

# HEMEL WEST CATHOLIC PARISH

## Ss Mary & St Joseph + St Mark

website:  
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemel Hempsteadwest/>

Diocese of Westminster Charity N<sup>o</sup> 233699

### Christ our hope is risen!

Christ died to rise again so that his Father will be glorified. We too are brought back to true life in Christ. If we die with him we will rise with him and in our lives be witnesses to the power of the resurrection.

EASTER SUNDAY

31 March 2024

#### CONTACTS FOR HEMEL WEST

##### Fr David Cherry

Parish Priest

The Presbytery,

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##### Shirley Bailey

Parish Administrator

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##### Callum Moore

Catechetical Coordinator & Youth Worker

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##### Hall Bookings

Via Shirley Bailey or

e: [hemelwesthallbookings@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hemelwesthallbookings@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Address:** The Presbytery, 186 St John's Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP1 1NR

#### Sunday Cycle

Readings Year B

#### Weekday readings

Year 2

#### Divine Office

Week 1

#### Walk with me

A scripture and prayer journey through Eastertide are available at the back of Church for £1

*"In resurrectione tua, Christe, caeli et terra laetentur!  
In your Resurrection, O Christ, let heaven and earth rejoice!"  
(Liturgy of the Hours).*

The Resurrection of Christ is not the fruit of speculation or mystical experience: it is an event which, while it surpasses history, nevertheless happens at a precise moment in history and leaves an indelible mark upon it. The light which dazzled the guards keeping watch over Jesus' tomb has traversed time and space. It is a different kind of light, a divine light, that has rent asunder the darkness of death and has brought to the world the splendour of God, the splendour of Truth and Goodness.

Just as the sun's rays in springtime cause the buds on the branches of the trees to sprout and open up, so the radiance that streams forth from Christ's Resurrection gives strength and meaning to every human hope, to every expectation, wish and plan. Hence the entire cosmos is rejoicing today, caught up in the springtime of humanity, which gives voice to creation's silent hymn of praise. The Easter Alleluia, resounding in the Church as she makes her pilgrim way through the world, expresses the silent exultation of the universe and above all the longing of every human soul that is sincerely open to God, giving thanks to him for his infinite goodness, beauty and truth.

"In your Resurrection, O Christ, let heaven and earth rejoice." To this summons to praise, which arises today from the heart of the Church, the "heavens" respond fully: the hosts of angels, saints and blessed souls join with one voice in our exultant song. In heaven all is peace and gladness. But alas, it is not so on earth! Here, in this world of ours, the Easter Alleluia still contrasts with the cries and laments that arise from so many painful situations: poverty, hunger, disease, war, violence. Yet it was for this that Christ died and rose again! He died on account of sin, including ours today, he rose also for the redemption of history, including our own. So, my message today is intended for everyone, and, as a prophetic proclamation, it is intended especially for peoples and communities who are undergoing a time of suffering, that the Risen Christ may open up for them the path of freedom, justice and peace.

*Pope Benedict XVI, Easter 2011*

THANK YOU to you all for all you have done in giving of yourself and participating in the life of the parish and especially in the great liturgies in which we will be now be participating. Thank you to flower arrangers, to Mick who has done so many tasks in the background; to Shirley who keeps our parish running smoothly; to the singers who have practised regularly and put up with my changes.

With much thanksgiving and wishing each of you a Happy and Blessed Easter,

Fr David

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.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

From 20<sup>th</sup> April: Saturday 9am & 4pm at Ss Mary & Joseph and by appointment.

**Getting Married in Church?**

Please be aware that you must give at least 6 months' notice if you want to get married in a Catholic Church. This is because there is often a lot of paperwork to get done and couples must attend a pre-marriage course. Don't set a date until you have spoken with a priest.

**Going into 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.

**FOR YOUR DIARY**

**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 in the Parish Centre.

**Saturday 8 & 15 June, at Ss Mary & Joseph**

11am First Holy Communion Reconciliations.

**Saturday 6 July & Saturday 13 July at Ss Mary & Joseph.**

11am & 2pm Mass with First Holy Communion.

**Confirmation dates to be confirmed.**

**HOLY WATER:** From Easter there will be a new Holy Water Container in the baptistry for you to help yourself to Easter Holy water. Bottles for Holy Water are available for a small donation of £1.

**NEW TIME OF WEEKDAY MASS AND SATURDAY MORNING:** Just to remind you that weekday and Saturday Mass times are now at 10am.

**FR DAVID LEAVE:** Fr David is away from Easter Sunday night until Friday 19 April. Weekday Mass will be on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10am at Ss Mary & Joseph apart from 15-19 April. There will be Mass at the usual times on Sundays. On Saturday 20 April there will be Adoration & Confessions at 9am and Mass at 10am. Please see times of the Masses at Our Lady's for Mass in the week.

**WEEKDAY MASSES FROM MONDAY 15 APRIL UNTIL FRIDAY 19 APRIL:** There will **not** be weekday Masses from Monday 15 April, until Friday 19 April in the parish of Hemel West, as we were unable to get supply for this week. Please see the Mass times for Our Lady's at the link: <https://www.hemeleastcatholic.org/mass-times>

**PARISH OFFICE:** The parish office will be closed until 5 April.

**CORRECTION RE MASS STIPENDS, EASTER AND CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS:** Fr David incorrectly stated that these contribute to the stipends of all diocesan priests through the diocesan fund. In fact, they remain in our diocesan account to pay our priest a monthly stipend. Apologies for misleading you. Envelopes are available at the back of Church.

**BINGO:** Come and join the Knights of St Columba at their monthly bingo session in the Parish Centre, Boxmoor on Thursday 4 April, at 1.30pm. Refreshments provided. Enquiries to Tom Joyce on 07825 173878.

