



Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 12th November

Running throughout the readings this Sunday are themes of longing, seeking, and purposeful attentiveness. We are encouraged to remain alert to the presence of the Lord, who comes to us in every moment, and to be ready to welcome his second coming.

The **First Reading** describes how the spirit of Wisdom is eager to enter into our lives. She is always close by, sitting at our gates, waiting for us to greet her, so that she may richly bless our lives.

Today's **Psalm** is a joyful prayer of desire for the Lord. The love of the Lord is better than life itself, and those who seek the Lord will be filled forever, as with a banquet.

In the **Second Reading**, the Christian community is reassured that our hope in the resurrection is not in vain. The longing and desire that we feel for God will be fulfilled both in life and in death.

Jesus uses a cautionary yet humorous parable to stress the importance of remaining prepared and hopeful for the coming of the Lord into our lives (**Gospel**). We are all invited to the banquet of the Lord, and yet we can become complacent about the abundant richness that our faith can bring. God is here with us now, but sometimes we may not be ready or do not have the light to see his presence amongst us.

This week, let us pray for a spirit of hopeful, joyful longing for the Lord, so that we may be fully ready to greet him when he comes into our life. We also continue to pray for peace and justice across our suffering world.

Mass Intentions:

We Pray for:

Sun 12 Nov	✠ 32 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:30am	Mrs Helen Campbell and All Holy Souls RIP
		10:00am*	Mrs Mary Murphy RIP
Mon 13 Nov	Feria	10:00am	People of the Parish
Tue 14 Nov	Feria	10:00am	Ian Reid RIP Ann
Thu 16 Nov	St Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop	12:00pm	Charles and Florence Rynn and All Holy Souls RIP
Fri 17 Nov	Feria	6:00pm	Memorial Mass for Holy Souls RIP **Mass time changed**
Sat 18 Nov	Feria	11:00am	The Catenian Deceased Members RIP **Mass time changed**
	Sunday Vigil	5:00pm	Joe McDonnell RIP Ann
Sun 19 Nov	✠ 33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:30am	Maureen Murphy Int
		10:00am*	Rebecca Hardinge 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: 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 Hodgkinson, 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 James Randall.

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

Sick & Retired Priests' Fund Collection - Thank you for so generously supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund collection last weekend, together we raised £879.51. Our priests give us years of dedicated service and it is only right that, together, we ensure they live out their days with dignity and the care they need. If you didn't get the chance to donate, it's not too late. Envelopes are still available at the back of the church or from the parish office, and you can also give online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. You may also wish to consider becoming a **Patron** of our Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. If so, please take a leaflet home today. Thank you again. Please keep our sick and retired priests in your prayers.

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.

Sunday 26th November - is 'The feast of Christ the King' in the liturgical calendar of the church and is also designated 'Youth Sunday.' Families and children are warmly invited to join us at 10:00am mass at The Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted to celebrate this joyful occasion.

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

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.

Celebrate Nativity Event – our parish event with a difference Saturday 2nd Dec 2:30pm – 5pm at St Thomas More School. Join us for an afternoon of fun activities for all the family: live music, teams games, prizes, a feast, mulled wine and a take home party bag! £15 for a family ticket, £7.50 per person available. 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

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 big thank you for the great support given to Mary's Meals after 10.00 Mass on Sunday 29th October where £228.75 was raised from our tea, coffee, cakes and toys etc. With other donations, a total of £350.00 was raised - absolutely marvellous. This will provide over 1600 meals for children in schools all over the world.

The next event is at Open Door on Saturday 25th November, 11am - 3pm, again a "drop-in" with home made soups and bread, tea, coffee and cakes. Bric-a-brac too.

Please come along if you can .

Way Inn are looking for a new Bookshop Manager - someone with a love of God, a passion for christianity, preferably with retail experience, who could lead the team and lead the shop, alongside the trustees into whatever the future God has planned for it. Please ask a member of the team for a job description Telephone 01442 870 768 or email bookshop@wayinn.com Hours and Pay flexible according to experience.

Offertory Collections – 5/11/23

Weekly Loose Plate - £194.10

Weekly Contactless - £152.00

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 –

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
25th Nov	Mary's Meals, Tea & Treasures, after 10:00am Mass
26th Nov	Youth Mass 10:00am
26th Nov	Mary's Meals Tea & Treasures after 10:00am Mass
2nd Dec	Celebrate Event (St Thomas More)
9th Dec	Seniors Christmas Lunch
16th Dec	Hospice of St Francis Carol Concert 6:30pm

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.

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

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

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: - 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.