

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th/26th September 2020



Fr Brian writes....

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers' tables in the Temple. It's certainly one way to grab attention! Consequently, the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to answer directly. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear. Jesus poses a pointed and direct question: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that "actions speak louder than words" and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father's will. Jesus' conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John's message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders. Jesus could ask us the same question today. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart that is rooted in the first response our hearts give to the Good News; that is, repentance, so that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God. Repentance is the fundamental response to the preaching of the Gospel. Without repentance we cannot call ourselves Christians. Repentance is an ongoing aspect of Christian living. Each Mass starts with the call to repentance and an acknowledgement of our sin, as it affects us and others and is an offence against the justice and mercy of God. It is the prelude to receiving the life-giving waters of God's mercy. Without daily and communal repentance, we would be in denial of our sin and the Evil One would have triumphed over us in the spiritual warfare that is the Christian life. Repent and believe in the Gospel leads us to obedience. This is an ongoing daily struggle for us all.

Hemel West Parish

Hemel West

Fr Brian McMahon

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Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday 12 noon. Items for
Hemel West please send to:
shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk

**The link to the live-streamed
Mass is:**

[http://www.hemelcatholic.org/
mass-live/](http://www.hemelcatholic.org/mass-live/). If you use social
media there is also the parish
Twitter feed @hemelwest.

Hemel West Notices

Welcome to the parish of Hemel West. If you are new to the parish, please make yourself known to Fr Brian, by contacting him on 01442 391 759.

Let's Help Stop the Spread of Coronavirus: Please download the NHS COVID-19 app and scan the QR code to check into church. The code can be found above the hand sanitizer in the porch.

Thank you for your best wishes, cards and prayers, as I recover from my recent stroke. I'm very slowly recovering and learning to deal with the fatigue. Fr Brian.

Collection: There will be a collection for Peter's Pence on the weekend of 3rd/4th October.

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary! St Dominic received the Holy Rosary directly from the Blessed Virgin Mother in 1206. Mary appeared and taught him how to say the rosary and asked him to preach this devotion and to teach others to pray it as well. Since that time many victories, both personal and public, have been credited to the recitation of and meditation on the Holy Rosary. It is a most powerful prayer for overcoming evil and darkness. It is a great way to honour Mary the Mother of God. Perhaps you could find some time to pray it during the month of October? With your family? I recommend a short little book by Fr Don Calloway MIC called 10 Wonders of the Rosary. It's less than £10 and is a great read during the month.

First Holy Communions Class of 2019/2020: This weekend sees the first of many First Holy Communions at Mass for those children who were not able to make their First Holy Communion because of the lockdown. The children will not make their First Holy Communion as one large group, but as smaller groups at Masses over the coming weeks. We pray for them all as they receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. **Congratulations children!**

Come back to church on Sunday! Though the Sunday obligation remains suspended at this time of the pandemic, the church environment is a Covid-19 secure area. Social distancing is in force and the church is regularly cleaned. With the mandatory requirement to wear a face mask, social distancing has been reduced from 2m to 1m which means that more pews are now available. So please, do come to Mass! You can book a space at Mass for you and your family at this link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/events/>.

Church Opening Times for Private Prayer: Our Boxmoor church will be open for private prayer on a Monday between 2pm-4pm.

Certificates of Catholic Practice: If you have submitted a request for a Certificate of Catholic Practice by 12 noon Saturday 26th September, then I have signed them and they can be collected from the Parish Office behind the Parish Centre on Monday 28th September 3.15pm until 5.30pm or Wednesday 30th September from 10.30am until 3pm. I will sign more next week and let you know when they will be available. Please note that I only sign Certificates of Catholic Practice for Catholics who attended weekly Sunday Mass (with exceptions for sickness, emergencies etc) at one of our two churches in the parish of Hemel West, prior to the lockdown. If you do not fit into one of those categories, then I will not issue a certificate

David Turner, Virtual London Marathon - Go David! On Sunday 4th October, David will complete 26.2 miles up and down the pavement on Blackbirds Moor (beside Ss Mary & Joseph Church). The distance will be measured by an app and David will have 24 hours in which to complete the run. Your sponsorship for Mother's Village Orphanage in Bosnia Herzegovina would be greatly appreciated. Please visit David's fund-raising page at <https://bit.ly/32Bw7Oh> to donate and tick the gift aid box if you are a tax payer. Alternatively contact Pat Henry on pat@arthurmc.com or phone 01442 391087 to make other arrangements. Thank you for your generosity over the years.

