

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

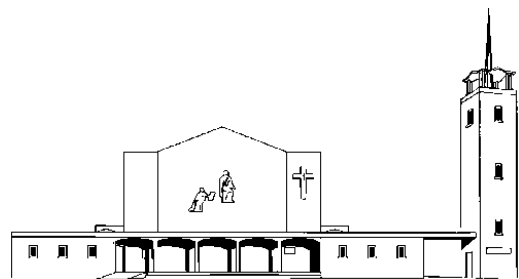
The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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(<http://yofhomilies.wordpress.com>)



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

Secretary: Dawn Bates (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am–3pm)

Also in residence: Fr Joseph Thayil Mathew (chaplain to Syro-Malabar-rite Catholics)

Year A THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH 29th DEC 2013

GOSPEL: Matthew 2: 13–15, 19–23

Take the child and his mother and escape into Egypt.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

A HAPPY & BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL! I pray that your celebrations of Christmas, whether you were here in Hoddesdon/Broxbourne, or were away at family or friends', were special and sacred occasions for the joyful feast of Our Lord's Nativity. May the graces of the feast of the new-born Lord Jesus fill your hearts for the coming year 2014.

My deep thanks go to all those who helped especially with the Christmas celebrations, including those who played the music at the Carol Service and Christmas Masses; those who designed and prepared the Christmas flowers; those who served & read at the Masses; and the sacristan who assisted each day. I truly found it an uplifting and blessed few days, and was also able to spend time with my family in St Albans, and with a variety of friends too. Thanks for all the greetings, cards, & gifts which I received over the Christmas days from you!

OUR PARISH EPIPHANY PARTY — OPEN TO ALL PARISH MEMBERS — is next Saturday evening, and a beautiful way to celebrate together the blessings of the season. Please come to the **crypt 7.30pm on Saturday (4th)** for a 'Twelfth Night' (Epiphany) gathering: the parish will provide all the drinks, and if you could each just bring a plate of food to share.

NOTE THE COMING WEEK'S MASSES: Mass on **Wed (New Year's Day)** is **10am**; Mass on Friday will only be at 12 noon, and the usual 1st Friday evening Mass & Holy Hr will not take place — sorry!

TAKE A LOOK AT THE NEW-STYLE PARISH WEBSITE (www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon — same address as before), which is much more flexible, with greater ease of adding information. Please think of *signing up for e-alerts* on the parish website, then you will get notified whenever there is some new information/event added to it.

May God bless your marriages and your families on this feast of the Holy Family! Fr Philip



From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 7:

VATICAN II,
50 YEARS ON:
THE NEW
EVANGELIZATION

A change in attitudes and in human structures frequently calls accepted values into question, especially among young people, who have grown impatient on more than one occasion, and indeed become rebels in their distress. Aware of their own influence in the life of society, they want a part in it sooner. This frequently causes parents and educators to experience greater difficulties day by day in discharging their tasks. The institutions, laws and modes of thinking and feeling as handed down from previous generations do not always seem to be well adapted to the contemporary state of affairs; hence arises an upheaval in the manner and even the norms of behaviour.

PRAYER & LITURGY

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday evening of each month, 7.30–8.30pm, **Friday 17th January**. A semi-formal quiet hour in the Lady Chapel once a month to reflect on the Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR: will next take place 5pm on **Sunday 19th Jan**, finishing early at 5.45pm to allow Fr Philip to get to the Christian Unity Service.

ANNUAL CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE will be held on **Sunday 19th January** at Hoddesdon Baptist Church at 6pm. This service is held on behalf of the Churches Together in Hoddesdon and all parishioners are welcome.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our parishioners and friends who are sick: Sue Porto, Christopher Browne, John Askew, Alan Dolan, Rosa Augello, Roberto Piacentini, Mark Reason, Hilda Andrews, Joanne Sheridan, Helen Sherman, Annette Pinto, Bohita Fanor, Jill Logsdail, Joe Barr, Jenny Miller, and Joseph Penheiro.

