

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

## 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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



***TODAY'S MASS***  
***Happy are you who are poor,  
who are hungry, who weep***

### RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Fr Brian writes....

**Racial Justice Sunday** is observed by British Christian churches today.

- Racial Justice Sunday is "an opportunity for all Christians to join together in:
- Reflecting on the importance of racial justice
- Thanksgiving for human diversity
- Prayer for an end to misunderstanding, racism and injustice
- Action that truly makes a difference
- Fundraising for national and local racial justice initiatives."<sup>[1]</sup>

### WHY CELEBRATE RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY?

We believe that the universe was created by a loving God who chose to become a human being in Jesus Christ, who has redeemed the world and sent the Holy Spirit to enable us to love one another with God's love. All human beings are equally children of God and loved by God. Since none is outside the love of God, none should be outside our love either. We believe that the diversity of the human race was no mistake on God's part. God deliberately created variety within the human family and wants us to take as much delight in that variety as God does. But racism persists in Britain. At its most obvious and brutal, it takes the form of physical attacks, which sometimes end in murder. But it takes many other forms as well, like discrimination within the police force, popular prejudice against Travellers or people seeking asylum, or reluctance to accept people of a different ethnic or cultural group as neighbours. I recall the discrimination I experienced in the 1970s and my father suffered on account of being Irish, at the hands of the police, teachers and neighbours. The Daily Mail in particular loved to stoke up anti-Irish hatred and discrimination. Even within churches, people can face discrimination and unkindness because they are different from the majority in a particular community. God forbid that should ever be the case in the parish of Hemel West! It is important to make time to give thanks for our diversity and to pray for God's help in overcoming our prejudices and the injustices that reflect and reinforce them. We are all brothers and sisters.

'All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.'

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UN, 1948

# 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.**

**CONGRATULATIONS to Ian Smallwood!** This Sunday at the 12pm Mass, Ian Smallwood, will be awarded the Archconfraternity of St Stephen's Gold Medal in recognition of 60 years of regular serving at the altar. I only managed 10! This is a fantastic achievement by Ian - well done Ian, you are an inspiration to all our children! Several of Ian's friends will be at Mass to witness the presentation and join us for hospitality afterwards. The Guild of St Stephen is an International Organisation of Altar Servers founded in England in 1904 by Father Hamilton McDonald when he formed a Society of Altar Servers at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in London. In 1905, Pope Pius X gave his approbation to the Canonical establishment of the Guild at Westminster Cathedral and in 1906, the Sacred Congregation of Rites made the Guild an Archconfraternity prima primaria enabling all the parish branches to be linked with it. The Guild spread, and in 1934 Pope Pius XI enabled all Guilds of Altar Servers throughout the British Commonwealth to be affiliated with the Archconfraternity at Westminster. Many priests can trace the origins of their vocation to their time as an altar server. Boys in the parish are encouraged to come forward to learn how to serve at the altar, so that as many as possible can go forward in later life to become priests.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES MAY 2022:** First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated on Saturday 14 May at 10am and 2pm and on Sunday 15 May at 2pm. Specific arrangements for allocating which Mass your child attends will be made known in March. All Masses will be celebrated at Ss Mary & Joseph's church.

**WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH:** The wearing of face coverings in church has now ceased to be a **legal** requirement. The wearing of a face covering is therefore completely discretionary. However, given that the virus has

not gone away, you may consider it prudent, as an act of charity and in the interests of the Common Good, to still wear a face covering when in church, as invariably you will come into contact with some people you do not normally meet. Our usual virus mitigation measures will continue i.e. increased ventilation of the church and scheduled cleaning by contract cleaners.

**PRIVATE PRAYER:** Ss Mary & Joseph's church will be open for private prayer after Mass, excepting Thursday, until about 4pm each day. On Saturday the church will open at 11am. There may be times, for operational reasons, when the church will not be open. It may not always be possible to notify such situations in advance.

**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE:** Please could R Gungadoo contact Shirley in the parish office.

