

HEMEL CATHOLIC PARISHES

www.hemelcatholic.org

The Resurrection + St Mary & St Joseph +
Our Lady Queen of All Creation + St Mark

Diocese of Westminster Charity N° 233699

First Sunday of Advent

1st/2nd December 2018



1ST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Hemel Parishes

Boxmoor & St Mark's

Fr Paul McDermott

Parish Priest

The Presbytery,
186 St Johns Rd, HP1 1NR.

t: 01442 391759

e: paulmcdermott@rcdow.org.uk

Our Lady's & Grovehill

Fr Kim Addison

Parish Priest

The Presbytery, Rant Meadow.
HP3 8PG

t: 01442 210610

e: kimaddison@rcdow.org.uk

Rev Simon Wright

Deacon

t: 01442 391759

e: simonwright@rcdow.org.uk

Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday 12 noon. Items to:

newsletters@hemelcatholic.org

Boxmoor Office: Shirley Bailey

Adeyfield Office: Clare Borgeat

It's Advent! Our first response might be to start considering all the many things we need to get done in order to prepare for Christmas. It is all too easy to get caught up in the commercial excitement of Christmas, the Christmas Parties, the presents that need to be bought, the Christmas day meal that needs to be planned. All this can lead to anxiety about how we are going to get it all done, not to mention the dawning realisation of how much all these things cost!

It seems strange that at the beginning of a new liturgical year, that we begin by speaking about the end of the world! It would seem like the account of creation would be a more logical place to start, or even the beginnings of Christianity at the moment of the incarnation.

The church calls us to contemplate the Second Coming of our Lord first, and there is good reason for it. Our life in this world is about a journey or a pilgrimage. With any journey we need to keep in mind the destination, the end to which our pilgrimage is heading. You cannot go to an airport and simply get on any plane regardless of the destination, rather we need to know where we are going first, in order to be able to better choose the mode of transport that best fits our journey.

This first Sunday of Advent reminds us of our true destination, to be with God for eternity. It helps us to realise that no matter what we are facing in this world, it is our eternal destiny with God that really matters, and to which we need to be most ready for.

The Gospel warns us not to be caught up in the cares and worries of this world, by overindulging pleasures that cannot truly satisfy our souls, rather we should keep the Lord ever in our minds, and stand erect ready to meet him.

Preparing to meet Jesus is what our Advent preparation should be about. If we want to truly celebrate the First Coming of Jesus and prepare for his Second Coming, then the way to do it is to be aware of his coming into every moment of every day.

Advent looks to our salvation history of the past, our present redemption being accomplished, and the future coming of Christ. It is a season of hopeful longing, joyful expectation, prayer, penance and spiritual preparation. It is a season that is often forgotten in the rush to Christmas, let's take a moment to invest some time and effort in to our spiritual preparations that lead us to appreciate the real reason we are preparing.

Our First Holy Communion Children are preparing to meet the Lord for the first time in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their preparations. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a great way to prepare to meet the Lord, and there are regular opportunities across the parishes to seek God's mercy. There will be a combined Reconciliation Service on Friday 14th December at 7:30pm at Our Lady's in Adeyfield. All are welcome.

Fr Kim

Cross Parish Notices

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 10.30 – 11am (*Our Lady's*)
Saturday 11am – 11.30am (*Boxmoor*)

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Saturday 10.30-11am (*Our Lady's*)
First Friday after 10am Mass at BM & from 2.30pm at OLQ. Exposition at Grovehill after 10am Mass on Thursday.

Going into Hospital? If you are going into Hospital do ask to see a Catholic Chaplain. Please call the Chaplaincy office on 01923 217994 for Watford and St Albans.

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 have to attend a pre-marriage course. Don't set a date until you have spoken with a priest.

Baptism Preparation

Parents who wish to have their children baptised are required to attend our baptism course. At least one parent must be a practising Catholic and be known to the priests.

Our pre-Baptism seminars take place every 3 months and the next one will be on **Saturday 8th December** at St Mark's Church. Dates are set at the seminar. Parents are asked to speak to the clergy and read the new baptism information sheet, found in the porch.

4th Boxmoor Scout Group is open to new members from all four parishes: Please call Pete West on 07949 936 994 or email peteandsue8@virginmedia.com.

First Friday Devotions will take place this week with Adoration after the 10am Mass at Boxmoor and from 2.30pm until 6pm at Our Lady's followed by Mass at 6.30pm.

Churches Together Prayer intention for the week: The Salvation Army.

Parents who are applying for reception places at St Albert's, St Roses and Year 3 at St Cuthbert Mayne will need a certificate of Catholic practice from their parish priest. We can only give these out to parents who come to Mass. Certificates will be offered at the end of Mass over the next few weeks.

