais, Winifred Winstone, Zachery Keehn, Lucy Chapman, Hilary Sweetman, Ann Johnstone, Michael Earls.

We commend them to God.

The Recently Deceased & Anniversaries

We pray for those who have recently died including: Her Majesty the Queen, Susan Hobson, Marie Browne, Maurice Cooper, Maura Duffy, John Slingo, Alison Page, Betty Laweor, Ignacy Krajewski, Jeremy Blood, Breda McArdle, John Curley, Margaret Cunningham, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

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Her Majesty The Queen

On 21 April 1947, on her twenty-first birthday, Princess Elizabeth said, 'I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service.'

Now, seventy-five years later, we are heartbroken in our loss at her death, and so full of admiration for the unflinching way in which she fulfilled that declaration. Even in my sorrow, shared with so many around the world, I am filled with an immense sense of gratitude for the gift to the world that has been the life of Queen Elizabeth II.

At this time, we pray for the repose of the soul of Her Majesty. We do so with confidence, because the Christian faith marked every day of her life and activity.

In her Millennium Christmas message, she said, 'To many of us, our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example.'

This faith, so often and so eloquently proclaimed in her public messages, has been an inspiration to me, and I am sure to many. The wisdom, stability and service which she consistently embodied, often in circumstances of extreme difficulty, are a shining legacy and testament to her faith. Our prayer is that she is now received into the merciful presence of God, there to be reunited with her beloved Prince Philip. This is the promise of our faith, and our deep consolation.

Queen Elizabeth II will remain, always, a shining light in our history. May she now rest in peace.

We pray for His Majesty the King, as he assumes his new office even as he mourns his mother.

God save the King.

**Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster
8 September 2022**

Welcome Fr Joseph

We are delighted to welcome Fr Joseph to his new Parish this weekend. Please do keep him in your prayers as he begins his new appointment here at Sacred Heart. Welcome Fr Joseph!

Second Collection – Home Mission

There will be a second collection next Sunday (18th September) for the Home Mission Appeal. Any donations will be gratefully received.

Mary's Meals

There is another drop-in soup, tea, coffee and cake lunch on **Saturday 24th September**, 11.30 - 15.00, at Open Door. Also, a table-top sale. The food is all homemade and lovely! The funds really do go a long way and there is information about Mary's Meals at the back of the church. THANK YOU again for all your support

Car Park Private Hire

The car park will no longer be closed for the seven weeks as previously advised. We did however allow them to use the carpark and grounds to film some scenes on the 8th September for a series called 'The Cleaner' starring Greg Davies.

Fundraising for Cancer Research UK

This year Peter Stenson is running the 2022 London Marathon on the 2nd October to raise vital funds for Cancer Research UK.

If you wish to donate, please follow the link below <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/peters-london-marathon-16>

Children's Liturgy

Our children's liturgy has re-started and will run alongside the school calendar.

You will find a timetable up on the "Family Noticeboard" in the corridor beside the Church hall.

We are looking for volunteers and helpers. In addition, if there are any teenagers who would like to help that would be fabulous. Volunteering would count towards the Duke of Edinburgh award, if there are any DofE candidates out there.

Please speak to Kim after mass.

Westminster Social Justice and Peace Forum - To

Accompany Refugees - Online

All are invited to join Bishops Nicholas Hudson and Paul McAleenan in an online gathering on Saturday 17th September 10:30-13:00 to explore our Diocesan response to refugees.

Guest speakers giving input and facilitating discussion will include, Megan Knowles: Communications and Development Manager at the Jesuit Refugee Service and Teresa Clarke: St Bartholomew's Church, St Alban's, Herts. To book please visit

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/westminster-social-justice-and-peace-forum-to-accompany-refugees-online-tickets-354473378417>

CAFOD Schools Volunteers needed

This summer are you looking for a new challenge? Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in our Catholic schools and churches to bring alive their sense of global justice?

Could you visit schools in your local area to deliver assemblies and workshops about our work and encourage young people to take action, fundraise and pray with CAFOD?

Then why not use your skills for the common good and be an active part of creating a world without poverty. No experience necessary. Full support, resources and regular training provided.

Chris Driscoll at CAFOD Westminster at westminsterschools@cafod.org.uk or call 07776 493162 for further information.