

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST
15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
10 July 2022

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



TODAY'S MASS
The good Samaritan

Fr Brian writes...

In today's Gospel the lawyer, having been shown up by Jesus, tries another question: And who is my neighbour? In the society of Jesus' time, with its distinctions between Jews and Gentiles, men and women, clean and unclean, this was a trick question. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. It is found only in Luke's Gospel. The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descends 3,300 feet in just 17 miles. Its narrow passes and rocky terrain made it an easy place for bandits to wait for travelers. The traveler in this parable is identified only as "a certain man." Luke uses this phrase in many of his parables so that the audience, Jew or Gentile, could identify with the man. After the attack, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along. The listeners would probably expect him to be an Israelite. This would make the parable a criticism of the religious leadership. Instead he is a Samaritan, an Israelite's most hated neighbour. Samaritans were descendants of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbour in this parable. Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations.

It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion. When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: "Go and do likewise." The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.

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.

REGISTRATION FOR THE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2022-2023:

Registration for the Hemel West parish First Holy Communion Programme 2022-2023, is now open and will run until Sunday 31 July. Here is the link to the News and Events section of the parish website, so that you can register your child <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemel Hempstead West/news/> Do remember to sign up for parish e-alerts too, so that you are always up to speed with the latest information about your parish! Questions about the programme will be answered at the initial parents meeting in September, so please avoid ringing or emailing the parish at this stage with questions.

SEA SUNDAY: Today is Sea Sunday when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Today's second collection for Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is the Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. This collection is vital to enable it to continue its work. If you would like to donate, there will a collection as you leave church or do use the envelopes available at the back of the church. You can also donate online at www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk. Thank you for your generosity and remembering seafarers in your prayers.

ADEYFIELD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: We would like to thank all of you who attended the blessing of the Platinum Jubilee tree, which was planted earlier this year and to those who joined us for lunch afterwards. It was a joyful afternoon and we are pleased and thankful to say your generosity raised a total of £677 which will be shared amongst our charities.

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: This year's Pilgrimage to Walsingham is on 6 August, led by Bishop Philip Egan. A coach will leave Harpenden at 7.30am and St Bartholomew's church, Vesta Avenue, St Albans at 7.50am. Tickets cost £20 for adults and £10 for a child which includes Priory entrance. Please call 01858 571 242 for more details.

CHURCH KEYS & HALLS KEYS: There are still keys that have not been returned to the parish office. If you hold keys for either the church, the parish halls or safes, please return them to Shirley in the parish office and let her know if you need to be added to the key safe code holders list by emailing her. This is a diocesan audit requirement, as part of the overall security arrangements, that it is necessary for us to have in place.

SCRIPTURE GROUP: We meet in the Parish Centre, Boxmoor on Tuesdays from 2pm until 4pm to read and discuss the readings for the following Sunday. All are welcome to join us.

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

JUSTICE & PEACE: "Pax Christi - Is the mouthpiece of the Church on matters of Justice & Peace, the Church's response to injustice in the world. Pax Christi has suffered greatly during the pandemic years and desperately needs our help. If you are concerned about the state of our world, can you join and support Pax Christi...? Go to Pax Christi England and Wales – International Catholic Movement for Peace"

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES: If your child has recently been baptised and you need a baptismal certificate, please email the full name of the child, parents, godparents and Christian witnesses (if appointed) and the date of the baptism to

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 do her best to accommodate it.

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS: The second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly falls on Sunday 24 July this year. Pope Francis calls on Catholics to pray throughout the month of July for the elderly. Pope Francis said: "Let us remember, grandparents and the elderly are the bread that nourishes our lives; they are the hidden wisdom of a people".

Prayer

Father, help us to learn how to become still, and meet you in silence.

We pray also for the grace to be able to listen to you, and to those in need around us.

Amen

Pope Francis....

"We are not islands, we are in the world to live in God's image: open, in need of others and in need of helping others... In everyday life, am I too a reflection of the Trinity? Is the sign of the cross I make every day – the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit – that Sign of the Cross we make every day, a gesture for its own sake, or does it inspire my way of speaking, of encountering, of responding, of judging, of forgiving?"

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.	Matthew	10:34 -11:1
Tues.	Matthew	11:20 - 24
Wed.	John	11:25 - 27
Thurs.	Matthew	11:28 - 30
Fri.	Matthew	12:1- 8
Sat.	Matthew	12:14 - 21
Sunday	Luke	10:38 - 42

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 10 July	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 6pm (Vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SMSJ) 12 noon	Kathy Wesch (RIP) Pro Populo John-William Joyce (RIP ANNIV)
MON 11 July	ST BENEDICT	(SMSJ) 10am	Holy Souls
TUE 12 July	feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Luke Kaniyam Parabil (RIP)
WED 13 July	feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Eileen Whitehouse (INT)
THU 14 July	feria		No Public Mass
FRI 15 July	St Bonaventure	(SMSJ) 10am	Kathy Wesch (RIP)
SAT 16 July	feria	(SMSJ) 6pm	Michael & Bridget Gavin (RIP)
SUN 17 July	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Pro Populo Private Intention

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/hemelhempsteadwest/>

 **01442 391 759**

Diocese of Westminster Charity N^o: 233699