The Bereavement Support Group will be meeting on Thursday 6th December, 1.30pm until 3pm in St Joseph's Hall, Boxmoor.

Taizé for Advent: There will be Taizé services in Advent at Ss Mary & Joseph on 7th/21st December. We will meet at 7.30pm for song, prayer, silence and reflection.

Margaret Griffiths will be taking part in the DENS Sleep out on 7th December. If you would like to sponsor her go to www.justgiving.com/Margaret-Griffiths4.

Carol Singing in the Marlowes: Come and join with other Christians from Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead, to sing and share the joy of Christmas in the indoor shopping centre, Friday 7th/14th December between 12.30pm and 13.30pm. Also Thursday 13th December from 6pm until 7pm. All are welcome.

Carols by Candlelight: Monday 17th December 7.30pm at Ss Mary & Joseph. Please join us for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies in the Parish Centre after. All are welcome.

Four Parish Party 2019: After the success of this year's party we are hoping to run it again next year. Without a team of amazing volunteers this won't be possible. We are looking for 2 people from each Mass to dedicate 5 minutes of your time after Mass throughout September 2019 to sell tickets. We are also looking for 2 volunteers from St Alberts, St Roses and St Cuthbert Mayne. I can't stress enough how imperative this team is to the party going ahead for next year. If this sounds like something you can do please call Haylea Gavin on [07964871765](tel:07964871765) or email haylea02@hotmail.com.

John F Kennedy School Vacancies: The Governors are seeking to appoint a Data Manager. Please see the website for more details www.jfk.herts.sch.uk.

Lourdes 2019: We would like to take a group to Lourdes next year at the same time as the Diocesan pilgrimage. At this stage we need to know how many people would be interested in going. The dates are 21st-26th July. 4 star hotel, full board and flights from Luton: £595 per person sharing. Please let Fr Paul know of your interest.

Church of the Resurrection

Henry Wells Square, Grovehill, HP2 6BJ

Welcome to Highfield and Grovehill Parish Community. If you are new to the parish you are invited to complete a 'New to the Parish', form, which you will find at the back of the church.

For Parish Room or Church bookings contact Pedro on 07917 813 476 or entapryz@hotmail.com.

We pray for the Departed: Michael Morrissey, Gerry Mason, John Reilly, Andy Nolan, Jean Walpole, Elsie Simpson & Bernard Innes

We pray for the Sick: Theresa Chalkwright, Maureen Gaul & George Shaffernan

Nicky Mansfield will be sleeping out for DENS on 7th December. Please sponsor her at Mass or you can donate on her JustGiving page:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/nicky-mansfield4

Just Giving Sunday: Thank you all for your continued kindness with items for Just Giving Sunday. Items for December are: coffee and tea bags. For use inside DENS hostel: cloths and washing up liquid.

Just Giving Sunday 5th January: Items for January are: tinned puddings and instant mash. For use inside DENS hostel: antibacterial soap and bathroom cleaner.

Thanks to your kind generosity via the CATHLEP DENS envelope scheme and Barn Dance. I was able to deliver a cheque for £1,000 to DENS at The Elms. As you can imagine they were thrilled especially as the Christmas season nears. If you would like more information about the monthly envelope scheme for DENS, please contact Sheila Corrigan on 07884 937813 or see her after Mass on Sunday. We have an exciting fund raising evening planned for next year. Keep an eye on the newsletter for more details.

Ss Mary & Joseph

St Johns Road, Boxmoor, HP1 1NR

Welcome to Ss Mary & Joseph's Parish Community. If you are new to the Parish you are invited to complete a 'New Parish Records Form', which you will find on the table at the back of the church.

Parish Centre Bookings or Enquires: If you are interested in using the Parish Centre for an event, party or meeting, please telephone 07533 965 372 or email hallbookings@smj.hemelcatholic.org.

Caretaker: Mick Prindiville. Contact on 07926 141800.

We pray for the Departed: Sheila Watts, Siobhan Gibbons & Martin Byrnes

We pray for the Sick: Fr Michael Lambert, Lucinda, Ted Turvey, Lilly Hampton & Isabelle & Erica Jones

Christmas Fair: A big thank you to all those who supported the Christmas Fair. We made £1183 which will go towards the Building Fund. Special thanks are due to the tireless members of the Catholic Women's League who organised the event; to the Scouts for the bacon sandwiches; for those who rented a table and brought gifts and produce to sell; and to those who gave bottles and gifts for the raffles and tombola.

Taizé for Advent: There will be Taizé services in Advent at Ss Mary & Joseph on 7th/21st December. We will meet at 7.30pm for song, prayer, silence and reflection.

