

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

3rd September 2023

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A

Weekday readings

Year 1

Divine Office
Week 2



TODAY'S MASS

'Get behind me, Satan!'

Fr Brian writes....

Background on the Gospel Reading

Welcome back after your summer hols and hello to all new parishioners! Good to see new people join us. This will be a year of great change in many ways for the parish. Do sign up to receive a copy of the newsletter into your inbox every week so that you are connected to the parish and all it does. Go to the bottom of the parish website page and sign up for **Subscribe for Alerts** <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/>

A few newsletters are kept at the back of the church for those individuals who do not use the internet.

I'm sure many people will want to know the details of our **catechetical programmes**, especially for children. Do keep your eyes on the newsletter over the next few weeks so that you can see the dates, location and timings for all events. All catechetical programmes are led by Callum Moore our Parish Catechetical Coordinator & Pastoral Assistant: His contact details are on the back of the newsletter.

Moving forward with **Love In Action** is a key project for this year. As many of us will know, LIA creates a bridge between how we move from our reflection on the Word and our participation on the sacraments to the point of how we reach out to the poor and the marginalised in our communities. LIA is designed to speak to the motivation of why Catholics must be involved in service and social action, in order to respond to the needs of the world. Here is some general background information:

<https://www.stepforwardinlove.org/>

And don't forget about the forthcoming Synod on Synodality! <https://www.synod.va/en.html> We will continue to play our part as best as we can. I will keep us updated.

Very importantly, help to keep your parish afloat by signing up for a **Standing Order**. You can find the forms on the back table in the church. Thank you to all parishioners who generously give each week to help the parish pay its bills. Thank you!

If your child is due to transfer to Catholic school next year, you will need my reference. All the information required is on the parish website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/parish-forms/certificate-of-catholic-practice/> Please ensure that you make your application to Fr Brian in good time to meet school deadlines (at least two weeks prior to the school deadline.)

Today's Gospel continues the story that began in [last week's Gospel](#). Simon Peter was called the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church, and yet Peter continues to show the limitations of his understanding of Jesus' identity. Now that the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service, such as Love In Action can help us with in a spirit of loving service. Peter, whom Jesus had called "rock", would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others. Christian leaders today are still called to sacrifice and serve others as Jesus did.

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.

NEW MASS TIMES: The new Sunday Mass times start this weekend. These will be Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8.30am, 9.45am and 11.45am. Confessions will be heard from 4pm until 4.30pm on Saturday at Boxmoor. Note the change of Mass time at St Mark's to 11.45am. The slightly earlier change to the Mass time makes it a little easier for people to attend Mass, without it eating into their afternoon. There is now a good spread of Masses across the parish for weekly attendance, so do please encourage your friends to come to one. I look forward to meeting them!

ST MARK'S: Hospitality will resume after Mass every Sunday at St Marks. During the month of September all funds raised will go to Macmillan Cancer Support.

BINGO: Come and join the Knights of St Columba for their monthly bingo session in the Parish Centre, Boxmoor on Thursday 7 September, at 1.30pm. Tea and cake will be provided. If you have any enquiries please call Tom Joyce on 07825 173878.

CHARITY CURRY NIGHT: Thank you to those who supported this event. £1003 was raised. A cheque has been presented to the Jumbulance Trust for £1015. Our next curry night will be for DENS sometime in October.

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 the RCIA program and the 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.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING: This will take place on Monday 2 October, 7pm at St Mark's.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING: This will take place on Monday 16 October, 7pm at St Mark's.

JOHN F KENNEDY SCHOOL: Applications for secondary transfer 2024-25 opens in September 2023 and closes on 31 October 2023. Please view our 2024-25 Admissions Policy on the school website, which details the application process and supplementary forms for completion and submission to JFK. There will be an Open Evening on Tuesday 3 October, from 6pm until 9pm. Tours of the school during the evening with 2 bookable presentations by the Headteacher, at 6pm and 7pm, with limited seats and requiring booking in advance. Open Morning, Wednesday 11 October, at 9.30am with limited availability and you are advised to book if unable to attend the Open Evening at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/>

THE PASSAGE: Run the Royal Parks Half Marathon in aid of The Passage on Sunday 8 October. Run past some of the capital's most historic landmarks. Although undulating in parts, the course is not hilly and is great for both experienced and first-time half marathon runners. Registration fee: £20 and the fundraising goal is: £300. All money raised will go towards supporting those currently experiencing or threatened by street homelessness so that we can end homelessness for good. To sign up go to: <https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/royal-parks-half-marathon/>

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.

GOING INTO 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.

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.

GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon. Luke 4:16–30
 Tues. Luke 4:31–37
 Wed. Luke 4:38–44
 Thurs. Luke 5:1–11
 Fri. Luke 5:33–39
 Sat. Luke 6:1–5
 Sun. Matthew 18:15–20

Prayer

Come Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves.

Amen

An extract from Pope Francis's Encyclical Fratelli Tutti.

"**God loves** the chaos that is you, and the Spirit working in you can do infinitely more than you can think or imagine." Gerard W Hughes, SJ

Please join us for tea/coffee, in St Joseph's Hall after the 9.45am Mass. All are welcome.

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

DONA DONATIONS: To help support our parish of Hemel West, we are providing you with an Online Donations Webpage. The donation page works across browsers, on a mobile phone, desktop and tablet devices, so that you can donate from home. Please scan the QR code to donate. Thank you for your continued support.



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 Hemel 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 3 Sep	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 5pm (Sat vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.45am (SM) 11.45am (SM) 11.45am	Pro Populo Baptism
WED 6 Sep	feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Bishop Joseph Strickland (INT)
FRI 8 Sep	THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	(SMSJ) 10am	John Salmon (RIP)
SAT 9 Sep	feria	(SMSJ) 5pm	
SUN 10 Sep	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.45am (SM) 11.45am	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: 4pm-4.30pm 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/>



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