



# Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023



Today's readings remind us that the path of love leads us away from ourselves. This is always painful, but ultimately it is a path that leads us to the fullness of life.

Peter's journey of faith (**Gospel**) earns him the severe disapproval of Jesus, who has started to speak openly of the shocking nature of his Messiahship. Peter rejects the idea: his thoughts are human rather than those of God. Jesus explains that being his disciple means being prepared to shoulder his cross: a metaphor for suffering for what we believe in.

Jeremiah (**First Reading**) gives remarkable insight into how costly his own prophetic mission is. He shares his profound struggles and suffering, as well as the intensity and depth of his relationship with God.

The **Psalmist** speaks passionately of our life-giving desire and thirst for God – and by implication, of the personal cost that following the Lord may involve.

In the **Second Reading**, Paul encourages the Romans to see all aspects of their lives as a living sacrifice. Paul is offering a radical, new teaching on the concept of sacrifice. Sacrifice is now to do with transforming our way of life from within, and modelling ourselves on the person of Christ.

This week, we pray for the grace to deepen our relationship with God. We ask for the human freedom to offer our whole being in loving service of Christ and the world.

## Mass Intentions:

<b>Sun 3 Sep</b>	✠ 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	Mary Graham RIP Ann
		<b>10:00am*</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Mon 4 Sep</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	<b><u>NO MASS</u></b>
<b>Tue 5 Sep</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Thu 7 Sep</b>	Feria	<b>12:00pm</b>	
<b>Fri 8 Sep</b>	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Sat 9 Sep</b>	Sunday Vigil	<b>5:00pm</b>	Fr John Boland Int
<b>Sun 10 Sep</b>	✠ 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	Vincent Paul and John Keen RIP
		<b>10:00am*</b>	People of the Parish

\* 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: Fr John Boland, Joe Quinn, Rosemary Goacher, Jane Blayney, Dympna O'Connor, 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: Fr Pat Egan, Roy Kay, Tim Murphy, Vincent Paul Keen, Fr Mark Leenane, Michael Briggs, Teresa Treacy, Elizabeth Anne Keenan, Paul Galea, Fr Theo Raaijmakers.

**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 Fr John Boland.

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