



Sacred Heart Church, Berkhamsted



✠ Third Sunday of Easter, Year B, 14th April 2024 – Psalter Week 3

In today's readings, we celebrate the living Christ, our Advocate who dwells with the Father. Through him we are given encouragement to overcome our fearfulness and weakness of faith.

Peter (**First Reading**) insists that even those responsible for Christ's death are not without hope. They, too, are called to repent, and turn their face back to God.

In the **Second Reading**, John reminds the community of believers that the Christian life demands continuous attention to Christ's teachings and resistance to the lures of sinful and immoral habits. Should we fall into sin, we have a remedy in Jesus Christ who died to save us, who is waiting to restore us with his grace at the Sacrament of Reconciliation. St John says: "We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments." By following this Way of love and renewal in our daily life, we partake in an ever deepening relationship with God.

Luke continues the Resurrection story as the risen Lord appears to his fearful friends. Jesus bolsters their faith by joining them for a meal. He invites them to touch his body, before finally breaking open the word of Scripture. We, like the disciples, need the risen Christ to comfort and embolden our lives of faith. (**Gospel**)

The **Psalmist** has been delivered from anguish and gives thanks to the one God who has listened and released him. It is a prayer of deep trust and confidence in the Lord of all.

In a world both ablaze with the wonders of science and technology and ravished by war and profound injustice, we pray that we may never forget that only God can ever satisfy our restless and fearful hearts.

Mass Intentions:

Sun 14 Apr	✠ Third Sunday of Easter	8:30am	People of the Parish
		10:00am*	Philip Capes and All Holy Souls RIP
Mon 15 Apr	Easter Feria	10:00am	Fr Derek McGuire Int
Tue 16 Apr	Easter Feria	10:00am	Eileen Harte and All Holy Souls RIP
Thu 18 Apr	Easter Feria	12:00pm	Alex Bipin Shanghavi RIP
Fri 19 Apr	Saint Alphege, Bishop and Martyr	9:30am	Kingsley George Osei – Barnieh RIP MASS TIME CHANGE
		3:15pm	Tony Fay, RIP
Sat 20 Apr	Easter Feria	10:00am	Mary Duggan RIP
		5:00pm	Harry Munroe and All Holy Souls RIP
Sun 21 Apr	✠ Fourth Sunday of Easter	8:30am	People of the Parish
		10:00am*	Iain Fletcher 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: Lucy Fox, Ose Nnani, Roseanna Lawler, Judith Poupart, Kevin Ambrose Kath McAsey, Carol Kerrigan, Natasha D'Mello, Anne Harte, William Miller, Raza Shah, Edith Dicom, Caroline Butler, Ann McDonnell, William Campbell, Josie Redmond, Alice Danladi, Ron Harper, Joe Quinn, Rosemary Goacher, Jane Blayney, Dympna O'Connor, Lucy Chapman.

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: Tony Fay, Brian Preston, Catherine Grant, Fr Michael Daley, Daphne Downing, Alberta Ama Ampah, Anthony Doolan, Mary Duggan, Deacon Stephen Pickard, Zita O'Connor, Hugh Kearns, Hilary Sweatman, Alan Hynes, Malcolm Graham, John Copen, Michael Earls.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

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The Blessed Sacrament Lamp

is lit this week for the sick and housebound

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

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 collect the parish registration and other forms from the parish office or from Fr Joseph. Complete and return the forms so that we can have you on the parish register and mailing list. This is to ensure that you receive any information sent to parishioners from the parish office. We are delighted to have you with us.

Corpus Christi Parish Tring – As was announced last weekend, Cardinal Vicent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster appointed me as Parochial Administrator of Tring Parish. This means that on the weekends I am not with you to celebrate Masses, I will be at Tring, but will have a supply priest to cover here in Sacred Heart.

Fr Joseph

Priest Training Fund - Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 49 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 13 of whom are from our own Diocese. Last year 3 deacons were ordained for Westminster Diocese. The Priest Training Fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Donation envelopes are available in the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

Requiem Mass – for the late Tony Fay will be celebrated on Friday 19th April at 3:15pm, here at Sacred Heart. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

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.

Mary's Meals - Thank you for the great support given last Sunday when a total of £227.48 was raised for Mary's Meals. An additional £436.77 was raised through e-bay, donations and other fundraising so a grand total of £664.25. This will provide over 3250 meals for children in schools. Mary's Meal will be doing a bric-a-brac stall in Berkhamsted market on Saturday 25th May. Anything no longer needed would be happily received.

Please contact Anne on 07773 900983. THANK YOU

Bidding Prayer Writers Required - If you feel you could help, we would love to hear from you. Training will be provided. We are a small team and are keen for more to join us. Contact: ed_murrayclan@yahoo.co.uk, 07743 844257.

Right to Life – Please support an amendment to reduce our abortion law from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. In one room of a hospital, doctors could be working to save a baby born alive at 22 or 23 weeks, whilst, in another room of the same hospital, a doctor could perform an abortion that would end the life a baby at the same age. ComRes Poll shows that 70% of British women favour a reduction in the limit from 24 weeks to 20 weeks or below. Collect a postcard today from the back of the Church to write to your MP in support of this amendment. **PLEASE** pray for pregnant mothers and for those who are struggling with their pregnancies and for the protection of their babies. Thank You.

Offertory Collections – 7/4/24

Weekly Loose Plate - £232.00

Weekly Contactless - £95.00

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. Intention cards are available from the office.

Parishes Celebrations / Dates for your Diaries –

21st Apr First Holy Communion programme session – 9am
Do this in memory of me

12th May First Holy Communion programme session – 9am
The Body of Christ

12th May Sunday Lunch 12pm

Missio "Red Boxes" - Final call for the return of these to Charlie Gray. If you are unable to attend Church currently and have a Box then please contact Charlie on 01442 875602 and he will arrange to collect it from you. In 2023 the money raised amounted to £475.20. Thanks to you all.

Vocations: 'Come and See' - 2024 – Are you are interested in exploring to the **Priesthood** or **Permanent Diaconate**? You are invited to come along to one of our **'Come & See' Vocations**

Mornings on: **Sat 20th April**, 10am-2pm at Our Lady and St Vincent church hall, 243 Mutton Lane, Potters Bar EN6 2AT.

Sat 1st June, 10am-2pm at Our Lady's Hall (the undercroft) at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Rothamsted Avenue, Harpenden AL5 2DB. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. To find out more and register your attendance at one of the days, please contact: Canon Roger Taylor - Vocations Promoter rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Adrian Cullen - Director Permanent Diaconate adriancullen@rcdow.org.uk

April 100 Club Winners

1st (£100) Mike Jewell

2nd (£50) Bill Readman

3rd (£25) Helen Jewell

If you would like to sign up please go to

<https://forms.gle/p6w6TZoL76wpEvFc7>