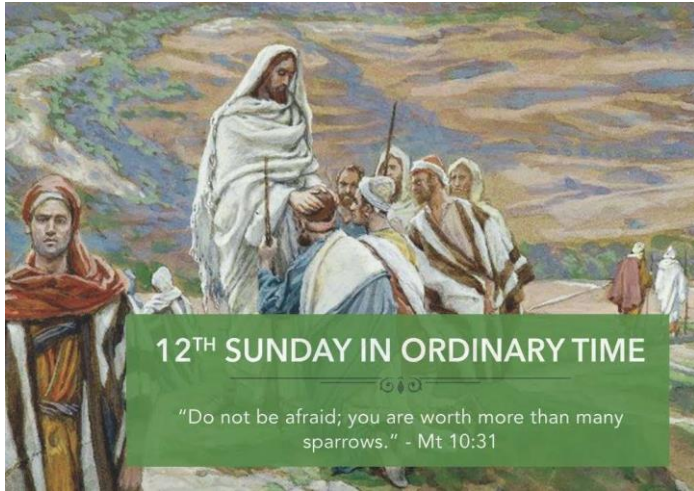


# Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 25th June 2023



Because we live in anxious, troubling times, where so many people around the world are suffering intolerably, today's readings can speak especially to us.

Jeremiah, in the **First Reading**, reflects on how his preaching has brought him suffering and isolation. Yet 'the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero.'

The **Psalms** cry out in anguish, but like Jeremiah, trusts that the Lord will answer with 'help that never fails.'

St Paul considers how sin and death hold sway in the world, but Christ has gained for us the abundant free gift of divine grace. (**Second Reading**).

In the **Gospel**, Jesus twice tells his disciples, 'Do not be afraid'. Suffering will come their way, but the Father will always care tenderly for them.

Our lives, and those of our loved ones too, can be weighed down by fears, concerns or pain. May we strive this week to place our trust in the Lord, who is the 'strength of his people'.

### Mass Intentions:

<b>Sun 25 Jun</b>	✠ 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	McMahon Family Int
		<b>10:00am*</b>	Esther Horkan RIP Ann
<b>Mon 26 Jun</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Tue 27 Jun</b>	St John Southworth, Priest and Martyr	<b>10:00am</b>	Anne Fletcher RIP
<b>Thu 29 Jun</b>	SS Peter and Paul, Apostles.	<b>12:00pm</b>	Timothy Murphy and family Int
<b>Fri 30 Jun</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	Gregory, Rachel, Helen and Luke Sinclair Int
<b>Sat 1 Jul</b>	Dedication of the Cathedral 1910	<b>10:00am</b>	
	Sunday Vigil	<b>5:00pm</b>	
<b>Sun 2 Jul</b>	✠ 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>10:00am*</b>	Rina Romeo Brandi 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: Tim Murphy, 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: Helen Campbell, Becky Lambert, Veronica Aligwo, Franca Agwara, Wally McNeela, Fr Richard Ward Marriott, Trevor Perkins, Alloma Solomons, Bernard Attridge, Jimmy Colclough, Maureen Kyte. **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 Mamie Wright RIP Ann.

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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)

**Going Forth Mass** – Congratulations to all our young children who took their First Holy Communion last weekend. We are looking forward to welcoming them and their parents to the Going Forth Mass. At this Mass their First Holy Communion certificates will be issued. Please join us in the hall afterwards for Tea, coffee and cake (cake donations welcome).

**Mass Intentions** – We have a large number of masses available from the end of June 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.

**Sunday Lunch Club** – 9<sup>th</sup> July will be a **Summer buffet** this month and includes a **bouncy castle** for the children. All families welcome, no charge, but a donation would be appreciated, suggested donation is £10 per adult. Please sign up by the 2<sup>nd</sup> July and indicate how many people per family, a sign-up sheet can be found at the back of the church.

**Cake Stand** – we have acquired a cake stand following the Celebrate Joy event. If this belongs to you, please contact Laura.

**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.

**For a list of what they need most please see front of the food collection box.**

With your generous donations we provided DENS with **378kg** of food between April 22 – March 23.

**The Jurassic Coast Trek** - taking place from 20-22nd October 2023. Join like-minded individuals on a breathtaking and unforgettable journey from Lulworth to Studland, covering 25 miles across 2 days. A worthy fundraising challenge for anyone who is reasonably fit and has bucket-loads of determination! [www.dens.org.uk/trek](http://www.dens.org.uk/trek) for more information head to the website, email [fundraising@dens.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@dens.org.uk) or call 01442 800268

**Free School Meals for All Campaign** - We are supporting this campaign to ask the Government to provide free school meals for every child from nursery to sixth form – seeing this as an essential part of education just like books and desks. There is a Bill going through parliament at the moment which is aiming to achieve this for primary schools. See: [Free school meals for all Primary Bill](#) – led by Zarah Sultana MP for Coventry South. The second reading is on 30th June. You can support us by asking parishioners to sign their name in these two places: From Sustain: Add your name to this map to show your support for universal access to free school meals for all children up to sixth form: <https://www.sustainweb.org/school-food-for-all/> Signatures will be delivered to Government.

From the National Education Union: Add your name to this open letter to Rishi Sunak, calling for an end to the postcode lottery where some primary school children receive free school meals and some do not: <https://freeschoolmealsforall.org.uk/take-action> Signatures will be delivered to Government.

**Offertory Collections** – 18/6

Weekly Loose Plate - £564.40

Weekly Contactless - £85.00

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** –

**2<sup>nd</sup> Jul** Going Forth Mass 10:00am

**9<sup>th</sup> Jul** Sunday Lunch Club 1pm (Summer Buffet)

**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.

**Wintershall Life of Christ** - The greatest story of all time is movingly recreated with authentic detail, outstanding quality sound and music. The Life of Christ is a passion play not to be missed. It is both educational and entertaining, amusing and serious. Watch as hundreds of actors bring the story of Jesus to life in an open-air epic production set in stunning Surrey countryside. Young and old from all walks of life will be mesmerised as the story unfolds across three captivating acts from **10am to 3.30pm, 27<sup>th</sup> June - 1<sup>st</sup> July.**

**Book your tickets here:**

<https://www.wintershall.org.uk/life-christ-6>

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate** - London is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat at St Georges RC Church, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE on Saturday 8 July 2023 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. Call millie on 07957594646 for more information.

**Racial Justice Webinar** – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 14.00 – 15.30.

The webinar will provide an opportunity for those working in the area of racial justice to learn from one another, share experiences and initiatives. It will also help inform the Bishops' Conference in the ongoing mission of promoting racial justice. Anyone can register for the event by following the link below.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/webinar-racial-justice-in-the-church/>