**ST ALBERT THE GREAT SCHOOL:** St Albert's welcomes you to attend a school tour on either Tuesday 22 February, at 2pm or Friday 4 March, at 9.15am. Please see the school website or call the school office on 01442264835 for more information.

## **We Pray for the Departed:**

Yvonne Xavier RIP

## **GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:**

Mon:	Mark	8:11-13
Tues:	Mark	8:14- 21
Wed:	Mark	8:22-26
Thurs:	Mark	8:27-33
Fri:	Mark	8:34- 9:1
Sat:	Mark	9:2-13
Sunday	Luke	6: 27-38

## **Sunday Offertory Collection, Contactless Payments and Standing Orders for January 2022.**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>£117.00</b>
<b>Loose Cash &amp; Contactless</b>	<b>£1701.87</b>
<b>Standing Orders</b>	<b>£4339.14</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6158.01</b>

**NURSERY ADMISSIONS:** The Nursery 2022 admissions process opened 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 Thursday 10 February at 6pm via Zoom, please contact the school office if you would like to attend. There will also be school tours on Thursday 24 February, at 9.45am and Wednesday 2 March, at 9.15am and 9.45am please email [admin@stroses.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stroses.herts.sch.uk) if you wish to book a place.

**JOHN F KENNEDY SCHOOL VACANCIES:** We are seeking to appoint the following positions: Premises Manager, Premises Assistant, Exam Invigilators, Teacher of Business, Teacher of Design & Technology, Teacher of Science. Please visit [www.jfk.herts.sch.uk](http://www.jfk.herts.sch.uk) for more details.

**CAFOD's Walk Against Hunger Lent challenge:**

There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. This Lent, challenge yourself to walk 200km, and help give hunger its marching orders. Do 5k a day, your way, for 40 days, get sponsored and you'll conquer your 200km target in time for Easter – and help people around the world to live free from hunger. To find out more or take part, go to [cafod.org.uk/walk](http://cafod.org.uk/walk).

**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/>

[hemelhempsteadwest/sacramental-prep/baptism-preparation/](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/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 full address to

<b>Office Hours and Telephone cover for Hemel West.</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk">shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk</a></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>

[shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk) and she will arrange a certificate for you.

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

**ERACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY (13 February)**

Dear God

Fill us with your mercy so that we, in turn, may be merciful to others. Strip away pride, suspicion, and racism so that we may seek peace and justice in our communities. Strengthen our hearts so that they beat only to the rhythm of your holy will.

When our eyes do not see the gravity of racial justice, shake us from our slumber and open our eyes. When out of fear we are frozen into inaction, give us a spirit of bravery. When we try our best but say the wrong things, give us a spirit of humility.

Amen

# HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

<b>SUN 13 Feb</b>	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 6pm (Vigil)	For the Sick, the Dying & for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory
		<b>(SMSJ)</b> 8.30am	For the Sick, the Dying & for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory
		<b>(SMSJ)</b> 10.15am <b>(SM)</b> 12 noon	Inmaculada Carr (RIP ANNIV) Deceased Members of the Stiffle Family (RIP)
<b>MON 14 Feb</b>	SS CYRIL, MONK & METHODIUS	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 10am	For the Sick, the Dying & for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory
<b>TUE 15 Feb</b>	feria	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 10am	For the Sick, the Dying & for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory
<b>WED 16 Feb</b>	feria	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 11.30am	For the Sick, the Dying & for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory
<b>THU 17 Feb</b>	feria		NO PUBLIC MASS
<b>FRI 18 Feb</b>	feria	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 10am	For the Sick, the Dying & for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory
<b>SAT 19 Feb</b>	feria	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 6pm	Edward Stokes (RIP ANNIV)
<b>SUN 20 Feb</b>	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 8.30am	Olive Quigley (RIP)
		<b>(SMSJ)</b> 10.15am	Erminio Gazza (RIP)
		<b>(SM)</b> 12 noon	Pro Populo

**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. 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.

## MAKING CONTACT AT HEMEL WEST CATHOLIC PARISH

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


**Deacon:** Rev 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/hemel Hempsteadwest/>

 **01442 391 759**

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