CAFOD Fast Day Friday 9th October: This is fast approaching. Let's start thinking about how you can help support CAFOD.

Volunteer Stewards for Mass: Are you able to volunteer to steward at any of the week day or weekend Masses? We are also looking for volunteers on a Monday, from 2pm until 4pm to cover for private prayer. If you are able to help please email shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk with your contact details.

World day of Prayer for Refugees & Migrants, 27th September: Like Jesus Christ, forced to flee. Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating internally displaced persons. This is the theme of Pope Francis' address for this year, focussing particularly on internally displaced people of which it is estimated there are 41 million worldwide. Please read his message given on 13th May, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/world-day-of-migrants-refugees-2020/popes-message-wdmr2020/>

To attend Mass, you will need to book. Please do not come without booking as you may be refused entry to the church, I am afraid that's the way we have to operate for the time being. You can book by going to this link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/events/> If you do not use the internet then you can ring our Parish Administrator Shirley Bailey, Monday to Friday, on 01442 391 759 and she will book a Mass for you. If there is availability. All Masses will be at Ss Mary & Joseph Church, Boxmoor. **Please note that it is compulsory to wear a face covering to church.**

Mass Times and Intentions this week

Sat 26 th	4pm live-streamed Mass 6pm (BM) Nigel Read RIP ANNIV
Sun 27 th	9am (BM) Pro Populo 10.30am (BM) Jacek Kosowski Sick 12 noon (BM) Sheila Keegan RIP ANNIV
Mon 28 th	No Mass
Tues 29 th	No Mass
Wed 30 th	10am (BM) James Lilly RIP
Thur 1 st	No Mass
Fri 2 nd	10am (BM) Ferrao Family
Sat 3 rd	4pm live-streamed Mass 6pm (BM) Anto & Yolande Martil Golden Wedding Anniversary
Sun 4 th	9am (BM) Pro Populo 10.30am (BM) 12 noon (BM) Johnny Bailey RIP ANNIV

You can participate in the live-streamed Sunday Mass from 4pm every Saturday, when it is recorded 'live.' It is also available at any time after that. Just go to www.hemelcatholic.org/mass-live and you will find the Sunday Mass available on demand.

Standing Order Mandate Form: If you would like to make a regular contribution to the Parish of Hemel West, please email Shirley and she will email you a copy of the standing order form. You can also make a bank transfer to HSBC Bank. Account number: 31095048 sort code: 40-05-20.

Offertory Envelopes: If you normally make your offertory donation by envelope, your new envelopes are now available from the parish office to collect.

St Rose's Catholic Infant School: We have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. If you are interested in this rewarding role, please contact Mrs Taylor at admin@stroses.herts.sch.uk or call 398855. No previous experience is necessary, but you must be a practicing Catholic with a keen interest in the faith life of the young people in our school and community.

Parish Centre and St Joseph's Hall: Please note that the key safe code has been changed for both halls. If you need the key safe code please email shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk.

Hall Phone: Please only call the hall mobile phone for hall bookings or enquires. If you call this number for any parish matters it will not be responded to. For parish enquires the number to call is 01442 391759.

We pray for the sick: Fr Brian & Andy Kemp

Mass Intentions: If you would like a Mass offered for a deceased family member or a friend, or indeed for any other intention, let Shirley know by emailing her at: shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk or calling her on 01442 391 759. It is customary to make an offering and the diocese recommends £10. However, an offering is not expected and it can be made at your discretion.

Year of the Word

Gospel readings from the daily Masses for week, beginning Monday 28th September:

Mon: Luke 9:46 -50

Tues: Lk.9 :51-56

Wed Lk: 9:57-62

Thurs: Lk. 10: 1- 12

Fri: Lk. 10: 13-16

Sat: Lk.10:17-24

Sunday: Matthew. 21:28-32

"The fruit of faith should be evident in our lives, for being a Christian is more than making sound professions of faith. It should reveal itself in practical and visible ways."

St Ignatius of Antioch

Hemel West Parish Administrator, Shirley Bailey.

Email: shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk

Phone: 01442 391 759

**The Parish Office is located behind
the Parish Centre.**

Office Hours

Telephone cover for Hemel West	Hemel West Office Hours
Monday 12 noon- 6pm	Monday 3pm-6pm
Tuesday 9.30am - 3.30pm	Closed
Wednesday 9.30am- 3.30pm	Wednesday 9.30-3.30pm
Thursday 9.30am-3.30pm	Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm
Friday 9.30am-3.30pm	Friday 9.30am-1.30pm