

Sunday cycle
Readings Year B

Weekday readings

Year 2

Divine Office
Week 1

CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEMEL WEST

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

17 March 2024

I will write my law on their hearts. Christ, like the grain of wheat which dies in order to produce new life, dies for us. Following his example we must realise that if we want eternal life we must be prepared to give our lives to God. He writes his law in our hearts and we submit humbly to his will even when it causes us pain. We obey through suffering. There is no greater school in which to grow in holiness.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY 24 MARCH , UNTIL 31 MARCH

Saturday 27 April, at Ss Mary & Joseph

5pm Mass with First Holy Communion Candidates and Families.

Wednesday 8 and 22 May, at St Joseph's hall

7.30pm Training of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Saturday 25 May, at Ss Mary & Joseph

5pm Mass with 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.

Entering into the Passion of the Lord

The 5th Sunday in Lent is called Passion Sunday, the two weeks between that Sunday and Easter is called Passiontide. The second week is Holy Week, while the first is called by the Latins "*Hebdomas Passionis*", by the Greeks "*Week of the palms*" (from the Sunday following). ... The rubrical prescriptions of the Roman Missal, Breviary, and "*Caeremoniale Episcoporum*" for this time are: before Vespers of Saturday preceding Passion Sunday the crosses, statues, and pictures of Our Lord and of the saints on the altar and throughout the church, are to be covered with a violet veil, not translucent, nor in any way ornamented. (Except the crosses and pictures of the Way of the Cross remain unveiled.) The crosses remain covered until after the solemn uncovering of the principal crucifix on Good Friday.

The statues and pictures retain their covering, no matter what feast may occur, until the Gloria in Excelsis of Holy Saturday. According to an answer of the Sacred Congregation of Rites of 14th of May, 1878, the practice may be tolerated of keeping the statue of St. Joseph, if outside the sanctuary, uncovered during the month of March, which is dedicated to his honour, even during Passiontide. In the Masses de tempore (Sundays and Feria in Lent) the Psalm *Judica* during the prayers at the foot of the altar is not said; the Gloria Patri is omitted at the *Asperges*, the Introit, and the Lavabo; only two orations are recited and the Preface is of the Holy Cross. In the Dominical and ferial offices of the Breviary the doxology is omitted in the *Invitatorium* and in the responses, whether long or short.

The crosses are veiled because Christ during this time no longer walked openly among the people, but hid himself. Hence in the papal chapel the veiling formerly took place at the words of the Gospel: "*Iesus autem abscondebat se.*" (But Jesus hid himself.) Another reason is added by Durandus, namely that Christ's divinity was hidden when he arrived at the time of His suffering and death. The images of the saints also are covered because it would seem improper for the servants to appear when the Master himself is hidden. In some places the crosses were covered on Ash Wednesday; in others on the first Sunday of Lent. In England it was customary on the first Monday of Lent to cover up all the crucifixes, images of every kind, the reliquaries, and even the cup with the Blessed Sacrament. The cloths used were of white linen or silk and marked with a red cross (Rock, *infra*, IV, 258). The two beautiful hymns of the season, "*Vexilla Regis*" and "*Pange lingua gloriosi*", are the work of Venantius Fortunatus, Bishop of Poitiers. On the

Friday of Passion Week the Church very appropriately honours the Seven Dolours of Our Lady. On Saturday the Greeks commemorate the resuscitation of Lazarus, the Latins, the harrowing of hell.

Based on an article in "*Catholic Encyclopedia/New Advent*"

Thanks to the Institute of Christ King Sovereign Priest, Shrewsbury for this explanation in their March newsletter of 2021.

The events of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ which lie before us can be seen as an extended contemplation over days, especially the Sacred Triduum. Through the gospels and the liturgies of the Church we can enter into the gospel with our imaginations, listening to what is said, seeing the persons involved, noticing how the Lord Jesus suffers in his humanity for our sins and for the sins of whole world. How do I respond? How should I respond to such love?

We adore you O Christ and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. Amen

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.

CHARITY NIGHT FOR SHINE: Wednesday 27 March, 6pm at the Sahara Indian restaurant Gadebridge. The cost is £20 per head and you will pay extra for your drinks. Contact Maria Soares-Cabral on 07950362875 to book.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER LEAFLET: Please take a leaflet from the back of the church and give one to your friends and neighbours.

GOOD FRIDAY: There will Stations of the Cross at Ss Mary & Joseph Church on Friday 29 March, at 10am. This will be followed by the Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead Walk of Witness. They will meet at 10.45am at the Riverside Entrance in the Marlowes (near 'A point for Reflection' Sculpture). The service will start at 11am on the Rainbow Stage.

QUIZ: The Catholic Women's League and The Knights of St Columba are holding a quiz night in the Parish Centre, Boxmoor on Saturday 27 April, at 7.30pm. There will be chilli con carne with a jacket potato or rice and the cost is £10 per ticket. To book please ring John on 07510 294832 or Tom on 07825 173878. If you need a vegetarian option please mention this when booking.

TRAINING FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION: Wednesdays 8 & 22 May, after the 7pm Mass in St Joseph's hall. If you would like to continue or explore taking part in this ministry please speak to Fr David. Please take a leaflet from the back of the church. The annual commissioning will be on Corpus Christi.

