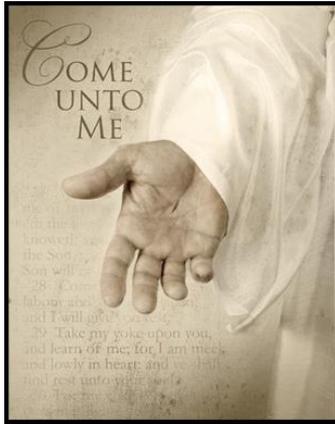




# Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ The 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023



Praise to God and joy in God's merciful love, justice and peace are themes which run through the readings for this Sunday.

The **First Reading** from Zechariah describes how God will defeat his enemies and establish himself as king – not through war and aggression, but with humility and peace.

The **Psalm** is a great hymn of praise, central to the Jewish faith. It speaks of God's kindness and compassion to all, and offers us the reassurance that the Lord will always be faithful and loving, ready to support and raise us up when we fall.

In the **Second Reading**, Paul reminds the Romans, and ourselves, of what the suffering and death of Jesus has achieved for us. He speaks of the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

In today's **Gospel**, through his own prayer to his Father in heaven, Jesus reminds us that he is the one who will reveal God to us. Humility and gentleness are the virtues he emphasises; rest and freedom from burdens are the gifts he promises.

This week we pray anew for the people whose lives are burdened by war and violence, especially in Ukraine, Sudan and other troubled areas of the world. With the help of our prayers, may they know the love and peace of Christ.

## Mass Intentions:

<b>Sun 9 Jul</b>	✠ 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>10:00am*</b>	Thanksgiving for the birth of Dolly Anne Furlong. First great grandchild for Anne and Frank.
<b>Mon 10 Jul</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Tue 11 Jul</b>	St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe	<b>10:00am</b>	Sylvester and Jenny Mascarenhas, 33 <sup>rd</sup> Wedding Anniversary
<b>Thu 13 Jul</b>	Feria	<b>12:00pm</b>	John Hughes RIP Ann
<b>Fri 14 Jul</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Sat 15 Jul</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	
	Sunday Vigil	<b>5:00pm</b>	
<b>Sun 16 Jul</b>	✠ 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>10:00am*</b>	

\* 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: Rosemary Goacher, Tim Murphy, 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: Elizabeth Anne Keenan, Paul Galea, Fr Theo Raaijmakers, Helen Campbell, Becky Lambert, Veronica Aligwo, Franca Agwara, Wally McNeela, Fr Richard Ward Marriott, Trevor Perkins, Alloma Solomons, Bernard Attridge.

**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 the Berthrand Ndionyemma Family .

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(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** – It was so wonderful to see so many children and their families at the Going Forth Mass last Sunday. A big thank you to all who donated cakes and everyone who joined us for teas and coffees after Mass. We would like to thank the choir and all those who helped to organise the singing.

**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.

**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.**

**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

**Annual Berkhamsted tennis club tournament** - Congratulations and our blessings to Raul and Santiago Mackie who were successful in the annual Berkhamstead Tennis club tournament. Santiago won the under 14 title and Raul the under 18 plate.

**Right to Life** - There has been a tragic case of a woman being sent abortion pills by the abortion provider, BPAS, who had not accurately established the gestation of her baby, Lily, who was then aborted at between 32 and 34 weeks, which is around 8 months gestation. Rather than take responsibility for sending out abortion pills 22 weeks beyond the legal limit for at-home abortions, BPAS is running a major campaign to fully 'decriminalise' abortion, which would introduce abortion up to birth! Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on their website which makes it simple for you to send an email to your MP asking them to oppose the introduction of abortion up to birth and instead ask the Government to reinstate in-person appointments to ensure babies like Lily are protected in the future. For more information, please click the link below. [www.righttolife.org.uk/noabortionuptobirth](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/noabortionuptobirth)

**Second Collection 2<sup>nd</sup> July** – Thank you to all who donated at our second collection for Peter's Pence, in total we collected £227.10.

**Second Collection 9<sup>th</sup> July** - Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. Sea Sunday is Sunday 9th July. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting [www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate](http://www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate), or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) to continue its important work - so please give generously. Thank you.

**Offertory Collections** – 2/7

Weekly Loose Plate - £529.28

Weekly Contactless - £245.00

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** –

**11<sup>th</sup> Jul** Racial Justice Webinar

**16<sup>th</sup> Jul** Procession in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

**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.

**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)

**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/>

**Procession in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel** - On Sunday 16th July 2023 starting at 3.30pm, St Peter's Italian Church we will be continuing a tradition started in 1883 of holding an annual Procession in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. For more information please contact [info@italianchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@italianchurch.org.uk) or 020 7837 1528

**Debbie Shrimpton Illustrates** - a member of the parish has illustrated the Sacred Heart Berkhamsted which can be bought as framed artwork. Debbie will donate 10% of the framed illustration fee to the church funds. The framed illustration can be personalised with names, date of sacrament etc, for a unique memento of your child's Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation or your Wedding. Framed illustrations are £55 or £65 with personalisation. Please contact Debbie at [debbieshrimpton@gmail.com](mailto:debbieshrimpton@gmail.com) for enquiries or visit her website [www.debbieshrimptonillustrates.co.uk](http://www.debbieshrimptonillustrates.co.uk)