

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST
3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
21 January 2024

Sunday cycle
Readings Year B

Weekday readings

Year 2

Divine Office
Week 3



TODAY'S MASS

**I will make you into
fishers of men**

Follow me...

I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord". The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms. Now is the time to say to Jesus: "Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace". How good it feels to come back to him whenever we are lost! Let me say this once more: God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy. Christ, who told us to forgive one another "seventy times seven" (Mt 18:22) has given us his example: he has forgiven us seventy times seven. Time and time again he bears us on his shoulders. No one can strip us of the dignity bestowed upon us by this boundless and unfailing love. With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew. Let us not flee from the resurrection of Jesus, let us never give up, come what will. May nothing inspire more than his life, which impels us onwards!

Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel), Pope Francis, 2013

Thank God for the way so many respond to the call of the Lord Jesus. May each person hear his call afresh and respond by his grace.

Gaza and West Bank Appeal

In a recent letter to all clergy and parishes the Cardinal has expressed gratitude on behalf of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem for the money raised for Gaza after Christmas. After hearing directly via zoom from the Parish Priest of the Catholic Parish of the Holy Family in Gaza Cardinal Vincent has written again to all clergy and parishes asking for further assistance.

Cardinal Vincent writes:

"The situation they face is grave and most demanding. We were told that there are still 600 people sheltering and being cared for in the parish compound, together with over 50 seriously disabled and vulnerable children. Water and food can be bought in the local markets at much inflated prices. With the damage inflicted on this site some time ago now, cooking hot meals is only possible three times a week. The parish is also providing for 200 people in the Orthodox property as well as for local Muslim neighbours.

The situation in the West Bank is also grave with more than 100,000 families losing income because of various factors, as well as the absence of all visitors and pilgrims.

The Patriarchate is able to provide assistance. It can make funding directly available to the parish leadership and is providing food etc to many in the West Bank. "

If you are able to give further financial assistance, please use the designated baskets for your donation or drop it off in a marked envelope Gaza and West Bank Appeal through the door of 186 St John's Rd.

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.

SACRISTANS NEEDED FOR WEEKEND AND WEEK DAY MASSES:

We want everyone who comes into our church to experience God's love through the warmth of the welcome they receive. We need volunteers to welcome people as they come into our churches, to answer their questions and to set up for Mass. If you feel you have these talents, we would love to hear from you. Please email Shirley at shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk with your contact details and she will pass these onto Fr David.

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.

WEDNESDAY 24 JANUARY: Please note that the Hemel West parish office will be closed on Wednesday 24 January, as Shirley will be preparing the Annual Financial Return for Hemel West.

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 CURRY NIGHT 29 JANUARY: This has now sold out. Thank you to everyone who booked.

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

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://](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemelhempsteadwest/events/)

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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.

THE BIG WALK: Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk for CAFOD. Walk when, and where you choose, over 40 days, alone, or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. Search for 'The Big Lent Walk' at cafod.org.uk and sign up and take on a challenge like no other this Lent.

KNOCK PILGRIMAGE: Escorted Tour to Knock and Co Mayo, from 10 March 2024. The cost is £899 person and includes flights, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

DIVINE MERCY AFTERNOON: The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Afternoon of Reflection on Saturday 10 February, 1.30pm until 4.30pm at St George's R.C. Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, London. SE1 7HY. The Reflection will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, The Way of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and

GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon. Mark	3: 22 – 30
Tues. Mark	3: 31– 35
Wed. Mark	4: 1 -20
Thurs. Mark	4: 21 - 25
Fri. Mark	4: 26 - 34
Sat. Mark	4: 35 - 41
Sun Mark	1: 21 - 28

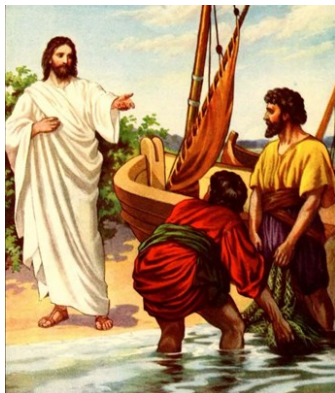
Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 January: "You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour, as yourself".

Prayer

Lord, give us the grace to know you more deeply, in order to love you with all of our being. Grant us a pure heart to love our neighbours as ourselves. May the gift of your Holy Spirit enable us to see your presence in our sisters and brothers, that we may love each other with the same unconditional love with which you love us. Through Christ our Lord.

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

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 21 Jan	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.45am (SM) 11.45am	Padraic O'Reilly (RIP) People of the Parish Fr Brian McMahon, Fr Brian Reynolds, Fr Kim Addison & Bishop Paul McAleenan (INT) Mary Immaculeta Fernando (INT)
Mon 22 Jan	Feria	(SMSJ) 10am	For the Family & Friends of Annelise McEntee (INT)
Tues 23 Jan	Feria	(SMSJ) 10am	Fr Brian McMahon (INT)
Wed 24 Jan	Saint Francis de Sales	(SMSJ) 10am	Garry Henry 20th RIP ANNIV)
Thurs 25 Jan	THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE		NO MASS (Father's rest day)
Fri 26 Jan	Saints Timothy and Titus	(SMSJ) 10am	
SAT 27 Jan	Feria	(SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil)	People of the Parish
SUN 28 Jan	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.45am (SM) 11.45am	Betty Kehoe (RIP) For Everyone in Care Homes (INT) Sally Howes (RIP)

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 David Cherry davidcherry@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