

Sunday cycle  
Readings Year B

Weekday readings

Year 2

Divine Office  
Week 4

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

## 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

### 25 February 2024

God did not spare his own son. Christ did not come to explain away suffering. He came to fulfil it. Like Abraham we must be prepared to sacrifice everything to God and thus in turn we find fulfilment. God will refuse us nothing now that Christ, risen from the dead, pleads our cause before his Father in heaven.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 2 March, at Ss Mary & Joseph**  
9am Mass (no Adoration & Confessions)

**Saturday 2 March, at Our Lady's**  
10am Penitential Mass, Adoration & Confessions  
(2 priests) – Our Lady's.

**Saturday 9 March**  
Pilgrimage Walk to St Alban's Cathedral. We will meet at 9am at The Church of the Resurrection Grovehill and will be leaving at 9.30am. For more details contact Callum.

**Saturday 16 March, at Ss Mary & Joseph**  
9am Mass: Penitential Mass with Confessions & Benediction (with 2 priests).

**Saturday 16 March, at John F Kennedy School**  
St Joseph's International Food Night at 6pm. Bring and share food night.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY 24 MARCH , UNTIL 31 MARCH**

**Saturday 27 April, at St Mark's**  
5pm Mass for First Holy Communion Candidates and Families.

**Saturday 25 May, at St Mark's**  
5pm Mass for First Holy Communion Candidates and Families.

**Saturday 1 June, at Ss Mary & Joseph Corpus Christi Flower Festival:**  
11am Mass of Our Lady and blessing of the Shrine

**Sunday 2 June, at Ss Mary & Joseph CORPUS CHRISTI**  
10am Mass with Procession and Benediction.  
12 noon parish lunch bring and share.

**Saturday 6 July & Saturday 13 July at Ss Mary & Joseph.** 11am & 2pm Mass with First Holy Communion.

Confirmation dates to be confirmed.

#### Go to your room

Go to your room On Ash Wednesday Pope Francis offered a lovely homily on the longing of the heart for God. It would serve as good food for thought for us this Sunday as we consider going into the desert. 'Going to your room means returning to the heart.... It means journeying from without to within, so that our whole life, including our relationship with God, is not reduced to mere outward show, a frame without a picture, a draping of the soul, but is born from within and reflects the movements of our heart, our deepest desires, our thoughts, our feelings, the very core of our person... 'Saint Anselm has left us these words of encouragement that... we can make our own: "Escape from your everyday business for a short while, hide for a moment from your restless thoughts. Break off from your cares and troubles and be less concerned about your tasks and labours. Make a little time for God and rest a while in him. Enter into your mind's inner chamber. Shut out everything but God and whatever helps you to seek him; and when you have shut the door, look for him. Speak now to God and say with your whole heart: I seek your face; your face, O Lord, I desire" ... 'Let us return, brothers and sisters. Let us return to God with all our heart. During these weeks of Lent, let us make space for the prayer of silent adoration, in which we experience the presence of the Lord, like Moses, like Elijah, like Mary, like Jesus. Have we noticed that we have lost the sense of worship? Let us return to worship. Let us lend the ear of our hearts to the One who, in silence, wants to say to us: "I am your God – the God of mercy and compassion, the God of pardon and love, the God of tenderness and care... Do not judge yourself. Do not condemn yourself. Do not reject yourself. Let my love touch the deepest, most hidden corners of your heart and reveal to you your own beauty, a beauty that you have lost sight of, but will become visible to you again in the light of my mercy." The Lord is calling us: "Come, let me wipe your tears, and let my mouth come close to your ear and say to you: I love you, I love you, I love you".'

Pope Francis, Homily for Ash Wednesday 2024 (abridged)

# 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.

## SATURDAY 2 MARCH CONFESSIONS & BENEDICTION

On Saturday 2 March, there will be a 9am Mass at Ss Mary & Joseph. There will also be a 10am Penitential Mass at Our Lady Queen of All Creation followed by Adoration and Confessions with Fr David and Fr Kim Addison.

**FOODBANK COLLECTION:** With the full agreement of DENS, our foodbank collections in the near future will be going to local families through St Roses School. The school will keep us informed on when this arrangement will be set up.

**CAFOD FAST DAY ENVELOPES:** Please remember to return your Fast Day Envelopes this Weekend. You can also use your phone to scan the volunteers lanyards at Mass to donate to CAFOD direct, or by going to [cafod.org.uk/lentfastday](http://cafod.org.uk/lentfastday). Thank you for your generosity.

