

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

1 May 2022

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



TODAY'S MASS

*'Lord, you know everything;
you know I love you.'*

Resurrexit sicut dixit, Alleluia!

Fr Brian writes....

Thank you to everyone who played a part in our Holy Week and Sacred Triduum liturgies and preparing the churches. Many thanks to the children who led us so well at our Good Friday Stations of the Cross Walk of Witness across the common with our friends from St John's Church. Thank you also for your gifts and cards and for your generosity in the Easter Offering, which contributes to my stipend to cover my personal living costs. Blessed Easter water is available to bless yourself as you enter the church. Good to re-introduce that Catholic practice! We are underway now with Eastertime, these 50 days of celebrating the resurrection, which encompass the Ascension of the Lord (26th May) concluding with Pentecost (5th June.) It would be good to see as many people in church on those days, as we saw for Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Now that cases of Covid are reducing rapidly and substantially do review your worship practice in favour of the Lord's Day i.e. Sunday.

You may have missed the important Bishops' Synodal Pathway Report? Read it here and then sign up for parish e-alerts: shorturl.at/abmoD The PPC will continue to facilitate our engagement in the Synodal Pathway through focusing its deliberations on Participation, Community and Mission as it affects all Hemel West parishioners.

During this period of Eastertime, our lovely Paschal Candle, first lit at the Easter Vigil, and on its new stand at Boxmoor, will remain lit in the sanctuary at all of our Masses. We will celebrate First Holy Communion Masses for our children and Bishop Paul will visit to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on some of our young people. These Masses will be outside our scheduled Mass times and attendance reserved to the immediate families and restricted number of guests for candidates. They can be viewed on our YouTube livestream channel. We will support our children and young people with our prayers. We will have a small celebration after the 10.15am Mass on Sunday 29th May for Frs Bernard Scholes and Brian Reynolds, who will be celebrating their Diamond Jubilees (60 years) of priesthood. Congratulations! The administrative burdens on parishes (and parish priests) have changed dramatically since our beloved retired clergy were ordained in the 1960s. For instance, the diocese has recently introduced a new parish audit and the depth and scope of inspection has increased substantially. The purpose of the audit is to ensure that parishes are compliant with a range of policies that relate to financial controls, data protection and general health and safety etc. Overall, it's about good risk management and corresponding governance. Many in the world of work will be familiar with these requirements. We already have several men and women on the Parish Finance Committee but need more to assist with financial matters and oversight for stewardship of our income, expenditure and maintenance of our assets. This would rarely require more than a couple of hours per month and as part of a collective effort make a big difference. I need your help, please? Call me for a chat. Today's Gospel reading, where Jesus appears to the disciples for a third time after his Resurrection and shares a meal with them, is a rich and textured story that speaks of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist and our commission to serve others as Jesus did. As Jesus feeds Peter in the meal amongst friends described in today's Gospel, so Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist, and also asks us to follow him, asking that we offer our lives in service and sacrifice. Happy Eastertide, my friends!

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.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND: Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 58 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 17 of whom are from our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. Last year four men who studied at Allen Hall were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. This fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation envelopes are available in the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

FLOWER FESTIVAL AT SS MARY & JOSEPH CHURCH: This will commence on Saturday 30 April until Monday 2 May. As May is the month traditionally dedicated to Mary, the theme of the displays will reflect Our Lady in her many manifestations: Our Lady of Knock, Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Walsingham to name but three. This event is organised by the Hemel West Catholic Women's League and will take place on Saturday 30 April, 2pm to 6pm, Sunday 1 May

9.30am to 5pm and Monday 2 May, 9.30am to 5pm. Refreshments will be available.

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: HELP! The diocese has recently introduced a new parish audit and the depth and scope of inspection has increased substantially. The purpose of the audit is to ensure that parishes are compliant with a range of policies that relate to financial controls, data protection and general health and safety etc. Overall, it's about good risk management and corresponding governance. Many in the world of work will be familiar with these requirements. We already have several men and women on the Parish Finance Committee but need more to assist with financial matters and oversight for stewardship of our income, expenditure and maintenance of our assets. This would rarely require more than a couple of hours per month and as part of a collective effort make a big difference. Can you help me please? Call me for a chat.

BOYS FIRST COMMUNION SUITS: One of St Cuthbert Mayne parents has given the school two suits (one without trousers) including ties, waistcoat, jacket and shirt and the size is suitable for year 7-8. They are in perfect condition. There is also a pair of size 3 smart shoes. If one of the First Communion pupils could make use of these, please do contact the school office at St Cuthbert Mayne to collect them.

LORETO COLLEGE (ST ALBANS) CENTENARY GARDEN PARTY: Sunday 10 July, 12 noon until 6pm. Admission £5 per person (free entry for children aged 5 and under). There will be live music by the popular local band Soulfish, BBQ, afternoon tea, bar, traditional games/stalls and much more including our Centenary Raffle. A link to the ticket page and more information can be found at www.loreto.herts.sch.uk.

"FR BERNARD SHOLES WRITES: Rwanda one of the worlds 20 poorest countries; UK one of the richest 10. So we unload our unwanted refugees on Rwanda! Does that sound right? Tell your MP what you think"

Prayer

Lord, turn our rebellious hearts to your own heart, so that we may learn to pursue plans of peace. Inspire adversaries to shake hands, and taste mutual forgiveness. Disarm the hand of brother raised against brother, so that where there is hatred, concord may flourish. Grant that we never act as enemies of the cross of Christ, so that we may share in the glory of his resurrection.

Amen

(Pope Francis)

Reflection

In a world, so torn apart by rivalry, anger, and hatred, we have the privilege vocation to be living signs of a love that can bridge all divisions and heal all wounds.

(Henri Nouwen)



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

GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon: John 6:22-29
 Tues: John 6:30-35
 Wed: John 6:35-40
 Thurs: John 6:44-51
 Fri: John 6:52-59
 Sat: John 6:60-69
 Sunday: John 10:27-30

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.

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

HOLY MASS

SUN 1 May	3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER	(SMSJ) 6pm (Vigil) ((SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Ann Rothery (RIP ANNIV) Pro Populo
MON 2 May	St Athanasius	(SMSJ) 10am	Pope Francis (INT)
TUE 3 May	SS PHILIP & JAMES	(SMSJ) 10am	Release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory & for the Sick & Dying
WED 4 May	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	(SMSJ) 10am	For all of the Dead from all Wars
THU 5 May	Easter feria		No Public Mass
FRI 6 May	Easter feria	(SMSJ) 10AM	For the Conversion of People to Christ
SAT 7 May	Easter feria	(SMSJ) 6pm	For the Healing of Sin & for Unborn Babies
SUN 8 May	4th SUNDAY OF EASTER	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Pro Populo For the Intention of Antonia & all of Her Family

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