



Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted



✠ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B, 14th January 2024 – Psalter Week 2

What does it mean to be a follower of the Lord Jesus? Surely to listen and hear his voice, and to go where he leads us. Today, as we enter the “ordinary” season of the liturgical calendar, we begin our story of Jesus’s life and ministry with the calling of the first disciples. John fulfils his ministry - pointing to the Lamb of God - and the disciples follow where he points. His word to them is simple and inviting: “Come and see.” This echoes the calling of Samuel - a simple call, by name, which Samuel does not understand. Discipleship is about trust, which Samuel shows simply by saying “Speak, Lord; your servant is listening.

Discipleship or being a follower of the Lord Jesus is also about responding to God’s call to live a pure and chaste life. Today’s second reading could not be more pertinent for this day and age. At a time when so much around us has become sexualised and sexual morality seems to be going down south, St Paul reminds us that our bodies are not just ordinary flesh. Looking after and treating our bodies with dignity because we have been consecrated as the dwelling place for God is a recognition of who lives in us.

The Psalm also underlines the total surrender to God which the call to follow Jesus Christ requires of us: “Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.” Not yielding to our own desires but to the will of him who created us and whom we belong. May we hear afresh his call today and freely go to him, to listen again to the words of the Master who calls us to be holy.

Mass Intentions:

Sun 14 Jan	✠ 2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:30am	Matt and Peggy Simms RIP Ann
		10:00am*	Baby Lily Angel Brinklow RIP
Mon 15 Jan	Feria	10:00am	People of the Parish
Tue 16 Jan	Feria	10:00am	Eileen and Joe Sinclair RIP
Thu 18 Jan	Feria	12:00pm	Marion Cunningham RIP
Fri 19 Jan	Feria	10:00am	Ray O’Reilly and All Holy Souls RIP
Sat 20 Jan	Feria	10:00am	The Millar Family and All Holy Souls RIP
	Sunday Vigil	5:00pm	Paddy Cassidy RIP
Sun 21 Jan	✠ 3 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:30am	Georgina and Raymond Brennan RIP
		10:00am*	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

We pray especially for: Benjamin Ezeffili, Perpetua Fernandes, Sheila Hanratty, Lin Thomas, Edith Dicom, Caroline Butler, Ann McDonnell, Tom Jackson, Tess Hennessy, Anthony Doolan, William Campbell, Alice Danladi, Fr John Boland, Canon Jane Bannister, Ron Harper, Tom Kemplen, Joe Quinn, Rosemary Goacher, Jane Blayney, Dympna O’Connor, Lucy Chapman, Hilary Sweetman, Gerry 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: Deacon Anthony Clark, Joyce Alker, Fr Stuart Andrew Gullan-Steel, Rachael Church, Margaret Kay, Mary Wright, Michael Earls, Fr Terence 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 our First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates.

Sacred Heart Church
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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

Celebrate the Holy Eucharist at all Times – There are still more parishioners yet to return back to Mass, whom we are really longing to have back. It was good to see the Masses full at Christmas. The Mass is the greatest form of prayer we have been given as Catholics by God. Let us avail ourselves of this precious gift and come to offer to God our thanks, worries, families and all the intentions we may have. Please let us reach out to our brothers and sisters and invite them to come share with us the joy of the Gospel and our fellowship in Christ. Come one, come all and 'drink of the ever fresh mercy of Jesus Christ', the Word of God made flesh.

New Altar Servers – It is indeed a great privilege and blessing to serve God in his Sanctuary at Mass. We therefore encourage our young and teen parishioners to avail themselves of the opportunity of this sacred duty at the altar. Do not worry about what you need to do. Training sessions will be given. Parents, please help us to encourage our young ones to offer themselves to serve God in this very important ministry. Please speak with Fr Joseph if you would like to offer yourself for this service.

First Holy Communion 2024 – This year's First Holy Communion programme begins this Sunday (14th January). We welcome the children taking part and their families as they begin their preparation to receive Holy Communion for the first time.

Friday Holy Rosary Devotion - The Rosary is a powerful spiritual weapon and efficacious prayer. Please join us to pray the Rosary on Fridays after the 10am Mass in church for peace in the world and your private needs.

Tea and coffee - after Sunday 10am Mass. All are invited to join us in the parish hall for teas, coffees and chats.
There will be no teas and coffees this Sunday (14/1) due to Sunday Lunch.

Give Us This Day, Our Daily Bread - Thank you for your continued donations to the food bank. Please continue to support the Foodbank with non-perishable food. Your kind donations, which can be placed in the food collection box at the church entrance, are going directly to help local people via the Open Door and DENS Food Bank. Thank you.

Sunday Lunch (Roast Dinner) – If you have already signed up, a reminder that the Sunday lunch is this Sunday from 12:00pm.

Hall door entry code – If you regularly use the Parish hall please contact the office for the latest door entry code.

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://www.tinyurl.com/SMVouchers)

Offertory Collections – 7/1/24

Weekly Loose Plate - £224.34

Weekly Contactless - £49.00

Thank you to every one for your support 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

QR code to enable donation via mobile devices.



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 –

14th Jan Sunday Lunch 12pm

14th Jan First Holy Programme Session – 9am
Gathering

21st Jan First Holy Programme Session – 9am
Beginning of the Mass

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.

Synodal Day of Discernment – Saturday 10th February 10:00am – 4:00pm. The Aula Magna, London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH. Join people from a range of parishes and backgrounds for a day of reflection, conversation, and action, to prepare for the October 2024 Synodal Assembly, in Rome.

RSVP - FarmStreetOffice@rcdow.org.uk

Tel: 020 8986 0807

Jan 100 Club Winners

1st (£100) Bill Readman

2nd (£50) Marina Burke

3rd (£25) TerriAnn Nicol

If you would like to sign up please go

to <https://forms.gle/p6w6TZoL76wpEvFc7>