

Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

The Baptism of the Lord, Year A, 8th January 2023



As Christmastide draws to a close, we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which marks the start of Jesus's adult ministry.

The **First Reading** from Isaiah tells of the qualities of justice and compassion that God's chosen one will bring to the earth. He will come to us as a servant leader endowed with the spirit of God.

In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter teaches the early church that the Good News proclaimed by Jesus is not just for the chosen few, but for all people who love God (**Second Reading**).

The **Psalms** proclaim the glory of God in creation and tell us the Lord will bless his people with peace.

The **Gospel** shows how Jesus is baptised by his cousin John in the Jordan. With humility, Jesus shows us the path to truth by entering into the waters of baptism. The Holy Spirit descends on Jesus as God the Father proclaims that Jesus is his beloved Son. There is a dynamic relationship of eternal, creative, self-giving love.

As Christians baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we are called to follow Jesus by spreading the Good News to all people. As we pray this week, let us joyfully remember our baptismal promises so that we may follow Jesus more closely.

Mass Intentions:

Mon 9 Jan	Feria	10:00am	NO MASS
Tue 10 Jan	Feria	10:00am	NO MASS
Thu 12 Jan	Feria	12:00pm	Dominic Dieseru Special Int
Fri 13 Jan	Feria	10:00am	Edmond Gancke
Sat 14 Jan	Feria	10:00am	Deceased members of Anne Griffiths RIP
	Vigil	5:00pm	Ada Sinclair RIP
Sun 15 Jan	✕ 2 nd Sunday in ordinary time	8:30am	Mat and Peggy Simms RIP Ann
		10:00am	Francis Xavier Furlong RIP Ann
Mon 16 Jan	Feria	10:00am	People of the Parish
Mon 16 Jan	Requiem Mass	11:00am	Requiem Mass – John McCarthy RIP

* 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: Gabriel Aragon, Chris Cordova, Dympna O'Connor, Jacqueline Kinsey, Vincent Paul Keen, Liz Salmon, Elizabeth Le Juge de Segrais, Winifred Winstone, Zachery Keehn, Lucy Chapman, Hilary Sweetman, Ann Johnstone, Michael Earls, Oliver Perrin, Fenella Stoner, Phil Kinsella, Sally Taylor, Chris Taylor, John Bromley.

We commend them to God.

The Recently Deceased & Anniversaries

We pray for those who have recently died or those whose anniversaries occur at this time including: Patricia Caddle, David Cairns, John McCarthy, Francis Xavier Furlong, Hugh J. Munro, Richard Jafieniecki, Fr Duncan Adamson, Kyria Sherwin, Fred Gilmour, Paul McCunn, Justin Hall, Mike Watson, Margaret McDivitt, Bernie Smith, Helen McCarthy, Avril McCarthy, Her Majesty the Queen, Susan Hobson, Marie Browne.

Sacred Heart Church

Park Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 1HX

Tel: 01442 863 845

Email: berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk

Website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/berkhamsted/>

(Office Hours: 10:00am-2.00pm **Mon-Fri)

**Actual office closed on Wednesdays, telephone/email only

Parish Priest - Fr Joseph Okoro:

josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk

Administrator – Laura Etson:

berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs)

Carmella Perkins – Sacred Heart PSR:

berkhamstedsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Contactless Donation Machine – We are grateful for your continuing support to the parish, which means that we are able to pay for the running costs of the parish, pay staff salaries and maintain parish property. Donations for Christmas Gift can also be made by using your contactless debit or credit card at the contactless giving machine at the church entrance. To use the machine, please tap the donatable and select the amount you would like to give. Then, tap your contactless card on the small card reader by the side of the donatable to give your selected amount. You can also gift-aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer.

THANK YOU

Sunday Lunch Club - was due to take place on Sunday 8th Jan, but given that it falls very early on in the new year, we have decided to reschedule. The next event will therefore take place on Sunday 5th February. The sign-up sheet can be found at the back of the church.

Parish Register – Thank you all who have already submitted a registration form. The new Parish registration form now includes a section for you to input your car registration number, ready for the new Parking system in January 2023. If you have submitted a new form recently and have not given your car registration, please email it to Laura. To collect a registration form please see Fr Joseph.

Car Park – The car park monitoring system will be switched on on the 20th January. We should by now have received everyone's car registrations. If you haven't yet registered your car, please see Laura and please ensure you input your car registration into the portal within the entrance of the church until Laura has confirmed you have been added to the system. The above is only applicable to people who haven't yet provided their registration and subsequently missed the deadline.

Walking Football - 9pm on Monday 9th and 23rd of January, start the new year with a kickaround at Ashlyns indoor 5 a side courts, contact Ed Murray (07743 844257) if interested.

Give Us This Day, Our Daily Bread - Thank you if you are able to bring some non-perishable food for our Food Bank Box. Your kind donations, which can be placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, are going directly to help local people via the Open Door and DENS Food Bank. Thank you.

Offertory Collections – 25/12
Weekly loose plate - £ 2061.30
Weekly Contactless - £125.00

Offertory Collections – 1/1
Weekly loose plate - £222.17
Weekly Contactless - £30.00

Thank you to every one of you for your generosity to our Parish.

Online Giving – Should you wish to become a regular online donor please use the Parish bank details below.

WRCDT Berkhamsted

Sort Code 40-05-20

Ac. Number 31264354

Please do include your name as your reference and if you would like to gift-aid please ask Fr Joseph or Laura for a form. Thank you for your continued generosity and support to our parish. It is greatly appreciated.

Mass Intentions – Please call or visit the parish office to book Masses for your intentions, email Laura or use the blue envelopes at the back of the church. The Diocesan suggested donation is £10.00. Thank you.

If making a donation online, please use 'MASS STIPEND' and the date of the mass as your reference.

Parishes Celebrations / Dates for your Diaries –

9 th Jan	Walking Football
22 nd Jan	Start of the Holy Communion programme
29 th Jan	Start of Confirmation programme
23 rd Jan	Walking Football
5 th Feb	Sunday Lunch Club

FLAME 2023 - Join us on Saturday 4 March 2023 at OVO Arena, Wembley for the largest Catholic gathering of young people in England and Wales. The theme of Flame is 'Rise Up!' - Rise up after the pandemic, Rise Up as young Catholics. It will be a day of great music, interesting speakers and FUN (aimed at Year 9 and above). For more details contact Sandra on 07842163002 check out the website for more details.

<https://cymfed.org.uk/flame>

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