

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST**  
**15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**16 July 2023**

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year A

Weekday readings

Year 1

Divine Office  
Week 3



***TODAY'S MASS***

**A sower went out to sow**

**Fr Brian writes....**

**Changes to Mass times in the parish of Hemel West, starting on Saturday 2 September 2023.**

Following a welcome conversation earlier this week with several parishioners to hear their feedback on the proposed Sunday Mass changes, I have adjusted the proposed new times of Mass to take account of their suggestions. It is always good to hear parishioner views. Thank you!

**Therefore, the new Sunday Mass times starting on Saturday 2 September, will be Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8.30am, 9.45am and 12.00pm.** Please note that the 12pm Mass *may* start up to fifteen minutes later than scheduled, so that I can have time to meet socially with parishioners in St Joseph's hall after the 9.45am Mass.

Please note that on those Sundays when I am not available, there will most likely be no 12pm Mass. This will be during my holidays throughout the year and other rare events. The reason for this is that in Hertfordshire there is a decreasing number of retired priests who are available for supply. Most retired priests will not travel out this far from London and are under no obligation to do so. Should retired clergy move to Hertfordshire over the next few months, I will ask them if they are available for the 12pm Mass when I am away. I am sure you can understand this decision, especially now that Fr Bernard Scholes no longer drives and Fr Brian Reynolds is unavailable to commit to four Sunday Masses. On those limited occasions, please consider coming to Boxmoor for Mass and perhaps sharing the journey down with a friend.

Baptisms will continue during the 12pm Mass, but will be shortened so that Mass is contained within the hour.

**Have a great summer and keep smiling!**

# 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 01482 391 759.**

**DONA CONTACTLESS MACHINE:** The contactless machine at St Mark's has been removed to be updated and hopefully it will be replaced shortly. We have provided a poster with a QR code in the church foyer to enable you to make your Sunday offering. Thank you for your ongoing support of the parish.

**COLLECTION FOR PETER'S PENCE:** There will be a second collection for Peter's Pence this weekend.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS:** If you are a new parent, congratulations! You should now be thinking about having your child baptised. You will need to prepare for this important sacramental event, for when your child becomes a member of God's family. The next Baptism Preparation class will be on Thursday 27 July, at 7pm. Full details can be found at the link <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemel Hempstead west/sacramental-prep/baptism-preparation/> or go to the parish website.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 PORTUGAL:** Every three years the Pope holds the largest youth event in the world as an opportunity for young Catholics to come together, learn about and share their faith. This summer it takes place in Portugal and we're sending 3 of our young adult parishioners to take part in this fantastic opportunity. Thank you so much for all your help fundraising for them, coming out of covid they have done so much to lead others to Christ and this will be a wonderful chance for them to further explore their faith. Stay tuned for further updates!

**LITTLE CHURCH VOLUNTEERS:** We are really keen to expand the regularity of Little Church, but need more volunteers who would be happy to help out. Please speak with Callum or email [cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk) for more information.

**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/>

**CHARITY CURRY NIGHT:** This will take place on either 2 or 14 August at the Sahara Restaurant in Gadebridge. The cost will be £17.50 per head, and you will pay extra for your drinks. There will be a raffle and a quiz. All the money raised will go to the Jumbulance Trust. To book email [valsoares@aol.com](mailto:valsoares@aol.com) or call 392527.

**PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM MONDAY 28 AUGUST:** If you are interested in going on the pilgrimage please email Pat at [pat.henry1@ntlworld.com](mailto:pat.henry1@ntlworld.com) or call 07866224671. If there is sufficient interest, we will travel by coach. The cost would be roughly £20 each for a 53-seater coach.

**YOUNG ADULTS FORMATION:** The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) are offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham. There are two choices of dates: 14 - 21 August, or 30 August - 6 September. To find out more, please enquire by 31 July, by emailing the COLW Sisters at [freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org](mailto:freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org)

**CATECHISTS PROGRAMMES FOR 2024:** Next year we will be running Confirmation, First Holy Communion and RCIA formation for those wishing to take the next step in their faith. We would be very grateful to anyone who would be willing to support with the RCIA program and First Holy Communion programme in particular. Sessions would be once a month and your main role would be to support discussions. If you would like to lead prayer, reading or other elements of the sessions you would be very welcome also. Please contact Callum to take part.

**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.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE HEMEL EAST:** We would like to thank all the parishioners from Hemel East and Hemel West who kindly supported the 40th anniversary lunch and for contributing towards the £820 raised for the charity PACT (The Prison Advice and Care Trust).

**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 of The Cross**

The Cross is my sure salvation.

The Cross I ever adore.

The Cross of my Lord is with me.

The Cross is my refuge.

**Pope Francis:** "A little bit of mercy, makes the world less cold, and more just."

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 10:34,-11:1

Tues. Matthew 11:20 – 24

Wed. Matthew 11:25 - 27

Thurs. Matthew 11:28 -30

Fri. Matthew 12:1 - 8

Sat. Matthew 12:14 -21

Sun Matthew 13:24 - 43

#### **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<br>12 noon-6pm      | Monday<br>3pm-6pm          |
| Tuesday<br>9.30am-3.30pm   | Tuesday<br>Closed          |
| Wednesday<br>9.30am-3.30pm | Wednesday<br>9.30am-3.30pm |
| Thursday<br>9.30am-3.30pm  | Thursday<br>9.30am-12.30pm |
| Friday<br>9.30am-3.30pm    | Friday<br>9.30am-12.30pm   |

## HOLY MASS

|                   |                                     |  |  |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>SUN 16 Jul</b> | <b>15th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | (SMSJ) 6pm (Sat vigil)<br>(SMSJ) 8.30am<br>(SMSJ) 10.15am<br>(SM) <b>NO MASS</b> | Michael & Bridget Gavin<br>(RIP ANNIV)<br>Pro Populo |
| <b>MON 17 Jul</b> | feria                               | (SMSJ) 10am  |  |
| <b>TUE 18 Jul</b> | feria                               | (SMSJ) 10am  | Gertrude Senanayake (RIP ANNIV)                      |
| <b>WED 19 Jul</b> | feria                               |  | No Public Mass                                       |
| <b>THU 20 Jul</b> | feria                               |  | No public Mass                                       |
| <b>FRI 21 Jul</b> | feria                               | (SMSJ) 10am  |  |
| <b>SAT 22 Jul</b> | ST MARY<br>MAGDALENE                | (SMSJ) 6pm   |  |
| <b>SUN 23 Jul</b> | <b>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> | (SMSJ) 8.30am<br>(SMSJ) 10.15am<br>(SM) 12 noon                                  | 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](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*