

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST**  
**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**  
**7 January 2024**

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year B

Weekday readings

Year 2

Divine Office  
Week 3



***TODAY'S MASS***

**The visit of the Magi**

Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

# PARISH NEWS

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr David Cherry has been appointed parish priest of Hemel Hempstead West and will join us on 13 January 2024. Fr David was the assistant priest to Fr John Byrne at St Lawrence in Feltham.

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** The weekday Masses will resume on Monday 15 January. Please see next weekends newsletter for Mass times.

**FR DAVID PEMBER & FR JEAN PASCAL:** The parish of Hemel West would like to thank Fr David and Fr Jean Pascal for all their help and supply over past few months, enabling the parish to celebrate Mass.

**ANNELISE MCENTEE:** Annelise's family would like the parish to know that Annelise has sadly passed away and that her funeral will be on Thursday 11 January, 11am at Ss Mary & Joseph. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

**YEAR BOOK:** The Westminster 2024 Year book is available to purchase from the parish office at the cost of £5.

**DENS:** Thank you to everyone who donated to the Advent DENS collection. A particular mention to the staff and students of JFK school who also organised an Advent collection and for the huge contribution they made. Collectively we have all made a difference.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:** We would like to thank you for so generously supporting our Christmas hamper raffle. The numbers were drawn after the Carol Concert and the winners are Anthony, Janet and Krystyna. The amount raised by the raffle is £400 and a further £220 was collected after the Carol Concert. Thank you so much to all those who contributed. Proceeds from both events have been sent to the Cafod Israeli-Palestinian special crisis appeal.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING FOR LIFE:** On Friday 12 January, the eve of the 27th anniversary of the founding of The Good Counsel Network, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult

circumstances. Please help us to save lives with your prayers, fasting and support. [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)

**CLIMATE CRISIS:** Worried about the climate crisis? The Westminster cathedral group meet on Wednesday 17 January, 1.30pm in the Hinsley room. We will be studying chapters 1 and 2 of Laudate Deum Pope Francis' exhortation to COP28. Copies can be bought at St Paul's bookshop or found at [https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html). All are welcome and there is no charge.

**RETRouvaille:** Do you need help in your marriage? Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage, contact Retrouvaille confidentially for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or there is a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443. You can also email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**ST CUTHBERT MAYNE SCHOOL:** Currently there are vacancies in Years 3 and 4. To apply for a school place, please complete an In-Year Admissions Form available from the school website: In-Year Admissions Form - St Cuthbert Mayne School. Applications should be submitted to the school office or to [admin@cuthbertmayne.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cuthbertmayne.herts.sch.uk)

**LORETO COLLEGE:** The Governors of Loreto College have recently agreed to propose some changes to their admissions criteria for 2025/2026. The full detail is available on the website. <https://www.loreto.herts.sch.uk/Admissions/Admissions-Consultation-2025/> Written comments are welcome by the closing date of the formal consultation, 9am on 31 January 2024. Please email them to [swilliams@loreto.herts.sch.uk](mailto:swilliams@loreto.herts.sch.uk).

**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 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.

**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 Christian witnesses (if appointed) and full address to shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk and she will arrange a certificate for you.

**Prayer**

May we who have knelt at the Manger, always have room to hold within ourselves the Christmas Child.

May we who have gazed on the face of God, learn to live fully and to share freely, all that we have, and are.

So may Emmanuel - God with us and for us – be once again incarnated in the world.

Amen

From Iona Community Prayer



Please join us for tea/coffee, after the 9.45am & 11.45am Masses. 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

<b>SUN 7 Jan</b>	<b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 5pm (Sat Vigil) <b>(SMSJ)</b> 8.30am <b>(SMSJ)</b> 9.45am <b>(SM)</b> 11.45am	Bishop Paul McAleenan (INT) People of the Parish Martin Quigley (RIP) Rosemary Stubbs (RIP)
<b>THURS 11 Jan</b>	Feria	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 11am	Funeral for Annelise McEntee (RIP)
<b>SAT 13 Jan</b>	Feria	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 5pm (Sat Vigil)	Joachim Gonthier (RIP)
<b>SUN 14 Jan</b>	<b>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>(SMSJ)</b> 8.30am <b>(SMSJ)</b> 9.45am <b>(SM)</b> 11.45am	John & Peggy West (RIP ANNIV) People of the Parish Anita Rebello (RIP)

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** Please note that there will not be a weekday Mass at Ss Mary & Joseph until further notice. Please keep an eye on the parish newsletter for updates on Mass times at Ss Mary & Joseph. **Please note that there are weekday Masses at Our Lady's on a Monday and Tuesday at 10am, Thursday 10am at Grovehill and Friday 7pm at Our Lady's.**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** There will not be Sacrament of Reconciliation at Ss Mary & Joseph until further notice. If you need to go to confession, you will be able to go to confession on a Saturday morning after the 10am Mass at Our Lady's. Please keep an eye on the Hemel East newsletter for any changes to the Hemel East Mass times.

**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.

### MAKING CONTACT AT HEMEL WEST CATHOLIC PARISH

**Parochial Administrator:** Fr Kim Addison (emergencies only) (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*