

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday cycle
Readings Year C
Weekday readings
Year 2
Divine Office
Week 3



TODAY'S MASS

*'This text is being fulfilled today
even as you listen'*

Fr Brian writes...

Today is **SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD**. Pope Francis, in instituting this day, wrote a letter *Aperuit Illis* (from the first line: “He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures”, Lk 24:45), which seeks to remind us to receive the Scriptures “not as a human word but as what it really is, the word of God”. They are not just empty words. It is the Holy Spirit that “makes human words written in human fashion become the word of God” (AI, 5) He reminds us that when we read the Scriptures, we are entering into a true dialogue, a true encounter, a participation in the great story of salvation. As well as speaking to us personally, the Scriptures speak to us communally, “for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers.” (AI, 8) Pope Francis asks us to mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity, and to ‘celebrate, study, and disseminate’ the word of God. He suggests that “in the Eucharistic celebration the sacred text be enthroned, in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God’s word.” The Book of the Gospels will be enthroned in front of the altar so that its proximity to the altar better demonstrates the connection between the Word made flesh and Jesus really present in the Eucharist. As Pope Francis says, “A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event.” (AI, 8) How can we as a parish embed the Word of God better into our parish lives? Do contact me with your ideas. Today you may want to consider purchasing a Bible, if you don’t have one. Also taking time today to read a little of the Bible with your family. We are fed by the Word of God, made flesh.

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.

SYNOD LISTENING EXERCISE: The responses from the parish to the recent Listening Exercise in preparation for the forthcoming Synod of Bishops, have now been collated and sent to the diocese. You can read them at the following link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/news/synod-on-synodality-listening-exercise-responses-hemel-west/>. Some of the suggestions are 'above our pay grade' to implement change locally, but your essential views have been communicated to the diocese. The Parish Pastoral Council will give consideration to what can be changed locally, as part of its pastoral planning, with regard to resources available. The PPC will, over the next few meetings, give thought to how it will structure and communicate about itself and how it will engage with the parish. Even when the PPC has normalised itself, your first point of contact for all matters (other than routine administrative matters handled by Shirley Bailey,) is always with me. Speak to me after Mass or call! Also, it would be lovely to have a couple more people willing to serve on the PPC and help energise the pastoral life of the parish by building community. It could be you!?

PARISH NEWSLETTER: There is now a substantially reduced number of newsletters printed for every Sunday. Wasting paper, ink and toner doesn't make economic or environmental sense. Do go to the parish website to sign up for the parish e-alerts, so that you can get notified when the newsletter is published and of other topical news items. Please **do not** take a printed copy of the newsletter, but leave them for parishioners who do not use the internet.

PARISH OFFICE: Please note that the parish office will closed on 27 and 28 January and will reopen on Monday 31 January.

CHURCHES TOGETHER: Please join Christians from across Hertfordshire in prayer on 25 January at

7.30pm. Please join the Zoom meeting at the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89465881609?pwd=aHduWWw3b1NVOVlzO1sa3lWdkt5Zz09>. Meeting ID: 894 6588 1609 and Passcode: 656904. All are welcome.

MISSIO (APF Red Box scheme): Now the pandemic is easing, we will be collecting the red boxes again. Please place them in the marked box at the back of church, or take one of the envelopes home with you to complete and return with your money. If you are unable to get to church please contact Janice Varney on 07847 167969 and she will arrange for your box to be collected. The World Mission collection on Sunday 24 October 2021, raised £1,565.50. Thank you for your generosity.

We pray for the sick in our parish

Pam Moore

GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon:	Mark	3:22-30
Tues:	Mark	3:31-35
Wed:	Mark	4:1-20
Thurs:	Mark	4:21-25
Fri:	Mark	4:26-34
Sat:	Mark	4:35-41
Sunday	Luke	4:21-40

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**

The offertory collection income figures are published on a monthly basis once the bank reconciliation is completed.

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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS: If you are a new parent, congratulations! You should now be thinking about having your child baptised. You will need to prepare for this important sacramental event, for when your child becomes a member of God's family. Full details can be found at the link

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/>

[hemelhempesteadwest/sacramental-prep/baptism-preparation/](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempesteadwest/sacramental-prep/baptism-preparation/) or go to the parish website.

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.

ACCOMPANIMENT OF CHILDREN TO THE TOILET: Please ensure that children are accompanied by an adult when going to the church toilet. Thank you.

CARETAKER VACANCY: St Cuthbert Mayne Junior School is looking to appoint a caretaker/site manager from 21 February. If you are interested in the role please contact the school on 253347. The closing date for applications is 2 February.

NURSERY ADMISSIONS: The Nursery 2022 admissions process opens on Tuesday 1 February 2022 at St Roses School. If you have a child born 1 September 2018 – 31 August 2019 this will be the time to apply. There will be a webinar on 7 February at 6pm via Zoom, please contact the school office if you would like to attend. There will also be school tours happening on 9 February and 2 March at 9.15am please email admin@stroses.herts.sch.uk if you wish to book a place.

E-ALERT: Please sign up for the parish e-alerts and keep up with all the parish news. You can do this by going to the parish website.

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. Please keep your item to no

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

more than 60 words. Please email Shirley by Wednesday 12 Noon and she will be do her best to accommodate it.

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

Prayer

Lord Jesus, who prayed that we might all be one.

We pray to you for the unity of Christians,

according to your will, according to your means.

May your Spirit enable us to experience the suffering caused by division to see our sin, and to hope beyond all hope.

Amen

(The Chemin Neuf Community UK)

John 17-21 "that all of them may be one Father, just as you are in me, and I am in you"

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUN 23 JAN	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 6pm (Vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Jane Parisi (RIP) Philomena Quinn (INT) Pro Populo May & Edward Charles Gill (RIP)
MON 24 Jan	St Francis de Sales	(SMSJ) 10am	
TUE 25 Jan	THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	(SMSJ) 10am	Bishop Paul McAleenan (ANNIV of His Episcopal Ordination)
WED 26 Jan	Ss Timothy & Titus	(SMSJ) 11.30am	
THU 27 Jan	feria		NO PUBLIC MASS
FRI 28 Jan	St Thomas Aquinas	(SMSJ) 10am	Funeral for Maura Phillips (RIP)
SAT 29 Jan	feria	(SMSJ) 6pm	
SUN 30 Jan	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Pro Populo Ivy & Henry Albert (RIP)

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. 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 and by appointment.



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