

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday cycle
Readings Year C
Weekday readings
Year 1
Divine Office
Week 4



TODAY'S MASS

*He will stand and feed his flock with
the power of the Lord*

Fr Brian writes....

The O Antiphons

The O Antiphons refer to the seven antiphons that are recited (or chanted) preceding the Magnificat during Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours. They cover the special period of Advent preparation known as the Octave before Christmas, December 17-23, which we are now in. Each of the O Antiphons highlights a title for the Messiah, as listed below. Also, each one refers to the prophecy of Isaiah of the coming of the Messiah. The O antiphons start with the last title, O Emmanuel, and takes the first letter of each one - Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia – thus the Latin words *ero cras* are formed, meaning, Tomorrow, I will come. Therefore, the Lord Jesus, whose coming we have prepared for in Advent and whom we have addressed in these seven Messianic titles, now speaks to us, Tomorrow, I will come. The O Antiphons not only bring intensity to our Advent preparation, but bring it to a joyful conclusion. Why not pray the antiphons during your daily meditation in a way that fits with your style of prayer? As we enter into this final period of preparation for Christmas, let us remain mindful and watchful, not distracted by the cares of life or overcome by useless fear of death, as the Lord could return at an hour none of us expect, perhaps tomorrow, to judge the living and the dead. Maranatha!

17 December: O Sapientia (O Wisdom)

18 December: O Adonai (O Lord)

19 December: O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)

20 December: O Clavis David (O Key of David)

21 December: O Oriens (O Dayspring)

22 December: O Rex Gentium (O King of the Nations)

23 December: O Emmanuel (O With Us is God)

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Carols by Candlelight: Attendance at the Carols by Candlelight on 20 December 2021, is by booking only. Please follow the link to reserve your place. <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemel Hempsteadwest/events/carols-by-candlelight/>

DECORATING OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS:

We will be preparing the church on Christmas Eve morning after the 10am Mass. We need people to help with the flowers, clean and tidy the church and set up the crib. Please come and help if you can, even for half an hour.

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate at cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

PARISH OFFICE: Please note that the parish office will be closed from Monday 20 December until Monday 3 January and will reopen on Wednesday 5 January.

NEWSLETTER: The next newsletter will be on the weekend of 8/9 January 2022.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE: If you have been unable to collect your Certificate of Catholic Practice, Fr Brian will be in the presbytery on Monday 20 December, from 2pm until 4pm and you will be able to collect your certificate from the presbytery then.

HOUSEBOUND OR SICK? If you or any member of the parish are sick, or housebound and unable to get to Mass, do please let Fr Brian know.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE: Thank you to everyone who have so generously supported our Christmas Hamper raffle. The winning tickets will be drawn after the Carols by Candlelight on Monday 20 December.

MASS INTENTIONS: Hemel West has been experiencing IT problems over the past few weeks. If you have booked a Mass intention and do not see it appear on the newsletter, please contact Shirley in the parish office on 01442 391 759 option 2. Thank you.

YEAR BOOK: The Westminster 2022 Year book is available to purchase from the parish office at the cost of £4.50.

CONFIRMATION 2022: Applications for the Hemel Confirmation Course are open and will close on 9 January 2022. Please email Callum Moore at cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk for a registration form.

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

GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon:	Luke	1:26-38
Tues:	Luke	1:39-45
Wed:	Luke	1:46-56
Thurs:	Luke	1:57-66
Fri:	Luke	1:67-79
Sat:	John	1:18-24
Sunday:	Luke	2:41-52

PARISH FINANCES

Total Weekly Offertory Collection, Contactless Payments and Standing Orders for November.

Envelopes	£183.00
Loose Cash & Contactless	£1973.32
Standing Orders	£4396.48
Total	£6552.80

appointed) and full address to shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk and she will arrange a certificate for you.

PRAYER

Prince of Peace

You were born into a world, where terror reigned and fear ruled, and live today in a world crucified by war.

Fill us with your passion for justice - that wherever we see evil abound we may live to disturb its path and strive to build bridges of reconciliation.

In the darkness, beckon us with your kindly light, that we never lose sight of your vision of peace - in which the lion lies down with the lamb.

Amen



Office Hours and Telephone cover for Hemel West. Email: shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk Phone: 01442 391 759 option 2	
Telephone cover for 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 9.30am-3.30pm
Thursday 9.30am-3.30pm	Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm
Friday 9.30am-3.30pm	Friday 9.30am-12.30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT HEMEL WEST		
Date	Church	Time
24 December	Ss Mary & Joseph Ss Mary & Joseph	10am Carols at 8.30pm followed by Mass at 9pm
25 December	Ss Mary & Joseph	8.30am
25 December	Ss Mary & Joseph	10.15am
25 December	St Mark's	12 noon
26 December	Ss Mary & Joseph	8.30am
26 December	Ss Mary & Joseph	10.15am
26 December	St Mark's	12 noon

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUN 19 Dec	4th Sunday in Advent	(SMSJ) 6pm (Vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Miss Anne Onyinyechukwu Igboaka (Return to Good Health) Pro Populo Austin & Tess Cameron (RIP ANNIV) Miss Anne Onyinyechukwu Igboaka (Return to Good Health)
MON 20 Dec	Advent feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Miss Anne Onyinyechukwu Igboaka (Return to Good Health)
TUE 21 Dec	Advent feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Miss Anne Onyinyechukwu Igboaka (Return to Good Health)
WED 22 Dec	Advent feria	(SMSJ) 11.30am	Miss Anne Onyinyechukwu Igboaka (Return to Good Health)
THU 23 Dec	Advent feria		NO MASS (Father's rest day)
FRI 24 Dec	Advent feria	(SMSJ) 10am (SMSJ) 8.30pm (SMSJ) 9pm	Mary & Len Chalkright (RIP) Carols followed by Mass Trevor Heatley (INT)
SAT 25 Dec	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Claire Dafonseca (1st RIP ANNIV) Bernadette & Margaret (INT) People of the Parish
SUN 26 Dec	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Pro Populo Elizabeth Platt (RIP) Billy Barret (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 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: **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 (Opt 3)
Deacon: Rev Simon Wright simonwright@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator: Shirley Bailey shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk (Opt 2)
Hall Bookings: via Shirley or 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/hemelhempestadwest/>

01442 391 759

Diocese of Westminster Charity N^o: 233699