PLEASE TELL US IF ANYONE IS HOUSEBOUND, EVEN TEMPORARILY, SO THEY CAN BE VISITED & HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION.

IF YOU GO IN TO HOSPITAL: Catholics in hospital are unlikely to receive an automatic visit from the Catholic Chaplain, as this information is now systematically withheld from Chaplains. If someone is sick in hospital, **please let us know here at the presbytery, or ask the staff on the ward**, so that your loved one can be visited whilst in hospital, and receive Holy Communion and any other Sacraments from the Chaplain.

The Chaplains are: QEII, Jacqueline Humphreys and John Paul Lyttle 01438-285518 or 07884-187463; Princess Alexandra, Fr Slawek Jedrych 01279-426017

'YEAR OF FAITH'

www.annusfidei.va (click on 'EN' for English)

CYCLE OF HOMILIES: if you have missed any of Fr Philip's homilies on the *Catechism*, you can catch up with them at <http://yofhomilies.wordpress.com>.

FR PHILIP'S TALKS: If anyone missed any of the talks on Vatican II, handouts are available from the presbytery.

CATECHETICS

FIRST-HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The fourth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 8th Jan** from 8–9pm in the crypt. The third meeting for the children will be on **Saturday 11th Jan at 10am**.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: The next meeting

for **candidates and parents** will be held on **Monday 6th January** from 7-9pm in the crypt. **If you haven't already paid the £10 for the "YouCat" youth catechism**, could you please drop it off to the presbytery as soon as possible. Thank you. Also, please get the consent forms and £17 cost back to us for the day retreat in January.

"RCIA" – The 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults' is the programme for preparation for adults wishing to become Catholics, or be prepared for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion). **The course continues on Tuesday 7th January at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Monday 13th and Friday 24th January from 7.30-9pm** in the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

CAFOD 'WORLD GIFTS' CATALOGUES: These alternative Christmas gifts make unique presents for family or friends while making a real difference for many in the developing world. CAFOD World Gift Catalogues are available at back of the church and the full selection is also available online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.

SCHOOLS

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: applications to our Catholic schools requires the Parish Priest to provide a priest's reference as testimony of **Catholic practice, i.e. attendance, every week, at Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass**. This accords with Priests' guidance <http://www.rcdow.org.uk/fileupload/upload/prf4117200691341.pdf>. In order to help him be just and fair to the practising Catholics of our parish, Fr Philip will continue to adopt the pattern of occasionally in the next few months asking those who will require a priest's form to be signed to come and see him briefly (each and every time he asks) after Sunday Mass. **This concerns those whose children are now in nursery-year in 2013/14.**

PRIMARY SCHOOL: PRIEST'S REFERENCE FORM: Fr Philip will hold another session for those looking to gain admission to reception, for the signing of priest's reference forms. This will be on **Wed 8th Jan 10.30am–12.30pm**. There is no need to make an appointment, please just attend at the allocated times. If you cannot make this time, please ring to make an appointment.

MISCELLANEOUS

CRIB APPEAL: Every day the Catholic Children's Society (Westminster) works with families who are struggling on low incomes and facing domestic crises. Through their work, and the generosity of donations,

they are able to bring light into their darkness, ease their burden and so give them real hope and faith in the future. For many people in the Diocese of Westminster, the Catholic Children's Society is an essential lifeline and safety net. The donations they receive are used to provide everything from essentials like food and toiletries through to immediate practical support and financial assistance to families in crisis over Christmas. **None of this would be possible without the generosity of people. Thanks to all your support, the Society is able to reach out to some 3,000 children and families throughout the whole year.**

HESTER COUNSELL, one of our elderly parishioners who has lived in the parish all her life, has now moved into a nursing home in Nottingham to be near her family.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOKS 2014 are now available for £4.50 from the back of the church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

EPIPHANY PARTY will be held on **Saturday 4th January** after the 6.30pm Mass in the crypt. We hope to have a shared meal and if you can bring either a sweet or savoury dish, please do sign your name on the list at the back of the church.

