

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

## 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

23rd April 2023

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year A

Weekday readings

Year 1

Divine Office  
Week 3



### ***TODAY'S MASS***

**They recognised him at  
the breaking of bread**

**Sunday's Gospel: Luke 24:13-35**

**Fr Brian writes...**

I had a good time off after Easter when my family came up to celebrate Easter with me. It was good to see my children, Bernie and Daniel, as well as my twin sisters Theresa and Veronica along with their husbands, Phil and Paul. We had a good lunch in the Three Blackbirds! I trust your Easter was good as well? But now (as I write on Friday morning) the weather is back to its usual characteristics of rain, wind and cloud - so must be time for me to get back to it all again!

As we move through these last few months before we hit the summer there is still a good deal of work to deliver on. Callum Moore, Pastoral Assistant and Catechetical Co-Ordinator for the parish of Hemel West, has been working hard to get many new elements of parish life in place, as we respond to the Holy Spirit at work in the parish. Do keep up with the online newsletter to see what you are paying him for! Then, most importantly - get involved! At this time of the year, we prepare for the return of Bishop Paul to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation for 25 of our young people. Please pray that they are faithful and persevere in their commitment to Jesus. Thank you for attending our recent parish Mass with Bishop Paul. He was energised to see such a positive turnout at all Masses. The Love in Action 'current of grace' will report back soon after our recent parish meeting and put changes in place. We also have our Annual Parish Celebration on Sunday 9 July when there will only be one Mass on that day so that we can celebrate the Lord and then celebrate ourselves as ONE parish! Further details to follow from Callum, who is managing the event on behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council. Thank you, Callum. Between several weddings coming up during 'the season' we have our four First Holy Communion Masses. This may require some changes to Mass timings at that time. But most importantly, do get to know the families and encourage them to remain faithful to regular Mass attendance and participation in the parish. Thank you. In regards to growing the life of the parish, the Parish Pastoral Council continues to work hard in the background to facilitate that. I'm sure you have been reading their minutes on the parish website along with the good work done by the Parish Finance Committee. They are the main bits and pieces going on over the next few months. Thank you, of course, for participating in the life of the parish in so many different ways, especially financially and prayerfully, as we look to the future with the changes it will bring. And finally! A very big thank you to our wonderful choir and musicians for all their support during our Holy Week and Easter events. They generously gave of their time and energy to support our prayer in walking with Jesus during the final week of his earthly life, death and glorious resurrection. Thank you! Remember... He did it for you.

# 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 48 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 14 of whom are from our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. Last year 8 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 at 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 also use the QR code on the poster on the church notice board to make your donation or visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations). Thank you for your generosity.

**VERITAS CATHOLIC LECTURE SERIES:** The next lecture will be on 29 April, in the Parish Centre, Boxmoor at 10am by Fr John Deehan. To register please go to the Events page on the Hemel West parish website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempssteadwest/events/> Please bring food for sharing. Any help on the day would be very much appreciated. All are welcome.

**BINGO IS BACK!!** The Knights of St Columba are pleased to announce the return of their Bingo sessions in Parish Centre, Boxmoor. This will be in the same venue, but please note the different day and time. We will start on Thursday 4 May, at 1.30pm and then every first Thursday of the month at 1.30pm. Come and join us for fun, tea and cake. Any enquiries please contact Tom Joyce on 07825 173878.

**VOCATIONS OPEN EVENING:** On Wednesday 17 May, there will be an open evening at St James, Spanish Place, for any men interested in learning about or discerning a vocation to priesthood. The regular evening Mass will be at 6pm, and will be followed by a gathering downstairs in the Social Centre for a short presentation and informal conversations and refreshments. Do come and join us if you can. The nearest tube stations are Bond Street and Baker Street.

**MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS:** Saturday 20 May, 6pm at Westminster Cathedral. Those in our parish who were Baptised or Received into the Church at Easter are warmly invited to attend, with catechists, families and friends. Before Mass we will gather in Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN. The programme for the afternoon is as follows:

**4.45pm:** Tea and Welcome in Vaughan House Conference Room.

**5pm:** Reflection from Fr Chris Vipers, Director of the Agency for Evangelisation.

**5.30pm:** Move to the Cathedral in preparation for the 6pm Mass. It would be most helpful if you could let us know numbers planning to attend. Space will be reserved at the front of the Cathedral for new Catholics, catechists, families and friends to sit together. Please email Warren Brown at [catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catadmin@rcdow.org.uk) with the numbers of those who will be attending.

