

Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted





✠ **Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A, 9th August 2026, Divine Office: Wk. 3**

'Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.'

In the readings this week, we witness the full range of the earth's natural order: the mountains, the wind, the sea, an earthquake and fire. Through all the upheaval and suffering that life may bring, we are reminded of God's ever-loving presence.

In the **First Reading**, a solitary Elijah is invited to go to the mountain to pray. God reveals himself to Elijah not in the dramatic events he witnesses, but in a gentle, low whisper.

The **Psalm** reminds us that God will always provide for us, if only we open our hearts and ears to him. Guided by God's values of mercy, peace, justice, righteousness and faith we will stay on the right path.

St Paul (**Second Reading**) reaches out to his fellow Jews with a great yearning that they should see and accept the abundant gifts offered by Christ their Lord.

The **Gospel** retells another dramatic encounter with the earth's elements: this time the disciples are caught aboard their boat in a storm. Consumed by fear, it takes some time for them to recognise Jesus and accept his saving help.

May we be confident of the enduring presence of our Lord as we navigate our own stormy waters. We need only reach out to him.

Order of Mass: Page 5. Readings, Page 114. **1st** 1 Kin. 19:9a, 11-13a.
Ps 85(84):9ab, 10. 11-12. 13-14. ℟. 8.
2nd Rom. 9:1-5. **Gospel** Matt. 14:22-33. **EP: III** page 27

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(Office Hours: 10:00am-2.00pm, Mon, Tue and Thurs

Parish Priest - Fr Joseph Okoro: josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk
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Margaret Atwill – berkhamstedsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
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Mass Intentions:

Sun 9 Aug	**✠ Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**	**8:30am**	The People of the Parish
	Holy Rosary Prayer ***By the Lady Chapel***	***9:30-9:55am***	
		10:00am*	Keith Gay RIP Ann
Fri 14 Aug	**Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest and Martyr**	**10:00am**	David Boniface and All Holy Souls RIP
Sat 15 Aug	**Sunday Vigil**	**5:00pm**	Becky Cooper and All Holy Souls RIP
Sun 16 Aug	**✠ The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**	**8:30am**	Philomena Kelly RIP
	Holy Rosary Prayer ***By the Lady Chapel***	***9:30-9:55am***	
		10:00am*	Marie Browne RIP Ann

✠ Holy Day of Obligation * Livestream Mass

~~**First Friday Devotions** with Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 10am-3:30pm.~~
~~**Saturdays** - 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*~~

Parishes Celebrations / Dates for your Diaries:

24th Sep	Seniors' Light Lunch, after 12pm Mass in Parish Hall
11th Oct	Sunday Lunch 12pm
21st Nov	Churches Together Prayer Breakfast

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from the side of Christ, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee
From the malignant enemy defend me
At the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That I may praise Thee with Thy Angels
And Thy Saints forever and ever. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Make our hearts like unto thine.

Recently Deceased and Anniversaries:
Olive Cozens, Teresa Tipper, Doreen Smyth, Maxine Burdon, Bill Readman, Justina Nnadi, Jean Giffen, Roseleen Rice, Michael Roberts, Giovannina Mistretta, Chris Holmes, Kay James, Anne-Marie Clarke, John O'Neill (Potten End), Grace O'Reilly, Hugh Deane, Patricia Rice, Sue McQuinn, Bridie Morahan, Krys Evans, Michael Kennedy, Keith Gay.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp
is lit this week for all affected by the devastating wildfires and extreme heat around the world.