



# Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted



✠ Second Sunday of Lent, Year B, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Psalter Week 2

Trust in the Lord is the theme that links all this week's readings. As we continue our Lenten journey, we are reminded of the extent of the Lord's love and generosity – if we but listen to his voice and place our trust in him.

In the **First Reading** we see the depth of Abraham's trust in God as he is asked to sacrifice his beloved son. Abraham's faithfulness is rewarded with more blessings than he could ever have imagined.

The **Psalmist** gives thanks and praise to the Lord who has freed him, reminding us that he trusted God even when sorely afflicted. Like him, we can rejoice as we walk in the presence of the Lord.

In the **Second Reading**, echoing the story of Abraham and Isaac, St Paul challenges us to recall the immensity of God's love for the world in giving up his Son. With Jesus standing at the right hand of God pleading for us, we can have confidence in placing all our trust in him.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus asks Peter, James and John to trust him and not speak of the wonder of what they have witnessed on the mountain top.

This week we pray for the grace to trust and to listen ever more closely to the voice of the Lord, so that we too might walk in his presence.

## Mass Intentions:

<b>Sun 25 Feb</b>	✠ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>8:30am</b>	Maureen Murphy RIP
		<b>10:00am*</b>	John Shotton RIP Ann
<b>Mon 26 Feb</b>	Lent Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Tue 27 Feb</b>	Lent Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	Delphine Kelly RIP Ann
<b>Thu 29 Feb</b>	Lent Feria	<b>12:00pm</b>	Maureen Murphy RIP
<b>Fri 1 Mar</b>	Saint David, Bishop, Patron of Wales	<b>10:00am</b>	Paddy Murphy RIP
	<b>STATIONS OF THE CROSS</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	
<b>Sat 2 Mar</b>	Lent Feria	<b>10:00am</b>	Dominic Dieseru Family Int
	Sunday Vigil	<b>5:00pm</b>	Anne Murray RIP Ann
<b>Sun 3 Mar</b>	✠ 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent	<b>8:30am</b>	John Uden RIP
		<b>10:00am*</b>	Jim Thomson RIP

\* 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: Anne Harte, William Miller, Chris Holmes, Raza Shah, Perpetua Fernandes, Lin Thomas, Edith Dicom, Caroline Butler, Ann McDonnell, William Campbell, Alice Danladi, Ron Harper, Joe Quinn, Rosemary Goacher, Jane Blayney, Dympna O'Connor, Lucy Chapman, 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: Alberta Ama Ampah, Anthony Doolan, Deacon Stephen Pickard, Zita O'Connor, Hugh Kearns, Hilary Sweatman, Alan Hynes, Malcolm Graham, Sheila Hanratty, Beatrice Mary Ezekwe.

**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 lit this week for the happy repose of Alberta Ama Ampah RIP.

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](mailto:josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk)

Administrator – Laura Etson: [berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:berkhamsted@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs)

Carmella Perkins – Sacred Heart PSR:

[berkhamstedsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:berkhamstedsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Welcome** - to Sacred Heart, Berkhamsted. Please take a copy of the newsletter home with you as it gives some information for the week ahead. If you are new to Sacred Heart Church, or if you are visiting, or you are a returning Catholic after some time away, you are very welcome. If you have moved into the area recently please come collect the parish registration and other forms from the parish office or Fr Joseph. Complete and return the forms so that we can have you on the parish register and mailing list and you are able to receive any information sent to parishioners from the parish office. We are delighted to have you with us.

**Stations of the Cross** – will be every Friday in Lent at 10:30am in church.

**Monday Holy Rosary Devotion** - The Rosary is a powerful spiritual weapon and efficacious prayer. Please join us to pray the Rosary on Monday at 2:30pm in church for peace in the world and your private needs.

**Youth Masses** –Sundays 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of March at 10am. We would like as many Children as possible to take part in singing, reading, offertory etc. at these Masses. If you would like to register your child's interest, please email Jane Lavin [janellavin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janellavin@yahoo.co.uk) Rehearsal for the Mass on the 10<sup>th</sup> March will be held in the Church on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 6:30pm.

**Easter Choir Practice** - in preparation for our Easter Celebrations will be held on Wednesdays, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the church. Everyone is welcome and invited to join us . Come and give it a try even if you have never sung before as we prepare for the most important season in the church's year. Music will be provided.

**Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024** – Thank you for your generous support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal, this year we raised £452.01. This year's funds will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster, as well as initiatives run by parishes. Thanks to your generosity, we can continue this work throughout our Diocese.

**CELEBRATE Thank you** - Following my appeal at Mass a few weeks ago I want to thank you so much for all your donations to the work of CELEBRATE Trust. These contributions will make a difference to the work we are doing to develop faith with families and young people. Please pray for us as we pray in thanksgiving for you. God bless you, Jenny [www.celebratetrust.org](http://www.celebratetrust.org)

**CAFOD Family Fast Day** – There will be a second collection this weekend 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> February. This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Please give today using the envelopes at the back of the Church or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). Please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

**Second Meeting of the General Assembly of the Synod Council**  
The first meeting of the Synodal Assembly was held in Autumn 2023 and an extensive report was published [Synod Report: A Church that involves everyone and is close to world's wounds - Vatican News](#). Included within the weekly newsletter email, you will find an attachment with questions in preparation for the second meeting. Every parishioner is being invited to reflect on a few questions and to share their responses. If you could please respond by Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February. If needed, hard copies can be found at the back of the Church and posted through the letter box at the Presbytery.

**Prayer Request Book** – Can now be found at the back of the church. All are invited to write their prayer requests in this book - parishioners, guests and visitors. These prayers will then be offered alongside the offertory to the Lord at the altar every Sunday.

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

**Kneelers** - Please ensure they are folded back after every use for ease with movement. Please do not walk on them. Thank you.

**Offertory Collections** – 18/2/24

Weekly Loose Plate - £173.92

Weekly Contactless - £75.00

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 or the QR code below. 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.**

**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.

**Parishes Celebrations / Dates for your Diaries** –

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Mar</b>	First Holy Communion programme session – 10am Parents session - Reconciliation
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Mar</b>	First Holy Communion programme session – 9am Gloria
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	First Holy Communion programme session – 10am First Reconciliation service
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	First Holy Communion programme session – 9am The Word of the Lord
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Youth Mass 10am
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	Sunday Lunch 12pm
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>	St Patrick's day event, 12:00-5:00pm
<b>31<sup>st</sup> Mar</b>	Youth Mass 10am

**Sunday Lunch** – The next lunch is taking place on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 12pm. **EVERYONE WELCOME!** We understand this is on Mothers Day this year so why not invite your mum or your children, have a day off from cooking and join us for this fantastic event. Adults £10.00, Children £5.00 (Under 10's eat free). Please find a sign up sheet at the back of the church.

**St Patrick's Day Event** – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 12pm – 5pm at Sacred Heart Parish centre. Scrumptious food, bar, crafts, live music and dancing. Adults £10.00, Children £5.00. Book at the end of Mass or via Clare Trowbridge, 07921 122 642, [claretrowbridge@gmail.com](mailto:claretrowbridge@gmail.com)  
All proceeds go to the St Thomas More PTA.

**Annual Mass for Matrimony** - The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries. Please contact Laura to register your interest.