Fairtrade Stall: There is a Fairtrade stall at the Scouts' coffee morning after the 8.45am Mass on the second Sunday of each month. Why not come along to the Scouts' Christmas coffee morning on Sunday 8th December. Join the Scouts for tea/coffee, bacon and sausage sandwiches and mince pies with cream. You can also browse the selection of Fairtrade goods. Everyone is welcome.



Carols by Candlelight: Monday 17th December 7.30pm at Ss Mary & Joseph. Please join us for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies in the Parish Centre after.

Our Lady Queen of All Creation

Rant Meadow, HP3 8PG

Welcome to Our Lady's Church & Parish Community.

If you are new to the parish you are invited to complete a 'New to the Parish' form, which you will find at the back of the church.

*If you are interested in booking the Parish hall contact Shirley Bailey at hallbookings@olq.hemelcatholic.org or call 07519 837 130. **Caretaker:** Mick Prindiville. Contact on 07926 141 800.*

Prayer lists: Please fill out the form in the church foyer. Names will remain on the list for four weeks unless otherwise requested.

We pray for the Sick: Jack Barrett, Kitty Hampton, Matthew Hay, Stacey Berryman, Ed Riley, Patrick O'Donnell & Nora Watson

Missio (Red Box) Holders: Please collect your 2019 Mission today Calendar from the church entrance hall.

Poor Box Donations: Thanks to your kind generosity, we have made a donation of £1,500 to DENS to help with the poor and needy of Hemel Hempstead. A big thank you to all.

St Mark

Hollybush Lane, Warners End, HP1 2PH

Welcome to St. Mark's Church and Parish community. If you are new to the parish you are invited to complete a 'New to the Parish' form, which you will find at the back of the church and place it in the "New to Parish" folder in the porch.

Please pray for the Sick: Joe Smyth, John O'Sullivan, Antonia la Fuente, Vera Collimore, Sally Howes & Lily Dalimore, Mick Reeve.

Please pray for the Departed: Phyllis and Tony Lewis, Alfred Smith, Martin Quigley, Phyllis Lewis, Tony Lewis, Blossom Lushay, Margaret Hayward, Pam Brown, Ronald Gaskell, Doreen McNabb, May Donnelly, Michael Hickey, Chris Kerwick & May Galvin

Christmas Raffle: This will take place on Sunday 23rd December. Tickets will be available over the next few weeks. Take an envelope home, purchase the tickets you want and return the money and stubs with your contact details on. Also please nominate a local charity that you would like the funds to go to. Tickets are £1 a strip. There are £5 worth of tickets in each envelope. There is no obligation to buy all of the tickets. Any donations for raffle prizes will be most welcome.

DENS Christmas cards will be on sale over the next few weeks, priced at £3.50 per pack of 10.

Hemel Ordinariate Mission

Pastor: Fr Simon Chinery

Email: simon.chinery@ordinariate.org.uk or call 387 195.

Welcome. We are based at St Mark's; meeting on Sundays at 8.45am and Wednesdays at 7.45pm for Mass. Morning Prayer is celebrated on Sundays at 8.15am.

All are welcome at our services



Mass Times and Intentions this week

(GH) Grovehill, (BM) Ss Mary & Joseph Boxmoor, (SM) St Mark, (OLQ) Our Lady's, (ORD) Ordinariate	
Sat 1 st	5pm (OLQ) Ann Gallagher RIP 6pm (BM) Sheila Watts RIP
Sun 2 nd	8.45am (SM/Ordinariate) 8.45am (BM) Siobhan Gibbons RIP Birthday 9am (GH) Breda & Christina Kelly 10.15am (SM) Barry Albert RIP 10.30am (OLQ) Dale Langham RIP 11.45am (BM) Martin Byrnes RIP Birthday 12 Noon (OLQ) Moira Hanniffy RIP
Mon 3 rd	10am (OLQ) Dale Langham RIP
Tues 4 th	10am (OLQ) Len & Mary Chalkright RIP
Wed 5 th	10am (BM) Holy Souls 7.45pm (SM/Ordinariate)
Thurs 6 th	10am (GH) Michael Morrissey RIP
Fri 7 th	10am (BM) The Emslie Family Thanksgiving 6.30pm (OLQ) Tamas Kiraly RIP
Sat 8 th	10am (OLQ) Fr Stephen Morrison INT 5pm (OLQ) Charles Barling RIP ANNIV 6pm (BM) Baby Rebecca Trainor RIP ANNIV
Sun 9 th	8.45am (SM/Ordinariate) 8.45am (BM) Spencer Anthony RIP ANNIV 9am (GH) David & Catherine Nagle 10.15am (SM) Martin Quigley RIP 10.30am (OLQ) Private INT 11.45 (BM) Holy Souls 12 Noon (OLQ) Vito & Angela Maria Torrano RIP