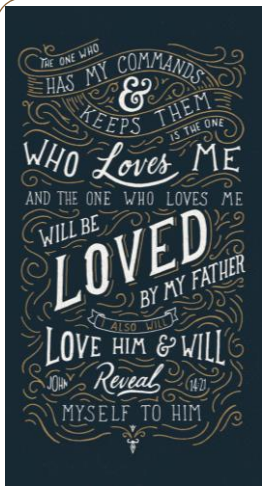


# Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023



Eastertide is nearly at an end. There is a sense that an important event is about to happen. As the readings this week seek to reassure us, we will not be left without comforting support.

In the **First Reading**, we see how active the Apostles are in spreading the Good News. They are welcomed even in Samaria and the people receive the Holy Spirit.

The **Psalm** expresses the joy they must have felt. We can imagine the grateful disciples praying: 'Before you all the earth shall bow, shall sing to you, sing to your name!' But all was not plain sailing for these new communities. They often encountered persecution (**Second Reading**).

Peter tries to encourage them, reminding them of the sufferings of the innocent Jesus. They are to answer their accusers with courtesy and respect.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus reassures his friends. He will not leave them without support, as 'orphans', but will ask his Father to send them help after he has left. The Spirit of truth will be with them.

In my prayer this week, I may want to reflect on Jesus's promises and draw strength from them, so that I can speak to others about my beliefs with greater confidence. I continue to ask Father, Son and Spirit to inspire all peoples to work for peace.

## Mass Intentions:

<b>Sun 14 May</b>	✠ Sixth Sunday of Easter	<b>8:30am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>10:00am*</b>	Willie Weekes RIP
<b>Mon 15 May</b>	Easter Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	Seamus Graham RIP, Birthday
<b>Tue 16 May</b>	Easter Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Thu 18 May</b>	The Ascension of the Lord	<b>12:00pm</b>	Wally McNeela RIP
<b>Fri 19 May</b>	Easter Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	Brian Kerrigan and all Holy Souls RIP
<b>Sat 20 May</b>	Easter Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
	Sunday Vigil	<b>5:00pm</b>	Andrew Stewart and all Holy Souls RIP
<b>Sun 21 May</b>	✠ Seventh Sunday of Easter	<b>8:30am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>10:00am*</b>	Kathleen and Norman Suckley RIP

\* 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 Aragorn, Jane Blayney, Dymna 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 Andrew and Catherine Millar and members of the Millar Family.

Sacred Heart Church  
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Email: [berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk)  
**Administrator – Laura Etson:** [berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk)  
**Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs)**  
Carmella Perkins – Sacred Heart PSR:  
[berkhamstedsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto: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.

**Tea and coffee after Sunday 10am Mass-** There will be no tea and coffee after the 10am Mass today (14/5).

**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.**

**MARY'S MEALS** - Another huge thank you to everyone supporting Mary's Meals through prayers, actions and donations . In April with the drop-in event on 22nd , tea/coffee after 10am Mass that weekend and other donations, a total of £562 was raised and has been sent to the charity. Our next Open Door event for Mary's Meals is planned to take place on Saturday 24th June and again everyone is invited.

In the month of May, we are all invited to pray that the work of the charity continues to grow and more children are reached and helped. Resources are available on the charity website [info@marysmeals.org.uk](mailto:info@marysmeals.org.uk)

**The Veritas Lecture** - Old Testament by Fr John Hemer. The charismatic MHM Allen Hall biblical lecturer is coming to the Parish Centre, HP1 1NR, Sat, 20<sup>th</sup> May. 11am – 4pm. A-level students and grown ups welcome! Ask the questions you never asked! Let's talk about violence in the Old Testament.

Please bring lunch to share and donation for the lecturer.

To attend, register at:

[CATHOLIC THEOLOGY LECTURE – Old Testament – Roman Catholic Parish of Hemel West \(rcdow.org.uk\)](#)

**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](mailto:westherts.spiritualcare@nhs.net)

**Offertory Collections** – 7/5

Weekly Loose Plate - £226.65

Weekly Contactless - £70.00

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 –**

**9<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk/community-fridge)

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