

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

## 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

27 MARCH 2022

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year C

Weekday readings

Year 2

Divine Office  
Week 4



### TODAY'S MASS

*The Prodigal Son*

#### Fr Brian writes....

Rejoice! The fourth Sunday of Lent is known as Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means “rejoice” and it is the first word of today’s Entrance Antiphon for our Mass. At this mid-point in Lent, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter. Despite all that is going on with the world at present and the residual effects of the pandemic, we remain a people of hope. If we do not have hope, we cannot be joyful. If we are not people of joy, thankful for all God has done for us in Christ, then we will not attract disciples for Christ, with all the consequences that entails.

There is no better place to be on Sunday, the Lord’s Day, than with the entire community at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. I hear often of how sports and leisure activities have displaced the worship of God amongst many families. How sad. How distressing. How very concerning. We pray for those of our community who have lost the habit of coming to Mass on Sunday or perhaps given that time for worship of God, to other activities. We pray for them like the Prodigal Son in today’s Gospel reading to return and be with us – we miss you! So come back and rejoice with us! We all have a part to play to invite people back. And of course, another reason for rejoicing –today is Mother’s Day!

# 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.

## LENT 2022

**HOLY HOUR:** (with Confessions, Adoration & Benediction) 7pm Fridays at Ss Mary & Joseph. This will also be Livestreamed. Please note there will not be Confessions, Adoration & Benediction on 8 April.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Please come and join St Mark's for the Way of the Cross, 7pm every Tuesday in Lent. If you cannot make it then please watch the Livestream on the YouTube account <https://www.youtube.com/c/HemelWestCatholic>

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Thursday 11am at Ss Mary & Joseph lead by the Catholic Women's league.

**TAIZE SERVICE** at Ss Mary & Joseph on Friday 8 April at 7pm.

**JUSTICE & PEACE:** "Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all" *Sollicitudo rei socialis*, Pope St John Paul II.

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HEMEL HEMPSTEAD:

Act of Witness Good Friday 15 April. We will not be walking together but meeting at the Market Square in the town centre at 10.45am for a short service which will start at 11am. The theme: 'The Rubbish Cross?' links care for our environment with the Good Friday focus of redemption. Churches are asked to bring bags of clean recycling (no glass or food). We will be filling seven 24" cubed metal cages which will be assembled into a cross of rubbish, which, in the

**EASTER FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH:** If you would like to contribute to the purchase of EASTER FLOWERS, do take an envelope marked EASTER FLOWERS DONATION and pop your donation in it and then place it in the offertory collection basket at the entrance to the church. Thank you.

**CAFOD:** Thank you so much for your support of CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day, the Walk Against Hunger and the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your support means we can respond in crises such as Ukraine where our Caritas aid workers and volunteers could quickly help families fleeing conflict. It also means we're there in the long-term and can continue to respond to crises around the world, including in Afghanistan, Syria, Ethiopia, and South Sudan. We work alongside communities as they rebuild their lives once the conflict is over, as in Sierra Leone. For more details on how your donations are being used, please go to the CAFOD website [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk).

## GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon:	John	4:43-54
Tues:	John	3:1- 3, 5-16
Wed:	John	5:17-30
Thurs:	John	5:31-37
Fri:	John	7:1-2,10,25- 30
Sat:	John	7:40-52
Sunday:	John	8:1-11

## 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.

service, will be used as the act of repentance and devotion and promise of restoration.

**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 do her best to accommodate it.

**GOING TO HOSPITAL?** If you are going into Hospital do ask to see Theresa Taylor-Brookes the Catholic Chaplain. Please call the Chaplaincy office on 01923 217994 or 07776598704 for Watford and St Albans.

**E-ALERT:** Please sign up for the parish e-alerts and keep up with all the parish news.

#### Reflection

Prayer with fasting is good, but better than both is alms giving with righteousness.

A little with righteousness is better than wealth with wrong doing.

It is better to give alms than to lay up gold.

For alms giving saves from death and purges away every sin.

#### (Tobit 12:8)

Christ is God's microphone, we are Christ's microphone and the Church is the microphone of the poor.

#### (St Oscar Romero)

#### Prayer

God of justice, teach me to be humble and to serve. Guide me to do what is right, and to be open to learn from others, so that together we may build a fairer world.

Amen

<b>Office Hours and Telephone cover for Hemel West.</b> <b>Email:</b> shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk <b>Phone:</b> 01442 391 759 option 2	
<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

SUN 27 Mar	4th Sunday of Lent	(SMSJ) 6pm (Vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am  (SM) 12 noon	Patrick Mcinerney (INT) Pro Populo Constance & Fred Smallwood & Minnie Jackson (RIP ANNIV) Jimmy Cash (RIP)
MON 28 Mar	Lent feria	(SMSJ) 10am	
TUE 29 Mar	Lent feria	(SMSJ) 10am	
WED 30 Mar	Lent feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Christo Foenander (RIP)
THU 31 Mar	Lent feria	(SMSJ)	No Public Mass
FRI 1 Apr	Lent feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Funeral for David Robert Abbott (RIP)
SAT 2 Apr	Lent feria	(SMSJ) 6pm	Sabine Eagles (RIP)
SUN 3 Apr	5th Sunday of Lent	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am  (SM) 12 noon	Pro Populo Sean Joyce (1st 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. 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](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/hemelhempsteadwest/>

**01442 391 759**

*Diocese of Westminster Charity N°: 233699*