**INK CARTRIDGES FOR CAFOD:** In the Porch at Ss Mary & Joseph and in the entrance to St Mark's, there is a small green box called "Donate your Ink Cartridges for Charity". We will be collecting cartridges to support CAFOD. Please bring your empty cartridges with you to Mass and pop them into the box. When the boxes are full they will be recycled and CAFOD will receive the payment.

**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.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**LITTLE CHURCH LITURGY:** If you have not made your First Holy Communion, you are invited to join Little Church which runs during the 10am Mass during term time. From 3 March, we will be running the Children's Liturgy at the 10am Mass for any young people who are post First Holy Communion up to the age of 11.

## LENT AND HOLY WEEK

"Giving up for Lent" sometimes overshadows the other two Lenten disciplines, Prayer and Almsgiving. All three are supposed to remind us of our sinfulness and need for

God's mercy. All three should then move us, in turn, to show mercy to others.

**COME JOIN THE CHOIR FOR HOLY WEEK:** We are starting to prepare the music for the Holy Week liturgies. If you are interested in joining us as a singer or musician you are very welcome. We practise on a Monday evening in the presbytery, from 7.30pm and finish by 9pm at the latest. Please contact Jane at [bert7252@aol.com](mailto:bert7252@aol.com) for more details.

## ACROSS THE DIOCESE

**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](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

**DIVINE MERCY LENTEN RETREAT:** The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat on Saturday 16 March, from 1.30pm – 4.30pm at St Scholastica 17 Kenninghall Road, Clapton London, E5 8BS. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Westminster Cathedral Saturday 25 May, at 2.30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the following details to Shirley by Friday 8 March: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

**A DAY WITH MARY:** Pilgrimages to Fatima (7-14 June) and Italy (4-12 September) for more information please email [adwmary.uk@gmail.com](mailto:adwmary.uk@gmail.com). More details can also be found on the church notice board.

## PRAYER

### GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon. Luke	6: 36 – 38
Tues. Mathew	23: 1 – 12
Wed. Matthew	20:17 - 28
Thurs. Luke	16:19 - 31
Fri. Matthew	21 33 – 46
Sat. Luke	15: 1-3,11- 32
Sun John	2: 13 - 25

### Please Pray For

**The Sick:** Marie Anthony, Peter West, Fr Brian McMahon, Mary Alcock

**Please pray for the Recently Departed:** Gamil Aboud Shakour , George Aboud Shakour & Maureen Hicks

Please seek permission from the person whose name will appear on the sick list to guard their privacy. Names will appear on the sick list until the end of the month.

### Lent Prayer

Lord, draw us closer to your heart, so that we might know you better and understand you more completely. We pray that we do not only give things up for Lent this year, but that we also give you glory through Lent. May our actions reflect our hearts, and may we worship you through all that we say and do to others throughout the coming weeks.

Amen

## FINANCE

### Sunday Offertory Collection, Contactless Payments and Standing Orders for January 2024.

Loose Cash & Contactless	£2,903.15
Standing Orders	£4,587.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7,490.17</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.

## 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**

Or you can use the QR code to make your weekly offertory donation. The offertory collection Income figures are published on a monthly basis.

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

**Please join us for tea/coffee, after the 10am & 11.30 am Masses. All are welcome.**

**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.

**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/>

### Office Hours and Telephone cover for Hemel West.

Email: [shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk)

Phone: 01442 391 759 option 2

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

## HOLY MASS

<b>SUN 25 Feb</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b>	(SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil) (SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10am (SM) 11.30am	Souls in Purgatory People of the Parish Julieta Gomes Family (INT) Mary & Ronnie Fernandes (1st RIP ANNIV)
<b>Mon 26 Feb</b>	Lent Feria	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.30am	Adoration Alexei Navalny (RIP)
<b>Tues 27 Feb</b>	Lent Feria		NO MASS (Father's rest day)
<b>Wed 28 Feb</b>	Lent Feria	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.30am (SMSJ) 7pm	Adoration Mass Mass
<b>Thurs 29 Feb</b>	Lent Feria	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.30am (SM) 7pm	Adoration Mass Mass
<b>Fri 1 Mar</b>	SAINT DAVID	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 9.30am (SMSJ) 10am	Adoration Marlene Luke (RIP ANNIV) Stations of the Cross
<b>SAT 2 Mar</b>	Lent Feria	(SMSJ) 9am (OLQ) 10am	Mass <b>Penitential Mass, Adoration &amp; Lent Confessions at Our Lady's</b> (2 priests)
		(SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil)	Michael Flanagan (RIP ANNIV)
<b>SUN 3 Mar</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b>	(SMSJ) 8.30am (SMSJ) 10am (SM) 11.30am	Mary Malone (RIP) Paula & Michael Gallagher (RIP) People of the Parish

**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: 9.30am & 4pm 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*