LOURDES 4-8 OCT 2024: If you would like to go to Lourdes with Fr David please let him know. Details, cost and the date to be confirmed.

EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION: Please take an envelope from the back of the church if you would like to contribute to the flowers for Easter.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND WRITING TEACHER NEEDED: If you are able help tutor young students in the parish, please contact Fr David.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday: 9.30am & 4pm at SS Mary & Joseph church and by appointment.

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 and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain, please call the Chaplaincy office on 01923 217994 or 07776598704 for Watford and St Albans. West Herts Hospitals are currently looking to recruit a Catholic Chaplain.

YOUTH MINISTRY

LITTLE CHURCH: If you have not made your First Holy Communion, you are invited to join Little Church, during the 10am Mass (term time). We are also running the **CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** For post First Holy Communion up to the age of 11 and they will meet in the Sacristy during the *Liturgy of the Word* and then join us in front for the *Liturgy of Eucharist*.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISTS NEEDED: We are keen to develop our First Holy Communion programme, especially from September onwards. If you would like to help support our young people to prepare for this wonderful sacrament, please email Callum at cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk for further information.

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, LONDON: They are holding a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday Retreat at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent, on Saturday 6 April, from 10am until 4.30pm. The retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

ACROSS THE DIOCESE

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 19- 26 JULY 2024: Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30 April. Please see the church notice board for more information.

PRAYER

GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK:

Mon. John	8:1 – 11
Tues. John	8:21 – 30
Wed. John	8:31 – 42
Thurs. John	8:51 – 59
Fri. John	10:31 – 42
Sat. John	11: 45 – 56
Sun Mark	14:1 – 15:47

Prayer

Loving God, we devote this season of Lent to You. Help us to overcome our indifferences. Let us receive Your love with open hearts, as there are no outsiders or enemies in God's family.

Amen

St Gregory of Nazianzen said "give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not too small to the one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could". Prayer, Fast, Alms.

FINANCE

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

Loose Cash & Contactless	£2,254.25
Standing Orders	£4,447.02
Total	£6,701.27

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.

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day

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

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

		PLEASE PRAY FOR
SATURDAY 16 MARCH	(SMSJ) 9am Wattie Dalton (RIP) Penitential Mass followed by Adoration & Confessions (2 Priests) (SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil) Julieta Gomes (Thanksgiving)	<p>THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION FOR MARCH: For the new martyrs. We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.</p> <p>THE SICK: Gemma Hill, Richard Girdwood, Anita Foster, Aida Saraiva, Tiffany Menzies, Marie Anthony, Peter West, Fr Brian McMahon, Mary Alcock</p> <p>THE DEPARTED: Wattie Dalton, Gamil Aboud Shakour, George Aboud Shakour & Maureen Hicks</p> <p>CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATES PREPARING FOR BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION: Deborah Bentum, Samuel Hawkins, Rachel Perdigao, Mohammed Nahzari & Katherine Airstone-Thompson</p> <p>HOUSEBOUND OR SICK? If you or any member of the parish are sick, or housebound and unable to get to Mass, do please let Fr David know.</p> <p>MASS INTENTIONS: If you would like a Mass offered for a deceased family member or a friend, do let Shirley know by emailing her or call her please see her contact details below. 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.</p> <p>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.</p>
SUNDAY 17 MARCH 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT	(SMSJ) 8.30am People of the Parish (SMSJ) 10am Waweru Family (Thanksgiving) (SM) 11.30am Peggy Sitkowski (RIP ANNIV)	
MONDAY 18 MARCH LENT FERIA	(SMSJ) 8.30am Adoration (SMSJ) 9.30am George Gardner Sr (RIP)	
TUESDAY 19 MARCH SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	(SMSJ) 7pm Rev Rob Smialek (INT)	
WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH LENT FERIA	(SMSJ) 8.30am Adoration (SMSJ) 9.30am For an End to Abortion (SMSJ) 7pm Anne Green (RIP)	
THURSDAY 21 MARCH LENT FERIA	(SMSJ) 8.30am Adoration (SMSJ) 9.30am Rev Tom Blackburn (INT) (SM) 7pm Rev Domagoj Matokovic (INT)	
FRIDAY 22 MARCH LENT FERIA	(SMSJ) 8.30am Adoration (SMSJ) 9.30am The Persecuted Church (SMSJ) 10am Stations of the Cross (SMSJ) 1.30pm Funeral Mass for Philomena Woodward (RIP)	
SATURDAY 23 MARCH LENT FERIA	(SMSJ) 9am Varghese Kurikunnel (RIP) (SMSJ) 5pm (Sat Vigil) People of the Parish	
SUNDAY 24 MARCH PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	(SMSJ) 8.30am Mass (SMSJ) 10am John Luke-McDonald (2nd RIP ANNIV) (SM) 11.30am Constance & Fred Smallwood & Minnie Jackson (RIP ANNIV)	

MAKING CONTACT AT HEMEL WEST CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Priest: Fr David Cherry davidcherry@rcdow.org.uk or call 01442 391 759 (Opt 3)

Parish Administrator: Shirley Bailey shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk or call 01442 391 759 (Opt 2)

Parish Catechetical Coordinator & Pastoral Assistant: Callum Moore call 01442 391 759 (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/>