

Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ Seventh Sunday of Easter, Year A, 21st May 2023



As this joyous season of Easter draws to a close, we are reminded that eternal life is to know the Father and Christ, and the intimate relationship they share. The glory belonging to Jesus and to the Father will be offered to all who believe.

The **First Reading** follows on immediately from the Ascension. Mary, the disciples, and Jesus's extended family gather in the upper room, praying continuously as they await the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The **Gospel** also takes us to a special upper room (perhaps the same one) where the Last Supper was shared. Here, Jesus prays that the disciples will be consecrated in the truth. Jesus has given them the teaching the Father gave to him, and his task now is to make known the name of the Father. Jesus prays for the gift of eternal life: to know the Father as the one true God, and the Son as the one who has been sent.

The **Psalm** exudes trust and confidence in the God of the living. It invites us to seek the Lord's face. In the **Second Reading**, Peter encourages the community as they endure challenges and hard times. He assures them of a special blessing if they live the values of Christ.

This week, we ask God to help us to be people of continuous prayer, and for a deepening trust in his loving care. We pray for peace for all those with troubled hearts, and for all places where there is war and violence.

Mass Intentions:

Sun 21 May	✠ Seventh Sunday of Easter	8:30am	People of the Parish
		10:00am*	Kathleen and Norman Suckley RIP
Mon 22 May	Easter Feria	10:00am	NO MASS
Tue 23 May	Easter Feria	10:00am	NO MASS
Thu 25 May	St Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor	12:00pm	Charlotte Aragon and Heidi Wong Int
Fri 26 May	St Philip Neri, Priest	10:00am	Trevor Martin Roberts RIP
Sat 27 May	St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop	10:00am	Julie Lawrence RIP
	Pentecost Sunday Vigil	5:00pm	Eileen Smith RIP
Sun 28 May	✠ Pentecost Sunday	8:30am	People of the Parish
		10:00am*	Michael O'Rourke Jnr. RIP Ann

* Livestream Mass

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: Joan Hawley, Heidi Wong, Charlotte Aragon, Jane Blayney, Dympna O'Connor, Vincent Paul Keen, Liz Salmon, Elizabeth Le Juge de Segrais, Winifred Winstone, Lucy Chapman, Hilary Sweetman, Michael Earls.

We commend them to God's healing.

The Recently Deceased & Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently or those whose anniversaries occur at this time including: Wally McNeela, Fr Richard Ward Marriott, Trevor Perkins, Alloma Solomons, Bernard Attridge, Jimmy Colclough, Maureen Kyte, Fr Peter James Maher, Phil Kinsella, Fr Henry Young, Jacqueline Kinsey.

Eternal rest granted onto them oh Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp

is sponsored this week for Clare and Gerry McAloon and family.

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, Tue and Thurs.)

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

Mass Intentions – As we come to the end of our Masses for Holy Souls we have a large number of masses available from the end of May up until the end of the year. Please consider booking a Mass, it could be for any occasion.

To book a Mass, please contact Laura or speak with Fr Joseph after Mass.

Parish Outreach Mission – We are pleased to see more parishioners coming back to Mass and participating in our parish community life. It is also true that there are still more parishioners yet to return, whom we are really longing to have back. Can I commend this parish outreach mission to everyone to seek out, visit and invite back anyone whom you know who is yet to return back to the community. It is our earnest prayer that all may join us to share the joy of the Gospel and our fellowship in Christ.

Requiem Mass – The Requiem Mass for Trevor Perkins will be held on Friday 26th May at 11:00am.

Tea and coffee after Sunday 10am Mass - all are invited to join us in the parish hall for teas, coffees and chats.

Give Us This Day, Our Daily Bread - Thank you for your continuing generous donation of non-perishable food to support local people via DENS Food Bank.

DENS – for a list of what they need most please see front of the food collection box.

Following the footsteps of the Saints

Called to action by our faith– Saturday 10th June

You are invited to CAFOD's International Office on Saturday 10th June for a short time exploring our faith, why we Campaign & how you can help.

The morning will include guest speakers and a chance for discussion in workshops to explore activities such as live simply, our unfair food system and liturgy resources.

The morning will run from 10.30-1pm at CAFOD's Office in Lambeth North SE1. For further information contact Tony

tsheen@cafod.org.uk or booking please see <https://cafod.org.uk/news/events>

May 100 Club Winners

1st (£100) Mike Jewell

2nd (£50) Clare Rodgers

3rd (£25) Rachel Cole

If you would like to sign up please go

to <https://forms.gle/p6w6TZoL76wpEvFc7>

Memories Café – Bereavement and loss drop-in support sessions, every Monday - 11am to 1pm at the Watford Hospital Chaplaincy.

Memories Café offers a chance to meet with others who understand the experience of loss. It is a space to talk about the pain of bereavement and find mutual support and encouragement when you need it most.

For more information please email:

westherts.spiritualcare@nhs.net

The Universe Catholic Weekly - Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE trial supply by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Offertory Collections – 14/5

Weekly Loose Plate - £196.39

Weekly Contactless - £182.00

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

Contactless Donation Machine – We are grateful for your continuing support to the parish. Donations for Mass stipends, votive candles, building maintenance fund, flowers for the Church and offertory can also be made using the contactless machine. You can also gift-aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer. THANK YOU

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 –

9th Jul

Sunday Lunch Club 1pm

Blessed Sacrament Lamp - If you would like to sponsor the Blessed Sacrament Lamp, for a week, the diary is open. To sponsor costs just £5 for a whole week. Just let the office know your preferred week and your intention.

Lives to Inspire - Lent Retreat – The Ignatian Spirituality Centre is offering a 30 day online retreat. You are welcome to join. For more details, please visit:

<https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk/lent23.html>

The Community Fridge is at Open Door - every Tuesday morning between 10-12noon.

No charge, but donations always welcome to help fund this and other projects. Between these times, ANYONE is welcome to come to the front of Open Door (360-364 High Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 1HU.) Please BRING YOUR OWN BAG to take your food home in. More info at:

www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk/community-fridge

Bible Alive – is a catholic magazine with daily Mass readings reflections and real life faith testimonies, with wide readership. You can subscribe to it monthly.

Call 01782 745600 or email

booksales@alivepublishing.co.uk

or visit www.alivepublishing.co.uk

A trial version for June is available from the back of the Church, Please help yourself.