**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. The annual commissioning will be on Corpus Christi.

**CARITAS SUNDAY TEA:** The Caritas Sunday Teas for older members of the community are held on the third Sunday of the month in Croft Hall at Our Lady's from 2pm to 4pm. We provide tea with sandwiches and cakes, entertainment and bingo. Transport can be arranged for those who need it. We welcome new guests and volunteers. Please contact Paul at [paul.heatley1@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.heatley1@btinternet.com) or call 07711 384 061 if you would like to know more.

**LOURDES 4-8 OCT 2024:** If you would like to go to Lourdes with Fr David please let him know. £690 inclusive with half-board.

**CAFOD:** Please leave used Ink Jet Cartridges in the recycling boxes in porch.

**TOILETRIES:** These are needed for the refugees/asylum seekers in Dacorum. We need tooth brushes, toothpaste, shampoo, body lotion and shower gel. Please put these into the boxes provided.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS:** The Baptism Preparation Class takes place on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm. To book and for more details go to the link below on the parish website. <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hemel Hempsteadwest/events/>

**TEA/COFFEE:** Please join us for tea/coffee, after the 10am & 11.30am 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 at [shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:shirleybailey@rcdow.org.uk) by Wednesday 12 Noon and she will do her best to accommodate it.

**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.

**E-ALERT:** Please sign up online to receive the parish news by email.

**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](mailto:cmoore@jfk.herts.sch.uk) for further information.

**ACROSS THE DIOCESE**

**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.

**NEWMAN ASSOCIATION:** On Saturday, 13 April, at 11am there will be a Newman Association talk by The Dean of St Albans Abbey, The Venerable Joanne Kelly-Moore, describing her 'Church journey from New Zealand to St Albans' at SS Alban and Stephen Church, 14 Beaconsfield Road., St Albans AL1 3RB. All are welcome.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to LOURDES 19- 26 JULY 2024:** Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open at <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 THIS WEEK**

- Mon. Matthew 28: 8 – 15
- Tues. John 20:11 – 18
- Wed. Luke 24:13 - 35
- Thurs. Luke 24:35 - 48
- Fri. John 21:1 – 14
- Sat. Mark 16: 9 – 15
- Sun John 20:19 – 31

**Prayer**

Lord God, as we go through this Holy Week, grant us humility to see our sins. Grant us a grateful heart for the redemption that your Son has won for us. Bestow on us the grace to remember the goodness You have shown us by redeeming us. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**FINANCE**



**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.

**HEMEL WEST OFFICE HOURS**

OFFICE HOURS AND TELEPHONE COVER FOR HEMEL WEST	
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: Closed</b>
<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



**THIS WEEK**  
**31 March – 7 April**

Sat 30 March	(SMSJ) 9am Morning Prayer  (SMSJ) 9.30am Preparation & Decoration of the Church  (SMSJ) 7pm <b>EASTER VIGIL, BAPTISMS &amp; FIRST MASS OF EASTER</b>	For those to be baptised and confirmed	<p><b>PLEASE PRAY FOR:</b></p> <p><b>THE ELECT AND CANDIDATE TO BE BAPTISED AND CONFIRMATION:</b> Deborah Bentum, Samuel Hawkins, Rachel Perdigao, Mohammed Nahzari &amp; Katharine Airestone-Thompson</p> <p><b>THE SICK:</b> Gemma Hill, Richard Girdwood, Aida Saraiva, Tiffany Menzies, Marie Anthony, Peter West, Fr Brian McMahon, Mary Alcock</p> <p><b>THE DEPARTED:</b> Anna Vitoria, Fr Michael Daley, Wattie Dalton, Gamil Aboud Shakour, George Aboud Shakour</p> <p><i>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 for a month.</i></p> <p><b>THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION FOR MARCH:</b> 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>
Sun 31 March <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	(SMSJ) 8.30am Mass (SMSJ) 10am Mass  (SM) 11.30am Mass	<i>In Praise for the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ</i> Sr Helen Alford (INT) Aida Saraiva (Recovery & Cure from Illness)	
Mon 1 April EASTER FERIA	No Mass		
Tues 2 April EASTER FERIA	No Mass		
Wed 3 April EASTER FERIA	(SMSJ) 10am Mass	Tina Parker (RIP)	
Thurs 4 April EASTER FERIA	No Mass		
Fri 5 April EASTER FERIA	(SMSJ) 10am Mass	The Persecuted Church	
Sat 6 April EASTER FERIA	(SMSJ) 5pm Mass	Wattie Dalton (RIP)	
Sun 7 April <b>2nd Sunday of Easter</b>	(SMSJ) 8.30am Mass (SMSJ) 10am Mass (SM) 11.30am Mass	People of the Parish Sean Joyce (RIP ANNIV) Tiffany Menzies (Cure from Illness)	

**THE EASTER SEQUENCE:** *Victimae Paschalis*

Christians, to the Paschal Victim  
Offer your thankful praises!

A Lamb the sheep redeemeth:  
Christ, who only is sinless,  
Reconcileth sinners to the Father;

Death and life have contended  
In that combat stupendous:  
The Prince of Life, who died,  
reigns immortal.

Speak Mary, declaring  
What thou sawest wayfaring:

"The Tomb of Christ, who is living.  
The glory of Jesu's Resurrection;

Bright angels attesting,  
The shroud and napkin resting.

Yea, Christ my hope is arisen:  
To Galilee he goes before you."

Happy they who hear the witness,  
Mary's word believing  
Above the tales of Jewry deceiving.

Christ indeed from death is risen,  
our new life obtaining.  
Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!