



Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 29th October 2023

When you look at something like the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and see its 691 pages, or look at the 2,000 pages of the big Jerusalem Bible, you can be forgiven for thinking that Christianity is a complicated affair. But Jesus reminds us today that it is essentially very simple: everything can be summed up in two basic rules: love God, love your neighbour. Exodus backs this up, by talking about the simple love that we must show to each other. Not that this is easy - love is always costly, and involves some degree of sacrifice. We will have to change, to become perfect in love; but it is possible, and when we do, like the people of Thessalonica, we become a great example to people everywhere.

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26.

The Law that God gives, through Moses, to the people has at its heart love: practically this means that people must be aware of how what they do affects others - especially these poor ones. Love is to be shown in the most practical of ways. There is a certain severity in the tone of this reading - it's laying the line down quite firmly. Allow this to come through, not by adopting an accusing tone of voice, but by the firmness and conviction with which you read.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10.

You definitely get the impression that Paul is inordinately proud of 'his' Thessalonians - it flows out of this passage. There's a lovely phrase, with a delightful use of language: 'We do not need to tell other people about you - other people tell us...' He is proud and delighted that these people have taken the Gospel so completely to heart and are producing great fruit.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus asks us to express the love of God that fills our hearts, our souls and our minds, by treating others as we would want to be treated ourselves. We find in others the image of the God who is love.

This week, we pray for and with our sisters and brothers in so many parts of the world who yearn for peace and justice.

We ask especially that God will help us to grow in love of him and of one another, and that we might more and more recognise Christ Jesus in our midst, especially in those who are suffering.

Mass Intentions:

Sun 29 Oct	✠ 30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:30am	Private Intention
		10:00am*	Baby Edward Leonardo Murray RIP
Mon 30 Oct	Feria	10:00am	NO MASS
Tue 31 Oct	Feria	10:00am	People of the Parish
Wed 1 Nov	All Saints Holy Day of Obligation	10:00am 6:00pm	
Thu 2 Nov	All Souls	10:00am	All Holy Souls RIP
		6:00pm	All Holy Souls RIP
Fri 3 Nov	Feria	10:00am	Alan Tonge and All Holy Souls RIP
Sat 4 Nov	St Charles Borromeo, Bishop	10:00am	
	Sunday Vigil	5:00pm	Laurie Symonds Int
Sun 5 Nov	✠ 31 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:30am	People of the Parish
		10:00am*	Philip Capes 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: Alice Danladi, Fr John Boland, Canon Jane Bannister, Ron Harper, Tom Kemplen, Joe Quinn, Rosemary Goacher, Jane Blayney, Dymrna O'Connor, Lucy Chapman, Hilary Sweetman, Gerry and 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 Timothy O'Connor, Tom O'Reilly, Baby Edward Leonardo Murray, Bernard Gray, Fidelia Maduforo, Fr Dominic McKenna, Kerry Prendergast, Helena Duckett, Denis Murray.

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 peace in our world and all those effected by terrorism.

Sacred Heart Church
Park Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 1HX
Tel: 01442 863 845
Email: 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
Administrator – Laura Etson: berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs)
Carmella Perkins – Sacred Heart PSR:
berkhamstedsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

All Saints and All Souls Masses – Wednesday 1st November at 10:00am and **6:00pm**. There will also be a Mass on Thursday 2nd November at 10:00am and **6:00pm**. Envelopes for November dead list can be found at the back of the Church.

Sick & Retired Priests' Fund Collection - Next weekend, 4th and 5th November is the annual collection for sick and retired priests in the Diocese of Westminster. Last year, the Diocese of Westminster provided care to 82 retired priests, at a cost of £850,000. The number of our priests over the age of 65 is steadily increasing, and caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is a fundamental part of the mission of our diocese. Whilst we work with the NHS and local authorities to ensure funding gaps are met, we still rely heavily on the generosity of parishioners who contribute to this worthy fund each year. Donation envelopes are at the back of the church. Please continue to pray for all our clergy: active, retired or ill. Thank you.

Blessing of Graves – We will be doing blessing of graves at Kingshill Cemetery on Sunday 5th November at 12 Noon. All those who have loved ones at Kingshill cemetery are welcome to this ceremony.

Memorial Mass for Holy Souls – Will be celebrated on the 17th November at **6:00pm**. All those that have been bereaved in the past two years will have an opportunity during the Mass to light a candle for their deceased relatives or friends.

Clock Change 29th October – Reminder that the clocks go back by 1 hour this Sunday at 02:00am.

World Mission Sunday - Thank you very much for your donations to World Mission Sunday last week, we raised a total of £406.40. Your prayers and support of World Mission Sunday will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the work of Missio and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To continue supporting mission throughout the year, please go to missio.org.uk or call 020 7821 9755 (office hours).

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

Mary's Meals – would like to remind everyone there will be tea, coffee and home made cakes as well as bric-a-brac, treasures and toys after 10am Mass this Sunday. Please come along. All to raise money for Mary's Meals – Thank you.

Celebrate – Parish Event Saturday 2nd December 2:30pm – 5pm Come to Celebrate Nativity our Parish event with a difference at St Thomas More School.

An afternoon of fun activities for all the family - live music, team games, prizes, a feast and a take home party bag.

To book your tickets, [Click Here](#) or scan the below QR code.



*Tickets are purchased via Eventbrite and therefore any details provided may be held by Eventbrite for future marketing purposes. All data is processed in accordance with the Diocese's Privacy Notice; which is available at rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy

All Saints' Church Berkhamsted – are seeking a Church Administrator on a fixed-term contract with possibility for continuation. 10 hours per week, £12.50 per hour. For further details and application form contact Rev Rachael Hawkins on 01442 866324 or rachael.hawkins@methodist.org.uk

Offertory Collections – 22/10/23

Weekly Loose Plate - £360.37

Weekly Contactless - £82.00

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 –

29th Oct	Mary's Meals, Tea & Treasures
1st Nov	St Thomas More attending 10:00am Mass
1st Nov	All Saints Masses 10:00am, 6:00pm
2nd Nov	All Souls Masses 10:00am, 6:00pm
4th/5th Nov	Sick & Retired Priests Second Collection
5th Nov	Blessing of Graves 12:00pm
12th Nov	Sunday Lunch Club 12:30pm
17th Nov	Memorial Mass for Holy Souls 6:00pm
18th Nov	Mass for The Catenian deceased members 11:00am
2nd Dec	Celebrate Event (St Thomas More)
9th 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.

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](https://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:

- Monday 30th October @ 9.15am

- Friday 1st December @ 9.15am

Please contact the school office via admin@stmore.herts.sch.uk if you wish to attend any of our tour dates.