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

**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.

**SCRIPTURE GROUP:** We meet in the Parish Centre, Boxmoor on Tuesdays from 2.15pm until 4pm to read and discuss the readings for the following Sunday. All are welcome to join us.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023

The next dates for the First Holy Communion sessions are as follows:

**Saturday 22 April**

**Saturday 20 May**

**Saturday 24 June**

St Cuthbert Mayne School, Clover Way, Gadebridge Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP1 3EA. Group A will meet at 11am and Group B will meet at 12.45pm.

The First Holy Communion Masses will take place on the following dates and times below:

**Saturday 15 July 10am**

**Saturday 15 July 2pm**

**Sunday 16 July 12pm**

**Sunday 16 July 3pm**

The First Holy Communion Masses will be held at Ss Mary & Joseph Church, Boxmoor. Please contact Callum Moore on 391 759 and select option 4 or email [cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk).

**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.

**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 with no more than 60 words. Please email Shirley by Wednesday 12 Noon and she will do her best to accommodate it.

### Prayer

Risen Jesus, we give you thanks for the new life and hope you bring us.

Make real your risen life among us so that, filled with your abundant love, we may renew the face of the earth.

Amen

### Reflection

"We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song." (St Augustine in an Easter sermon to his diocese in Hippo.) As an Easter people our faith calls us to imitate Jesus in our daily lives, in the way we speak, think and act.

Please join us for tea/coffee, in St Joseph's Hall after the 10.15am Mass. All are welcome.

**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. Mark 6:60 -69

Sun John 10:1- 10

## 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](mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk)

Phone: 01442 391 759 option 2

Telephone cover for West	Hemel West Office Hours
<b>Monday</b> 12 noon-6pm	<b>Monday</b> 3pm-6pm
<b>Tuesday</b> 9.30am-3.30pm	<b>Tuesday</b> Closed
<b>Wednesday</b> 9.30am-3.30pm	<b>Wednesday</b> 9.30am-3.30pm
<b>Thursday</b> 9.30am-3.30pm	<b>Thursday</b> 9.30am-12.30pm
<b>Friday</b> 9.30am-3.30pm	<b>Friday</b> 9.30am-12.30pm

## HOLY MASS

<b>SUN 23 Apr</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>(SMSJ) 6pm (Sat vigil)</b> <b>(SMSJ) 8.30am</b> <b>(SMSJ) 10.15am</b> <b>(SM) 12 noon</b> <b>(SM) 12 noon</b>	Charmaine Jayasuriya (INT) Pro Populo Mary Hunt (RIP)  Baptism
<b>MON 24 Apr</b>	<b>ST GEORGE</b>	<b>(SMSJ) 10am</b>	Gerry Jayasuriya (RIP)
<b>TUE 25 Apr</b>	<b>ST MARK</b>	<b>(SMSJ) 10am</b>	
<b>WED 26 Apr</b>	<b>Easter feria</b>	<b>(SM) 1.45pm</b>	
<b>THU 27 Apr</b>	<b>Easter feria</b>		No public Mass
<b>FRI 28 Apr</b>	<b>Easter feria</b>	<b>(SMSJ) 10am</b>	Sabina Fernandes (INT)
<b>SAT 29 Apr</b>	<b>ST CATHERINE OF SIENA</b>	<b>(SMSJ) 6pm</b>	
<b>SUN 30 Apr</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>(SMSJ) 8.30am</b> <b>(SMSJ) 10.15am</b> <b>(SM) 12 noon</b> <b>(SM) 12 noon</b>	John Durcan (5th RIP ANNIV) Ann Rothery (RIP ANNIV) Pro Populo Baptism

**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)

**Parish Administrator:** Shirley Bailey      [shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk) (Opt 2)

**Parish Catechetical Coordinator & Pastoral Assistant:** Callum Moore (Opt 4)

**Email:** [cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk)

**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<sup>o</sup>: 233699*