



Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted



✠ Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year A, 19th November 2023

The image of the shepherd, as we have in this Sunday's readings, is one of the most enduring in the Bible. This is not the Western shepherd, who sometimes use dogs and pens to force the sheep where he wants them, but the Eastern shepherd, who leads his flock alone, spending all his days and nights with them, devoting the whole of his life to being with the flock he loves.

The hymn, "Shepherd-King o'er mountain steep, homeward guide thy wand'ring sheep," captures the readings perfectly: our King is not a cruel tyrant or despot, but a shepherd who loves his flock, who would (and did) give his life for them. Love for the flock means that he will have to judge them, separating the sheep from those who do not belong to him.

Coming to the end of the Church's year leads us to look to our final ending, the homecoming the hymn speaks of. The judgement of the end of time we do not view as a court trial or a terror, but as a coming home to give account of our stewardship to God. All we need do therefore is put our lives in order, living just and holy lives, longing for the Day of the Lord to come.

Let's pray that Christ the King will live in me; will live in my actions this coming week. Amen.

Mass Intentions:

We Pray for:

Sun 26 Nov	✠ Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	8:30am	People of the Parish
		10:00am*	Mary Murphy and Martin Brennan RIP
		Youth Mass	
Mon 27 Nov	Feria	10:00am	Norman Cripps and All Holy Souls RIP
Tue 28 Nov	Feria	10:00am	Joan Harnetty RIP Ann
Thu 30 Nov	St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland	12:00pm	Fay Miller RIP
Fri 1 Dec	Feria	10:00am	Barry Gratton and All Holy Souls RIP
Sat 2 Dec	Feria	10:00am	Antonio and Candida Rodrigues and All Holy Souls RIP
	Sunday Vigil	5:00pm	Francis and Analia Rodrigues and All Holy Souls RIP
Sun 3 Dec	✠ 1 st Sunday of Advent	8:30am	Kathleen Murray RIP Ann
		10:00am*	Frank Furlong RIP Ann

* 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

The Sick and the Housebound in our parishes

We pray especially for: Anthony Doolan, William Campbell, 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: Imelda Hodkinson, Peter Hammond, Fr Timothy O'Connor, Tom O'Reilly, Bernard Gray, Fidelia Maduforo, Fr Dominic McKenna, Kerry Prendergast. **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 Pam Masini Int.

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
Administrator – Laura Etson: berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs)
Carmella Perkins – Sacred Heart PSR:
berkhamstedsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

New Readers and Altar Servers Appeal – We are appealing for more Readers and Altar Servers to join us for all the Sunday Masses. If this is of interest, please speak with Fr Joseph or contact Laura in the office.

Westminster Diocese – The Annual Report and Accounts for 2022 can be found at <https://rcdow.org.uk/about-us/>.

First Holy Communion – A Reminder that this Sunday (26th Nov) is the deadline for returning application forms for your child to take part in our First Holy Communion programme 2024.

Reminder that the Parents Session is Saturday 2nd December 10:00-11:30am.

Donations for Christmas Flowers – During Advent we welcome any donations towards flowers for Christmas. You can either give as you leave the Church, put your donation in an envelope indicating Christmas Flowers on the envelope and post through the Presbytery letterbox or use the contactless machine at the back of the Church.

Masses for Holy Souls – Thank you for the donations enclosed in the November dead list envelopes. We will continue to offer Masses for all Holy Souls throughout November and until we exhaust the list.

Car Park – As some of you may be aware, ParkingEye have introduced a £20.00 administration fee for any tickets cancelled following appeal. ParkingEye, as a goodwill gesture have removed the £20.00 clause until the end of this year and cancelled any outstanding admin fee fines. This fee is to cover their administration costs and will be applied from the 1st January 2024. If we do not have your registration on the system or your friends forget to input their registration into the terminal from this date, the admin fee cannot be revoked and unfortunately the Parish office will be unable to assist.

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

Sunday 26th November, Youth Day - "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs..." (Mk. 10:13-16)

We warmly welcome families and children to join us at the 10:00am Mass to celebrate Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe.

Senior Christmas Lunch – Saturday 9th December 12:00pm.

Please join us for a full Turkey and Ham roast with all the trimmings followed by Christmas carols.

A sign-up sheet can be found at the back of the Church.

Our Annual Carol Concert – In aid of The Hospice of St Francis will take place on the 16th December at 6:30pm at Sacred Heart Berkhamsted. We would welcome you all to join us for this joyful occasion. Entry/donations on the door.

We would be grateful for extra singers to join our choir (men and women). For further details of choir rehearsals please contact Caroline McLoone cazandpatrick@live.co.uk Thank you.

Mary's Meals – A reminder that there is tea, coffee, cakes and toys etc. after the 10:00am Mass this Sunday 26th November. Please come along - this will be our last event in the run up to Christmas.

The Santa Marta Group - Will hold an information meeting in the parish hall of Our Lady Immaculate and St Andrew Catholic Church, 16, Nightingale Road, Hitchin SG5 1QS, from 7pm – 9pm On Thursday 30th November. Kevin Hyland, the UK's first Independent anti-slavery Commissioner and currently chief advisor to the Santa Marta Group will lead the meeting. All are welcome to come to learn more about the prevalence of human trafficking and modern slavery in our communities and the steps we can take to prevent it.

Offertory Collections – 19/11/23

Weekly Loose Plate - £153.32

Weekly Contactless - £95.00

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 –

26th Nov Youth Mass 10:00am

26th Nov Mary's Meals Tea & Treasures after 10:00am Mass

1st Dec Wreath Making at St Thomas More 7:00pm

2nd Dec Celebrate Event (St Thomas More)

2nd Dec Holy Communion Parents Session 10:00-11:30am

9th Dec Seniors Christmas Lunch

9th Dec St Thomas More Christmas Fair 2:00-5:00pm

16th Dec Hospice of St Francis Carol Concert 6:30pm

14th Jan Sunday Lunch 12:00pm

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.

Berkhamsted Choral Society – Will be holding a concert of Christmas Music and Carols at St Peter's Church in Berkhamsted on Sunday 10th December at 7pm. Please see poster at the back of the church for more information.

To purchase a ticket please visit <https://tktp.as/EORKAT>.

Divine Mercy Reflection - The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Advent Reflection 2023 at Sacred Heart RC Church New Priory, Quex Road, Kilburn, London NW6 4PS on Saturday 10th Dec 2:30-5:30pm led by the Marian Fathers. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

Wreath Making Night – St Thomas More, 1st December from 7:00pm. £35.00 per adult, includes a mince pie and glass of prosecco. Register your place by emailing contactstmsa@gmail.com.

St Thomas More Annual Christmas Fair – Will take place on Saturday 9th December, 2:00pm-5:00pm, Everyone welcome. Raffle tickets will be available to purchase after Mass at the back of the Church.