

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

PARISH WEBSITE [HTTPS://PARISH.RCDOW.ORG.UK/HEMELHEMPSTEADWEST/](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemel HempsteadWest/)

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year B

4th July 2021

Fr Brian writes...

Today's Gospel describes what might well have been the usual routine of Jesus's daily life and characterised his ministry; teaching in the synagogue followed by acts of healing. In his hometown of Nazareth, the people are amazed by what they hear, but they also cannot comprehend how someone they know so well might move them so powerfully. He would have been completely familiar to them.

We learn a little biographical detail about Jesus in this extract from Mark's Gospel. Jesus was known as a carpenter, an artisan who worked in wood, stone, and metal. He probably learned this trade from his father, Joseph. If there were white vans in his time – he would probably have driven one! The family members of Jesus are also named. Mark describes Jesus as the son of Mary, which is an unusual designation. Adult males were more typically identified with the name of their fathers. Brothers and sisters of Jesus are also named. Scholars are divided on how to interpret this. As Catholics, we believe that Mary was and remained always a virgin, thus we do not believe that this Gospel refers to other children of Mary. Some have suggested that these family members might be Joseph's children from a previous marriage, but there is little evidence to support this. Others explain this reference by noting that the words *brother* and *sister* were often used to refer to other types of relatives, including cousins, nieces, and nephews.

This Gospel tells us that Jesus is hampered from performing miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith. Jesus is said to be surprised by this. He did not predict or foresee this rejection. In this detail we find a description of the very human side of Jesus. By showing that Jesus himself was rejected, Mark consoles and reassures his first readers. He also prepares us to accept this possible consequence of Christian discipleship. What about us? Are we prepared to be rejected for our faith? Or do we compromise ourselves with the increasing degree of secularism we experience today, by an underplaying of the supernatural elements of our faith and acceptance of social mores, many of which are contrary to the moral teaching of the Church?



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.

Live streaming of Masses: All Sunday Masses and weekday Masses are live streamed. The link goes live about 5 minutes before Mass. Just go to <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/mass-live/> and click on the YouTube button.

SPREAD THE WORD

Baptism

As part of the gradual relaxing of restrictions, we can now have baptisms on a Saturday, however there are still conditions. Firstly, previous attendance at a Baptism Preparation Class is required for the first child and, if you are not a weekly Mass attender, any subsequent children. If you attend Mass weekly and it is less than three years since you attended a baptism preparation class then re-attendance of the class is highly recommended particularly as your contributions to the discussions will be valuable for new parents. In addition, at each baptism we can only baptise a child/children from the same parents. The maximum attendance is limited to 30 people which includes the child/children being baptised but we will live stream the baptism for those who, for whatever reason, do not attend. Track and trace still apply so attendees must register for the event.

Baptism Preparation Class: The next on-line Baptism Preparation Classes will be on 10th August and 12th August from 7:30pm until 9.30pm. There is a limit of six couples per evening. Please register for these classes on our Events Page. Please follow the link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/events/>. Baptisms typically take place on the morning of the first Saturday of the month except for Lent, December and August. If you have already attended a Baptism Preparation course then you are welcome to book a Baptism from our Events page: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/events/>.

Baptismal Certificates: If your child/children have recently been baptised and you need a baptismal certificate, please send the full names of the child, parents, godparents and Christian witnesses (if appointed) and full address to shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk and she will arrange a certificate for you.

CAFOD Postcard Petition - Reclaim our common Home: Dear Parishioners, CAFOD'S Postcards are on table, next to Newsletters, as you come into Church. If you haven't already signed one of these, please consider doing so. You can take the Postcard home with you, sign and return the next time you are at Mass, leaving on table as you come in. Postcards will be collected and forwarded to CAFOD.

SOS Holy Land: One way in which we can assist the dire poverty affecting Palestinians under Occupation, and resulting from the siege of Gaza, is to help their economy. I have a supply of top quality Olive Oil from Palestine for sale and can order more. If you can help, please contact me for details David Toorawa on 07854 416 123.

