

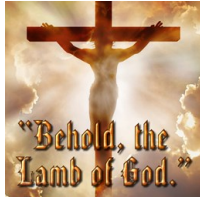
**CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST**  
**2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**14 January 2024**

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year B

Weekday readings

Year 2

Divine Office  
Week 2



***TODAY'S MASS***

**'We have found  
the Messiah'**

***"Here I am Lord I come to do your will."***

Dear friends

This weekend I start as your new parish priest. I'm looking forward to meeting you in the coming months as I settle into a new life with you.

I will have just returned from Assisi where I tagged along with a group from our Youth Team from SPEC in Pinner. There I have prayed for you and for the people of St Lawrence in Feltham who I will miss for quite a while. God has given me and is giving me a priest's heart. It is a bit of a miracle. 'I will hold your people in my heart' has become a reality as Christ forms me to be his friend and share in his priesthood. I have needed to pray for myself too at the tombs of St Francis and St Clare and also of that extraordinary young man Blessed Carlo Acutis. For all of them their one - or shall we say their main - hope and desire was to be available to God and to love and serve him.

The refrain of the psalm is a verse of self-offering: "Here I am Lord I come to do your will." It is a daring thing to say because we know how weak and willful we can be. But I ask you to join with me in making that offering to the Lord Jesus as a new chapter opens in the life of our parish. Who can I be for you Lord? What do you desire of me Lord?

The Lord Jesus' whole life, death and resurrection is an offering of love to the Father. We commemorate that in the Mass and if we allow ourselves we are drawn into that offering of love to the Father. The sacrifice of the Mass makes present Jesus' offering in the now; and it makes of your offering and mine a reality as he unites us with himself. Only he can do this in us. Well .... this is what I have found.

So, what is his desire? To draw all people to himself. In the gospel we glimpse his divine invitation to the first bewildered apostles to come and be with him. Come and see. Let that be our mission too - in all we do and seek to achieve. To draw others to him.

Thank you for your welcome. Thank you for trusting the Lord Jesus who brings us together. May the prayers of our patrons Our Lady, St Joseph and St Mark and the prayers St Francis, St Clare and Bl. Carlo win for us the graces we need to be his Body, his living presence for others.

God bless you,

Fr David

# PARISH NEWS

**Welcome to the parish of Hemel West. If you are new to the parish, please make yourself known to Fr David, by speaking to him after Mass or by contacting him on 01442 391 759.**

**SALLY HOWES:** Sally's family would like the parish to know that Sally sadly passed away last week. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** The weekday Masses will resume on Monday 15 January.

**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.

**CARITAS:** The Hemel Caritas (East & West) Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 22 January, 7.30pm in St Joseph's Hall, Boxmoor. Our speaker is Dena Tyler MBE from Dacorum Community Trust. We will also discuss the Sunday Teas for the Elderly which are held monthly at Our Lady's.

**NEWMAN ASSOCIATION:** Fr Peter Dwyer will be speaking to the Herts Circle of the Newman Association on 'Ministry to the Dying' on Saturday 27 January, at 11am in Ss Alban and Stephen Parish Centre, 14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans AL1 3RB. All are welcome.

**CHARITY CHURRY NIGHT:** This will be held for Children's with Cancer UK on Monday 29 January, 7pm at the Curry Garden in Berkhamsted. The Cost of the meal is £20 and you will pay for your own drinks. There will be quizzes and a raffle. Please contact Val/Irene Soares at [valsoares@aol.com](mailto:valsoares@aol.com) or call 07817421811.

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

**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, email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**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. Please go to the Events page on the parish website for up and coming Baptism Preparation classes, or follow the link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/events/>

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

# **GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:**

Mon. Mark	2: 18 – 22
Tues. Mark	2: 23– 28
Wed. Mark	3: 1 - 6
Thurs. Mark	3: 7 - 12
Fri. Mark	3: 13 - 19
Sat. Mark	3: 20 - 21
Sun Mark	1: 14 - 20

## **Sunday Offertory Collection, Contactless Payments and Standing Orders for December 2023.**

<b>Loose Cash &amp; Contactless</b>	<b>£1,879.70</b>
<b>Standing Orders</b>	<b>£4,422.02</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,301.72</b>

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.

**PEACE SUNDAY FALLS ON 14 JANUARY:** Pope Francis has chosen to reflect on the theme "Artificial Intelligence and Peace"

God our creator and sustainer, we thank you for the gifts of creativity you have given us, for the ability to explore science and understand your creation. We ask your forgiveness for the times we have used science for evil and not for good, for war and not for peace. Make us vigilant as we develop technology, that violence and discrimination may not take root, that injustice and inequality will not be fueled, that the poor and vulnerable will not pay the cost. May all that we create contribute to peace and justice. Amen

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

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

## HOLY MASS

<b>SUN 14 Jan</b>	<b>2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	(SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.45am (SM) 11.45am	Joachim Gonthier (RIP) John & Peggy West (RIP ANNIV) People of the Parish Anita Rebello (RIP)
<b>Mon 15 Jan</b>	Feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Barry O'Dwyer (2nd RIP ANNIV)
<b>Tues 16 Jan</b>	Feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Lynn Ray (Healing)
<b>Wed 17 Jan</b>	Feria	(SMSJ) 10am	John Luke-McDonald (RIP)
<b>Thurs 18 Jan</b>	Feria		NO MASS (Father's rest day)
<b>Fri 19 Jan</b>	Feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Fr David Pember & Fr Jean Pascal Diame (INT)
<b>SAT 20 Jan</b>	Feria	(SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil)	Padraic O'Reilly (RIP)
<b>SUN 21 Jan</b>	<b>3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.45am  (SM) 11.45am	People of the Parish Fr Brian McMahon, Fr Brian Reynolds, Fr Kim Addison & Bishop Paul McAleenan (INT) Mary Immaculeta Fernando (INT)

**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: 4pm-4.30pm at SS Mary & Joseph church and by appointment.

### MAKING CONTACT AT HEMEL WEST CATHOLIC PARISH

**Parish Priest:** Fr David Cherry      [davidcherry@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:davidcherry@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*