

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST
14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9 July 2023

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekday readings
Year 1
Divine Office
Week 2



TODAY'S MASS

**You have hidden these things
from the wise and revealed
them to little children**

Fr Brian writes....

Do read for yourself the latest output from the Synod at the link: <https://www.synod.va/en.html> I have left a couple of copies at the back of the Boxmoor church for you to read through and prepare for the world - wide opening of the Synod in October in Rome. By convoking this Synod, Pope Francis is inviting **all the baptised** to participate in this Synodal Process that begins at the diocesan level. The main subjects of this synodal experience are all the baptised because all the baptised are the subject of the sensus *fidelium*, the living voice of the **People of God**.

At the same time, in order to participate fully in the act of discerning, it is important for the baptised to hear the voices of other people in their local context, including people who have left the practice of the faith, people of other faith traditions, people of no religious belief. Special care should be taken to involve those persons who may risk being excluded: women, the disabled, refugees, migrants, the elderly, people who live in poverty, Catholics who rarely or never practice their faith, etc.

As a parish we began this process, though it was rushed and consequently the Church extended the discussion period. I'm not sure all the key groups were involved as we were given little time to engage people. However, our discussions were sent to the diocese who forwarded it to Rome to be part of contributions from the global Church.

Appetite for the Synod seems not particularly strong in this country, so we shall see what occurs during the next year or so, though acceptance and resistance of change will begin and outlast many of us! We will have more gatherings to discuss the outcomes from the Synod as the years go by and more importantly put changes in place, inspired by the Holy Spirit!

VERY IMPORTANT!!: Permanent changes to Mass times at Hemel West starting soon! Please note the permanent changes to Mass times coming up over the next few weeks. Additionally, please note that on those Sundays when I am away on holiday or for other events, there will be no Mass at St Mark's church. This most importantly eases additional pressure on our retired priests to celebrate four Sunday Masses. I'm sure you can understand this decision, especially now that in particular Fr Bernard now no longer drives. But so that your Sunday Mass Obligation can be discharged, parishioners are invited to one of the three parish Masses at the parish church in Boxmoor, over the weekends when I am away. Thank you for your understanding. **New Mass times will be Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8am, 10am and 12.30pm.** The later Mass at 12.30pm will allow me to meet socially with parishioners for tea/coffee after the 10am Mass, before I travel to St Mark's for the 12.30pm Mass. **Dates when Mass times will come into existence will be confirmed in the newsletter nearer the times of the changes - so keep your eyes on it and listen to announcements at Mass!**

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.

NO MASS ON SUNDAY 16 JULY AT 12 NOON:

This is to allow for the additional First Holy Communion Masses on Sunday 16 July. To enable Sunday worship, parishioners are invited to the earlier Masses at the parish church in Boxmoor at 6pm on the preceding Saturday or the Masses on Sunday at 8.30am or the 10.15am.

DONA CONTACTLESS MACHINE: The contactless machine at Ss Mary & Joseph is currently out of order. We have provided a poster with a QR code in the church foyer and beside the contactless machine to enable you to make your Sunday offering. Thank you for your ongoing support of the parish.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA SUNDAY: Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. Sea Sunday is this weekend, and it is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church this weekend or by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) to continue its important work. Please give generously. Thank you.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL GROUP: Fr Brian will be establishing a SVP group in response to "Love in Action". There will be a meeting on Tuesday 18 July, 7pm in St Joseph's hall for all those interested in being part of a parish care team supporting those most in need in our parish and beyond, launched under the SVP. For more about their

work and mission, check out their website: <https://svp.org.uk/>

CAFOD - Campaign "Fix the Food System, Seeds for All." Salina's Giant Letter to the World Bank will be on the table at back of all Masses again this Weekend to allow any parishioners who didn't get to sign it at last Weekend's Masses. Letters will be sent to CAFOD by 10 July.

COLLECTION FOR PETER'S PENCE: There will be a second collection for Peter's Pence on the weekend of 15/16 July.

MISSIO (Red Box holders): Please take a copy of the Mission Today magazine for Summer 2023. It includes the financial report for 2022.

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.

WEBINAR: Bishop Paul McAleenan will be hosting a webinar on 11 July, at 2pm to build upon the work that has taken place around Racial Justice Sunday in recent years. This includes the Image and Likeness of God initiative which celebrates images of Our Lady and the Child Jesus from a range of countries and cultures, and the Walking Together, Praying Together, and Working Together project, which reflects on the role that each of us has to play in promoting the mission of Christ and His Church. Both projects have been well received in dioceses, parishes, and schools. Please register at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/joining/register/tZlvdO2hpzgvHNKXWmsO9BqG36EiaJ-q0Dwf#/registration>

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? If you're over the age of 18 and would like to make your Confirmation or become a Catholic, we will be running our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) course from October 2023. Please contact Callum at cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk or call 391759 and select option 4 for more information.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023: The First Holy Communion Masses will take place on the following dates and times: **Saturday 15 July 10am, Saturday 15 July 2pm, Sunday 16 July 12pm and Sunday 16 July 3pm.** The First Holy Communion Masses will be held at Ss Mary & Joseph Church. I would ask you please not to enter the church at these times unless you are a member of the family of one of the children and have received a personal invitation. We need to manage the numbers in the church to ensure a satisfactory atmosphere for this BIG DAY!

HOLY LAND: The situation for the Palestinian people has deteriorated considerably in recent months, something you might not see on our mainstream media. One way of supporting the people of the Holy Land is to purchase their olive oil, the lifeblood of their economy. Organic oil 750ml retails at £16, non-organic 750ml at £15. Please consider this act of solidarity prayerfully. Contact David Toorawa on 07854 416123.

Prayer

God of all creation, help us to cherish the gifts you have given us.

Give us the courage and hope to raise our voices alongside our sisters and brothers seeking justice and protection of the earth.

Amen

Reflection

"The entire material universe speaks of God's love, His boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God." Laudato Si #84

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. Matthew 9:18 – 26
Tues. Matthew 9:32 – 38
Wed. Matthew 10:1 - 7
Thurs. Matthew 10:7 -15
Fri. Matthew 10:16 - 23
Sat. Matthew 10:24 -38
Sun Matthew 13:24 - 38

Sunday Offertory Collection, Contactless Payments and Standing Orders for May 2023.

Loose Cash & Contactless	£1818.85
Standing Orders	£4461.79
Total	£6280.64

Thank you very much for your generous Sunday Offering. May God Bless you!

N.B Please consider making your Offering via Standing Order (with Gift Aid if a tax payer) or via Contactless, rather than loose cash.

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 9 Jul	14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 6pm (Sat vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) 12 noon	Varkey Joseph (1st RIP ANNIV) Catherine Simmons (INT) Pro Populo
MON 10 Jul	feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Family & Friends of Eve & Peter Davies (INT)
TUE 11 Jul	ST BENEDICT	(SMSJ) 10am	We Pray for Discernment, Peace & Understanding
WED 12 Jul	feria		No Public Mass
THU 13 Jul	feria		No public Mass
FRI 14 Jul	feria	(SMSJ) 10am	
SAT 15 Jul	St Bonaventure	(SMSJ) 6pm	Michael & Bridget Gavin (RIP ANNIV)
SUN 16 Jul	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10.15am (SM) NO MASS	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 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 (Opt 3)

Parish Administrator: Shirley Bailey shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk (Opt 2)

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

Email: cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk

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