Collection: There will be a collection for Peter's Pence this weekend.

Collection: There will be a collection for the Apostleship of the Sea on the weekend of 10th/11th July.

Missionaries with Mud on their Shoes: There is an opportunity to hear David Wells on 10th July at 10.30am who is a fantastic speaker. It is an event 'for the curious and the committed catechists. To register please email catadmin@rcdow.org.uk adding the name of our parish. Full details available at <https://rcdow.org.uk/att/files/faith/catechesis/conference%20flyer%202021.pdf>.

Mass intentions this week.

All Masses are subject to cancellation unexpectedly. Please check the parish website before you come to church!

Sat 3 rd	6pm Mass Jane Parisi 1st RIP ANNIV
Sun 4 th	9am Sylvie Fernandes RIP 10.30am Pro Populo 12 noon Mary McInerney Recovery from Illness
Mon 5 th	Parish Mass not Celebrated
Tues 6 th	Parish Mass not Celebrated
Wed 7 th	10am No Mass
Thur 8 th	10am Mass not Celebrated
Fri 9 th	10am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation 7.00pm to 8.00pm
Sat 10 th	6pm Michael Gavin RIP Sacrament of Reconciliation 5pm to 5.30pm
Sun 11 th	9am Pro Populo 10.30am John-William Joyce RIP ANNIV 12 noon Sylvie Fernandes RIP

Gospel readings for the week, beginning Monday 5th July:

Mon: Matthew 9:18-26
Tues: Matt. 9:32-38
Wed: Matt. 10:1-7
Thurs: Matt. 10:7-15
Fri: Matt. 10:16-23
Sat: Matt. 10:24-33
Sunday: Mark 6:713

Standing Order Mandate Form: Thank you to all the parishioners who have set up a standing order and for supporting the parish of Hemel West. If you are a UK tax payer, please consider filling in a Gift Aid form. This enables the parish to claim Gift Aid on your donation. Please contact Shirley in the parish office and she will send you the Gift Aid 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.

Digital Collection Basket. The introduction of the Digital Collection Basket has been introduced into both churches. It's a really easy to use self-service card donation point for our parish. It is an alternative way for us to provide a more hygienic option to receive donations given the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as move us forward in **eliminating our weekly loose coin and cash collection**, with all the benefits that brings. So, **if you usually donate using loose cash, please consider using your card or debit card instead.** The digital collection basket accepts all major credit and debit cards. We are so used to using this type of equipment when we go shopping that it only makes sense for us to introduce it. **It's easy to use, so give it a go and help us move to a cashless offertory collection based on digital giving and Standing Orders!** As always, thank you for your generosity in the offertory collection and at other times. It is very much appreciated. You will not be able to gift-aid your donation at the moment, but this function will be enabled shortly and we'll let you know.

Reflection

Isaiah 11:2

The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord.

Isaiah speaks of what we might think of as God's vision for the world. As followers of Jesus, we are called to notice those who are marginalised by things such as poverty, illness, grief, racism, or injustice, and to act with mercy, caring for the whole person in Jesus's name. As we do God's work, the spirit of God shall rest also on us.

Act of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church
 where your death and passion are-pleaded-before the Father,
 I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.
 I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may be united to you for ever:
 and since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come to me spiritually.
 I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affection of my soul.
 Let nothing ever separate me from you: let me live and die in your love.
 Amen

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	Tuesday 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-12.30pm



MAKING CONTACT AT HEMEL WEST CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr Brian McMahon brianmcmahon@rcdow.org.uk or call 01442 391 759 **option 3**
Deacon: Rev Simon Wright simonwright@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator: Shirley Bailey shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk or call 01442 391 759 **option 2**

Hall Bookings: via Shirley at hemelwesthallbookings@rcdow.org.uk or call 01442 391 759 option 2 (In office hours)
Newsletter: Deadline Wednesday 12 noon. News items for Hemel West, please send to: shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk

Address: The Presbytery, 186 St John's Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1NR

Parish website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/>



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Diocese of Westminster Charity N°: 233699