

# Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted

✠ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time, Year A, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023



Our readings this Sunday lead us to focus on what Jesus considers to be the qualities of his disciples. In following his teaching, we can become silent witnesses to his kingdom in our world.

Isaiah, in the **First Reading**, tells the returned exiles that their prayer and observance are not just for themselves, but for action –and for sharing with their neighbour. They, in turn, will be healed by the way they live.

The **Psalm** is a prayer of praise for the ‘good man’, who acts with generosity, mercy and justice. The good person reveals something of God to others. Their good deeds will be rewarded with glory.

St Paul, in the **Second Reading**, tells how he went about humbly to preach a crucified Christ, so that his hearers should build their faith not on human philosophy, but on the power of God.

In the **Gospel** Jesus tells us that we are to be salt of the earth and light of the world. This is how we give the Father praise.

Let us strive this week to remember that in the darkness of today’s world, we are called to be Christ-like in everything that we do, and in the way we live.



## Mass Intentions:

|                   |   |                |  |
|-------------------|---|----------------|--|
| <b>Mon 6 Feb</b>  | St Paul Miki and Companions               | <b>10:00am</b> | Ray O’Reilly and all Holy Souls                              |
| <b>Tue 7 Feb</b>  | Feria                                     | <b>10:00am</b> | Joe and Eileen Sinclair RIP                                  |
| <b>Thu 9 Feb</b>  | Feria                                     | <b>12:00pm</b> | Deceased members of the Millar Family and all Holy Souls RIP |
| <b>Fri 10 Feb</b> | St Scholastica                            | <b>10:00am</b> | Delphine Kelly RIP Ann                                       |
| <b>Sat 11 Feb</b> | Feria                                     | <b>10:00am</b> | Kathleen Stenson and all Holy Souls RIP                      |
|                   | Vigil                                     | <b>5:00pm</b>  | David Holden RIP Ann   |
| <b>Sun 12 Feb</b> | ✠ 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time | <b>8:30am</b>  | Patricia Caddle RIP  |
|                   |   | <b>10:00am</b> | Maria Scully and all Holy Souls RIP                          |

\* Livestream Mass      ^ Public Mass      + Note Mass Time change

**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: Uche Nwankwo, Alloma Solomons, Katherine Fielden, Anne Furlong, Gabriel Aragon, Chris Cordova, Dympna O’Connor, Jacqueline Kinsey, Vincent Paul Keen, Phil Kinsella, Liz Salmon, Elizabeth Le Juge de Segrais, Winifred Winstone, Lucy Chapman, Hilary Sweetman, 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: Nora Proctor, John O’neill, Andrew Bridges, William Gribbin, Pope Benedict XVI, Margaret Kay, Rachael Church, Patricia Caddle, David Cairns, John McCarthy.

**Eternal rest granted onto them oh Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

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Website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/berkhamsted/>  
(Office Hours: 10:00am-2.00pm \*\*Mon-Fri)  
\*\*Actual office closed on Wednesdays, telephone/email only

**Parish Priest - Fr Joseph Okoro:**  
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**Administrator – Laura Etson:**  
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**Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs)**  
Carmella Perkins – Sacred Heart PSR:  
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**Parish Outreach Mission** – We are pleased to see more parishioners coming back to Mass and participating in our parish community life. It is also true that there are still more parishioners yet to return, whom we are really longing to have back. Can I commend this parish outreach mission to everyone to seek out, visit and invite back anyone whom you know who is yet to return back to the community. It is our earnest prayer that all may join us to share the joy of the Gospel and our fellowship in Christ.

**Racial Justice Second Collection** – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February  
The theme for Racial Justice Sunday is:

“All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church. Let us walk together, pray together and work together”  
It reflects the role each of us must play in promoting the mission of Christ and His Church. This was inspired by conversations around last year’s Racial Justice Sunday and Pope Francis’ visit to Canada in July 2022 when he spoke about looking towards a future of ‘Justice, healing and reconciliation’.

**The 31<sup>st</sup> World Day of the Sick** - will be celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Please see poster on the noticeboard at the back of Church. To read Pope Francis’ message, please scan the QR code on the poster.

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** - We are delighted to invite all adults who would like to become Catholics, or be received into full communion with the Catholic Church, or to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation to contact Fr Joseph **as soon as possible** for the preparations. These celebrations will take place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April at the Easter Vigil of the Holy Night.

**No Tea and coffee after Sunday 10am Mass** – 5<sup>th</sup> February

**Give Us This Day, Our Daily Bread** - Thank you if you are able to bring some non-perishable food for our Food Bank Box. 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.

**CAFOD Volunteers Needed** - the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people join us as volunteers here in the Westminster diocese. Find out more by joining our meeting this Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February from 2.30-4.30pm in Oakwood, N14 4HE. Please contact Tony at CAFOD for further details. [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk) or 0208 449 6970

**Veritas Catholic Lecture series** - Roman Catholic Parish of Hemel West (St Mary & St Joseph Church HP1 1NR) will be hosting the Catholic Theology lecture series starting in February. We are inviting expert theologians as lecturers to look at Catholicism holistically. Let’s know God so we can truly love Him! The lecture is free to attend but we would appreciate **a pot of food to share** and **a donation for the lecturers**.

All lectures are held at the parish hall at St Mary & St Joseph, on Saturdays starting from 10:00 – 15:00, stopping for a shared lunch. The program is organised so that each interlink therefore we recommend you attend as much as possible.

The registration will be set up soon.

Please check the Hemel West website for more details.

The first four lectures are:

18 February, Early Church History, lecturer Fr Peter Dwyer  
22 April, Later Church History, lecturer Fr Peter Dwyer  
29 April, New Testament, Fr John Deehan (Kentish Town)  
20 May, Old Testament, lecturer, Fr John Hemer (Mill Hill Missionary)

**Offertory Collections** – 29/1

Weekly loose plate - £208.75

Weekly Contactless - £75.00

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 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.

**WRCDDT 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** –

5<sup>th</sup> Feb Racial Justice Second Collection

11<sup>th</sup> Feb 31<sup>st</sup> World day of the Sick

**The Community Fridge is at Open Door** - every Tuesday morning between 10-12noon.

No charge, but donations always welcome to help fund this and other projects. Between these times, ANYONE is welcome to come to the front of Open Door (360-364 High Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 1HU.) Please BRING YOUR OWN BAG to take your food home in.

More info at [www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk/community-fridge](http://www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk/community-fridge)

**Catholic Childrens Society** - A big Thank you to all who donated to our Crib this year. We raised £102.70 for the Catholic Childrens Society.

**The Universe Catholic Weekly** - Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE trial supply by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

**CELEBRATE : Parenting for Faith** - A new online course starting for those with Babies and Toddlers.

Starts Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb for 5 weeks at 8pm for approximately 45 minutes. **It’s on zoom so no need for babysitters!** The aim of the course is to help parents discover that they are perfectly positioned to show their children the reality of a life with God and to empower them to have their own vibrant two-way relationship with Him. Through the easily accessible and relaxed input you will receive help to introduce faith in simple steps.

To register scan the QR code

\*There is a £5 fee to cover admin costs and then the opportunity to make a further optional donation during the course.

We would love you to join us and tell your friends.

