

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

## 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year B  
Weekday readings  
Year 1  
Divine Office  
Week 1



### **TODAY'S MASS**

*Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me*

#### **Fr Brian writes...**

Gospel Reading Mark 9:30-37

Jesus teaches his disciples that the greatest are those who serve all.

Just like last week we hear Jesus again predict his passion, death, and Resurrection to his disciples. In predicting his passion, Jesus is acknowledging the danger they will face and is trying to preparing his disciples for it. Yet Mark tells us that the disciples did not understand what Jesus was saying and were afraid to ask what he meant. Such hesitation on the part of the disciples is not characteristic behaviour. Peter had no fear about rebuking Jesus in last week's Gospel. Perhaps this is an indication that the disciples were aware that a new situation was emerging. Mark paints a vivid picture in today's Gospel. Having arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples enter a house. In this private place, Jesus asks his disciples about the argument they had while they were journeying. Again, the disciples are uncharacteristically silent and afraid to answer. They have been found out. Jesus then summons the Twelve, whom Mark identified earlier in his Gospel as those chosen by Jesus to preach and to drive out demons. To this select group of disciples, Jesus teaches that those who would be first in God's kingdom must be servants of all. Jesus then calls forward a child and teaches the Twelve that to receive a child in Jesus' name is to receive both Jesus and the One who sent him. In first-century Palestine, children, similar to women, were without status or power, possessing no legal rights. In this action, Jesus is teaching his disciples and us that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus himself. Who are the people without power or status in our local community, or amongst us, society that Jesus is calling us to serve? Do we do so willingly? Jesus teaches that God's judgment of us will be based on this criterion alone.

# PARISH NEWS

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.

**2023 SYNOD OF BISHOPS MEETING- “For a Synodal Church:** Communion, Participation, Mission.” Enclosed with this week’s newsletter is a briefing from the CATHOLIC BISHOPS’ CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES on the forthcoming Synodal Process that starts in October in parishes and culminates with the Synod of Bishops meeting in Rome in 2023. The title of the 2023 Synod of Bishops is “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission.” Enjoy the reading!

**ALPHA:** If you are interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith, we are inviting you to join our next Alpha course which starts on Thursday 23 September 7pm in Our Lady’s church hall. There will be a simple meal provided and registration will help us to plan our catering. There is no pressure, no commitment and no charge. If you then decide that you wish to continue with the RCIA course with the intention of being received into the Catholic Church, there will be a meeting on Monday 6 December in Our Lady’s church hall. Please contact Clare or Fr Kim for more details at Hemel East.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** Our First Holy Communion Programme is based around the importance of parents passing on their faith to their children, and we are here to help and guide you in this journey. This means we rely on parents being disciples of Christ diligent in their duty and ready to pass on their faith to their children. A disciple is simply a follower, who listens, who learns and who imitates. A follower of Christ is someone who follows him and is open to all that being a follower entails. To that end we are inviting parents to take some time to pray and discern as they complete a self assessment of their own readiness to carry out this important task. If you would like to consider joining the programme this year, please use the link below to complete the self assessment: <https://form.typeform.com/to/nOG1rxh8?typeform-source=parish.rcdow.org.uk>

**CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER:** If you are a parent who is looking to have your child attend a Catholic school in September 2022, you will find it helpful to read the guidance for the issuing of such a document, on the Hemel West parish website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/> and click on the link [hemelhempsteadwest/parish-forms/certificate-of-catholic-practice/](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/certificate-of-catholic-practice/) All applications will close on Friday 1 October.

**TAKE ACTION TO OPPOSE THE ASSISTED DYING BILL:** In the next weeks, there will be an unprecedented attack on the sanctity of life with Baroness Meacher’s ‘Assisted Dying Bill 2021’ due its 2nd Reading in the House of Lords with full debate on Friday, 22 October. If legalised, this Bill would allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live to be assisted in committing suicide. Catholic teaching opposes assisting suicide, since life is a gift to be cared for and preserved until its natural death. As Pope Francis has said, “Physician-assisted suicide is part of a ‘throwaway culture’ that offers a ‘false compassion’ and treats a human person as a problem... True compassion does not marginalise anyone, nor does it humiliate and exclude – much less considers the disappearance of a person as a

## GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon:	Luke	8: 16-18
Tues:	Luke	8:19-21
Wed:	Luke	9:1-6
Thurs:	Luke	9:7-9
Fri:	Luke	9:18-22
Sat:	Luke	9:43-45
Sunday:	Mark	9:38-48

## PARISH FINANCES

**PLANNED GIVING:** Thank you to all those who have made the switch to donating by Standing Order. For those who wish to donate in this way, the details are:

Account Name: **WRCDT Hemel West**  
Sort Code: **40-05-20**  
Account No.: **31095048**

good thing.” We should pray that the Bill will be defeated. Consider writing to your MP and others and Peers in the House of Lords, to argue the reasons for opposing the Bill as well as narrate the importance of precious time during the final stages of life. The testimony of healthcare and legal professionals will also be important. If you are a Catholic doctor or nurse, now is the time for you to come forward to give witness to life. This needs to be done before the Second Reading on 22 October.

