



# Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted



✠ 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023



The image of the people of God as a vineyard is familiar in the Scriptures. We can rejoice in seeing the Church as the vineyard of the Lord, but we also need to respond to God's gifts and use them well.

In Isaiah's 'Song of the Vineyard', God has made the people of Israel his vineyard (**First Reading**). He lovingly cares for it, but sadly the people fail to respond.

The **Psalm** picks up the same theme. It is an appeal to God to turn again and visit the vine he has planted.

The vineyard appears in the **Gospel** too, but here the tenants are reproached. Not only are they not profitable, but they murder the owner's son.

St Paul writes that the peace of God is ours if we can only trust in him (**Second Reading**). We are to pursue all that is good and pure, and produce the fruit worthy of the Lord.

This week, may we be full of thanksgiving for all that we have received, and always turn to the Lord in prayer.

## Mass Intentions:

<b>Sun 8 Oct</b>	✠ 27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>10:00am*</b>	Teresa Sharp RIP
<b>Mon 9 Oct</b>	St John Henry Newman, Priest	<b>10:00am</b>	Fidelia Maduforo RIP
<b>Tue 10 Oct</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	Lynn Gray RIP
<b>Thu 12 Oct</b>	Feria	<b>12:00pm</b>	Fr Dominic McKenna RIP
<b>Fri 13 Oct</b>	St Edward the Confessor, Patron of the Diocese and of the City of Westminster	<b>10:00am</b>	
<b>Sat 14 Oct</b>	Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	
	Sunday Vigil	<b>5:00pm</b>	Ken Bradding RIP
<b>Sun 15 Oct</b>	✠ 28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>8:30am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>10:00am*</b>	James Campion 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: Canon Jane Bannister, Ron Harper, Rosemary McArdle, Tom Kemplen, Gerry Earls, Tom O'Reilly, Fr John Boland, Joe Quinn, Rosemary Goacher, Jane Blayney, Dymrna 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: Fidelia Maduforo, Fr Dominic McKenna, Kerry Prendergast, Helena Duckett, Denis Murray, Nicky Newman, Fr Pat Egan, Roy Kay.

**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 Convery Family.

Sacred Heart Church  
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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:  
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**Month of the Holy Rosary** - The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7). The best way to celebrate the month is, of course, to pray the Rosary. The Rosary is a powerful spiritual weapon, which we all will do well to have. We strongly encourage families to find time to gather frequently, if not everyday, to ask for the intercession and protection of our Blessed Mother Mary, for our needs and for peace in our world. Please also join our Parish Rosary Group on Mondays in the Lady Chapel at **2:30pm** to pray the Rosary.

**Everyone Counts** – The national annual Mass count continues this weekend, up to and including Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October. The total Mass counts will then be submitted to the Bishops Conference England and Wales and then the Vatican. The purpose of this is to obtain Pastoral statistics around the world.

**Parish Financial Information** – A financial summary of our Parish for 2022 can be found on the noticeboard at the back of the Church. It also highlights how much we would have received on gift aid had everyone gift aided their donation. Please consider registering for gift aid if you are a UK tax payer.

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

**St Thomas More** - Support our local primary school St Thomas More by signing up to their fundraising incentives.

Club 100, Help the school and be in with a chance of winning £100, £50 or £25 every month!

<https://forms.gle/oKuVaHML8fqLimYD9>

Supermarket vouchers, buy gift cards from STMSA to spend at Waitrose or John Lewis and the school receives commission on these sales! [Tinyurl.com/SMVouchers](http://Tinyurl.com/SMVouchers)

**St Thomas More Catholic Primary School Reception Tours –**

**September 2024 start** - Come and see our wonderful school! School tours for Reception children beginning September 2024 will be running on:

- Wednesday 18th October @ 9.15am

- Monday 30th October @ 9.15am

- Friday 1st December @ 9.15am

Please contact the school office via [admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk) if you wish to attend any of our tour dates.

**St Thomas More School Association Quiz Night** - Friday 13th October 2023 at St Thomas More School doors open at 7pm; quiz starts at 7.30pm. Come along to a fabulous evening of quizzing and delicious food at St Thomas More School! Ticket price is £20 per head and includes the quiz, a curry supper and one complimentary round of Heads or Tails. Drinks will be on sale at our in-house bar, and there will be fabulous prizes on offer for quiz winners and in our Heads or Tails rounds. Maximum quiz team size is 8 people. Please book for you and your team using the following form: <https://forms.gle/pUw25fjeLzepvkjA7>, and make a bank transfer to the STMSA account for the cost of your team's tickets. All proceeds will go to the St Thomas More School Association, which provides enrichment and resources for St Thomas More pupils.

**Alzheimers Society memory walk** – This Sunday Marie Capes and her daughter Laura will be taking part in the Alzheimers Society memory walk. Please see below link for anyone who would like to sponsor Marie and Laura in support of the Alzheimers Society. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/marie-capes-1695562631248>

**Offertory Collections** – 01/10/23

Weekly Loose Plate - £226.40

Weekly Contactless - £112.00

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 –**

**13<sup>th</sup> Oct** St Thomas More Quiz Night

**29<sup>th</sup> Oct** Mary's Meals, Tea & Treasures

**1<sup>st</sup> Nov** St Thomas More attending 10am Mass

**12<sup>th</sup> Nov** Sunday Lunch Club 12:30pm

**9<sup>th</sup> Dec** Seniors Christmas Lunch

**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.

**Westminster Diocese Mosaic publication** – Please find copies of the latest issue on the bookshelf beside the noticeboard.

**Universe Catholic Weekly** – There are some free copies at the back of the Church, please feel free to take one. Details on how to subscribe can be found within the publication.

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London** - is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat at St Anthonys RC Church, 5 Garrat Road, Edgware, London HA8 9AN on Saturday 14 October 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. Please call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information

**Debbie Shrimpton Illustrates** - A member of the parish has illustrated our church, the Sacred Heart statue and our church garden to create our new newsletter banner. Debbie started her illustration business in lockdown and it has grown to become one of the positive stories arising from the difficulties and challenges of the pandemic. Contact Debbie for house portraits, car & campervan illustrations, loved local landmarks and personalised illustrations of our church. Debbie will donate 10% of the Sacred Heart illustration orders to the church funds. Please contact Debbie for enquiries [debbieshrimpton@gmail.com](mailto:debbieshrimpton@gmail.com) or visit her website [www.debbieshrimptonillustrates.co.uk](http://www.debbieshrimptonillustrates.co.uk)