

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year B

18th July 2021

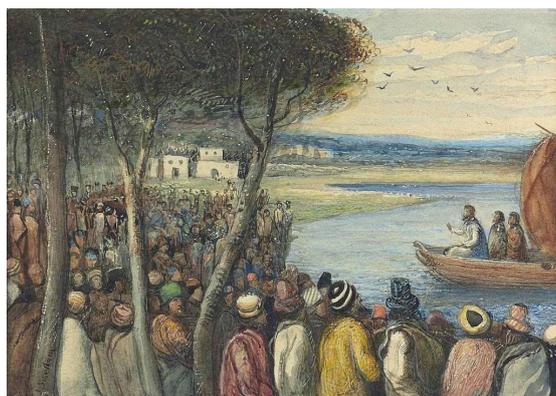
Fr Brian writes...

Background on the Gospel Reading *Mark 6:30-34*.

Today we hear the report of the return of the Twelve, who were sent by Jesus to preach repentance, heal the sick, and drive out demons, by having a share in the ministry of Jesus. When they get back he takes them away to rest. But the crowds will not give them peace. The crowds continue to approach them, and Mark reports that the disciples don't even have time to eat. In an effort to get away, Jesus and his disciples board a boat in hopes of finding a deserted place. But the crowds notice this and arrive ahead of them. The crowds are so persistent that Jesus and his disciples cannot find a place to be alone.

Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus is moved with pity and begins to teach the crowds. The work of Jesus and his disciples appears to be a round-the-clock job, truly a calling, a vocation. In today's Gospel, we hear the Twelve referred to as "apostles." The word *apostle* is a Greek word meaning "one who is sent." Jesus chose twelve men from among his disciples whom he sent to share in his ministry of preaching and healing and exorcising. The first report of this is found in the third chapter of Mark's Gospel, where the Twelve are also called apostles and the names of this select group are listed.

We who are Jesus' disciples today have also been sent to share the Gospel with others. Perhaps our commitment to following Jesus as his disciple leaves us feeling tired and overwhelmed, even more so as we emerge a bit jaded and beaten up from the force of the pandemic, not fully yet over despite relaxations. In the Gospel reading today we hear Jesus affirm the importance of times of rest and renewal. Jesus wanted his disciples to come away and spend time alone with him. This is what we seek and find in our life of prayer and in our celebration of the Eucharist.



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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Before all weekday Masses: 9.30am to 9.45am

Friday: 6.30pm to 7pm

Saturday: 5pm to 5.30pm

Confessions can also be heard at other times by arrangement with Fr Brian.

Live Streaming of Masses

As from this Saturday the Sunday 12pm Mass will be the only live streamed Mass.

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.

Parish Office: Please note that the parish office will be closed on Monday 19th July.

The Jesuit Refugee Service UK operates a hosting scheme called 'At Home' which sees volunteers host destitute refugees. The volunteers receive full support in making introductions and throughout the three-month period of hosting from the JRS Liaison Officer. A number of refugees are currently in need of more hosts as temporary accommodation provided during the pandemic comes to an end, leaving refugee friends of JRS facing a return to street homelessness. If you have a spare room or know of a religious community or a family who might be interested in helping, please email Hannah at uk@jrs.net or visit <https://www.jrsuk.net/at-home-hosting-scheme/>

Gospel readings for the week, beginning Monday 19th July:

Mon: Matthew 12:38-42

Tues: Matt. 12:46-50

Wed: Matt. 13:1-9

Thurs: Matt. 13:10-17

Fri: Matt. 13:18-23

Sat: Matt. 13:24-30

Sunday: John 6:1-15

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.

Mass Times and Intentions this Week

Sat 17 th	6pm Francie Sherry RIP Sacrament of Reconciliation 5pm to 5.30pm
Sun 18 th	9am Pro Populo 10.30am Mary Kenny RIP 21st RIP ANNIV 12 noon Mary Langton RIP
Mon 19 th	No Mass
Tues 20 th	No Mass
Wed 21 st	10am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation 9.30am to 9.45am
Thur 22 nd	No Mass
Fri 23 rd	10am Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation 9.30am to 9.45am & 6.30pm to 7pm
Sat 24 th	6pm Hyacinth Isaacs RIP Sacrament of Reconciliation 5.00pm to 5.30pm
Sun 25 th	9am Pro Populo 10.30am Mass 12 noon May Gardner RIP (Livestreamed)

A Prayer for our Earth

All powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.
 You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
 Pour out upon us the power of your love,
 that we may protect life and beauty.
 Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one and no thing.
 Amen

Reflection

St Hildegard of Bingen, a 12th C German Benedictine Abbess, who saw the sacredness of the land as a manifestation of the Creator, wrote:
 "Gaze at the beauty of earth's greenings.
 Now think what delight God gives to humankind with all these things.
 All nature is at the disposal of humankind.
 We are to work with it, for without we cannot survive.

**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/>



01442 391 759

Diocese of Westminster Charity N^o: 233699