**COLLECTION:** There will be a collection this weekend for Home Mission Sunday.

**THE EUCHARIST:** Deacon Simon has arranged a meeting to explore the Eucharist as the New Passover, the Eucharist as the New Manna from Heaven, and the Eucharist as mysterious New ‘Bread of the Presence.’ The meeting will be held in the Parish Centre, Boxmoor and there will be three meetings to give everyone a chance to attend, (it is the same meeting each time). In particular I hope all our Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and those who are considering becoming one, attend as a precursor for (re)commissioning at a later date.

**The dates and times for the meetings are:**

**Afternoon:** Tuesday 21 September, 2pm

**Evening:** Tuesday 21 September, 7pm

**Morning:** Friday 24 September, 11am

To enable me to get an idea of numbers please could you sign up on the Events page of the Hemel West website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/events/> You can also just turn up on the day.

**JFK OPEN EVENTS 2021:** Please see the schools website for more details.

**BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES:** If your child has recently been baptised and you need a baptismal certificate, please send the full name 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.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR MIRGRANTS AND REFUGEES:** Sunday 26 September is a World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees. Bishop Paul

McAleenan, will be visiting Dover on Saturday 25 September to lead prayers at noon by the memorial plaques on the Dover seafront near the entrance to the Ferry Terminal. Anyone who shares a concern for migrants and refugees is welcome to attend.

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS:** When submitting an item for the newsletter, please send the details and information as you would like to see it published in the newsletter. Space is limited in the newsletter and so please keep your item to no more than 60 words. Please email Shirley by Wednesday 12 Noon and she will be do her best to accommodate it.

**REFLECTION**

He comes in the form of the beggar, of the dissolute human child in ragged clothes, asking for help. He confronts you in every person that you meet. As long as there are people, Christ will walk the earth as your neighbour.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

**PARISH OFFICE:** Please note that the parish office will closed on 23/24 September.

<b>Office Hours and Telephone cover for Hemel West.</b> <b>Email: shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk</b> <b>Phone: 01442 391 759 option 2</b>	
<b>Telephone cover for West</b>	<b>Hemel West Office Hours</b>
<b>Monday 12 noon-6pm</b>	<b>Monday 3pm-6pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 9.30am-3.30pm</b>	<b>Tuesday Closed</b>
<b>Wednesday 9.30am-3.30pm</b>	<b>Wednesday 9.30am-3.30pm</b>
<b>Thursday 9.30am-3.30pm</b>	<b>Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm</b>
<b>Friday 9.30am-3.30pm</b>	<b>Friday 9.30am-12.30pm</b>

# HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

<b>SUN 19 Sep</b>	<b>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	6pm (Vigil) 9am 10.30am 12 noon	Gunter Schmid (RIP) Pro Populo Johnny Bailey (RIP ANNIV) Mary & Sid Webb (INT)
<b>MON 20 Sep</b>	St Andrew Kim Tae-gon		No Mass
<b>TUE 21 Sep</b>	ST MATTHEW		No Mass
<b>WED 22 Sep</b>	feria	10am	No Intention
<b>THU 23 Sep</b>	St Pius of Pietrelcina		NO MASS (Father's rest day)
<b>FRI 24 Sep</b>	Our Lady of Walsingham	10am	Peter Moore (RIP ANNIV)
<b>SAT 25 Sep</b>	feria	6pm (Vigil)	No Intention
<b>SUN 26 Sep</b>	<b>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9am 10.30am 12 noon	Pro Populo No Intention Sheila Keegan (RIP ANNIV)

**MASS INTENTIONS:** If you would like a Mass offered for a deceased family member or a friend, or for any other intention, do let Shirley Bailey know by emailing her at [shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk) or you can call her on 01442 391 759. It is customary to make an offering and the diocese recommends £10 per Mass and the proceeds go to support our priest. If this is unaffordable for you, please feel free to make an offering you can afford.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Before all week day Masse. **Friday:** 6.30pm– 7pm and **Saturday:** 5pm-5.30pm at Ss Mary & Joseph church.



Please switch off all mobile phones

## MAKING CONTACT AT HEMEL WEST CATHOLIC PARISH

**Parish Priest:** Fr Brian McMahon      [brianmcmahon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:brianmcmahon@rcdow.org.uk) ( Opt 3)


**Deacon:** Simon Wright      [simonwright@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:simonwright@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator:** Shirley Bailey      [shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk) ( Opt 2)

**Hall Bookings:** via Shirley or [hemelwesthallbookings@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hemelwesthallbookings@rcdow.org.uk) (In Office Hours)

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

**website:** <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempesteadwest/>

 **01442 391 759**

*Diocese of Westminster Charity N<sup>o</sup>: 233699*