ISABEL HOSPICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL: My sincere thanks to Mary K, Teresa McN, Michelle L, Kathy Ryan, Pauline C, and Diane from St Cross who collected £670 at Sainsbury's, Hoddesdon. The total collected at Sainsbury's and Tesco amounted to £1330.00. Wishing all our supporters a very Blessed Christmas. Ellen Bartlett.

CENSUS CARDS: If you have still not completed a census card, please do fill one in and hand it in to the presbytery. The cards are at the back of the church alongside the newsletters. Thank you.

CATHOLIC SINGLES is an organisation which helps single adult Catholics of all ages meet, either one to one or through social events. Please tel. 0161 941 3498, visit the website www.catholicingles.org.uk or email info@catholicingles.org.uk

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip thanks all the parish households to which he has been invited, and would continue to like to meet further parishioners/families in their homes, as much as possible. Sunday lunch 1.30pm is a good (but by no means only) time. Free dates: 5th January, 2nd and 9th February.

CHURCH CLEANING: Thank you!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

A Prayer of Consecration of the Family to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary



Most holy Hearts
of Jesus and Mary,
united in perfect love,
as you look upon us with mercy and caring,
we consecrate our hearts,
our lives, our family to you.
We know the beautiful example
of your home in Nazareth was meant to be
a model for each of our families.
We hope to have,
with your help,
the unity and strong, enduring love you gave
to one another.
May our home be filled with joy.
May sincere affection, patience,
tolerance and mutual respect be freely given
to all.
May our prayers be filled with the needs of
others,
not just ourselves and may we always be close
to your sacraments.
Bless those who are present,
as well as those who are absent,
both the living and the dead;
may peace be among us
and when we are tested,
grant us the Christian acceptance of God's
will.
Keep our family close to your Hearts;
may your special protection be with us
always.
Most Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
hear our prayer. Amen.

Masses this week

Sat 28th December THE HOLY INNOCENTS, Martyrs
10am Mass *Michael Dolan RIP*

6.30pm* *For the Parish*

Sun 29th Dec THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

9.15am *Mary & Michael Lawlor*

11.15am *John & Frances Woolsgrove RIP*

3.30pm Italian Mass ‡

Mon 30th Dec SIXTH DAY IN OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Gerald & Sadie Cookson RIP*

Tues 31st Dec SEVENTH DAY IN OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Antonia Orsini RIP*

Wed 1st January SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

10am Mass *Thomas & Lena Byrne RIP*

PLEASE NOTE THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED AFTER MASS

Thurs 2nd January STS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN

9.15am Mass *Neville Yarwood RIP*

Fri 3rd January

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)

11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction

12 noon Mass *Vera Brown RIP – from the Ladies' Guild*

Sat 4th January

10am Mass *John & Esther Kelly RIP Anniv*

6.30pm* *Pasquale Ricotta RIP*

Sun 5th January EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

9.15am *Patrick Feury Int*

11.15am *John & Frances Woolsgrove RIP*

3.30pm Italian Mass ‡

5.00pm Latin Mass *For the Parish*

***Vigil Mass of Sunday**

**** With Children's Liturgy (nursery-age to year 2 only)**

‡ There are also Sunday evening Masses in English in Hertford (6pm) and Waltham Cross (6.30pm)

Today's Liturgy

PAGE 106 in the Mass books

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3: 2–6, 12–14
Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

Psalm 127 — O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 12–21
Family life in the Lord.

Gospel Accl: Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 2: 13–15, 19–23
Take the child and his mother and escape into Egypt.

PREFACE TODAY: Christmas II (p. 66)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

1st Reading: Isaiah 60: 1–6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 2–3, 5–6

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1–12.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm

Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am
or ask Fr Philip at any other time.

ROSARY

Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Any parishioner frail through illness or old age, or going into hospital for major surgery, can ask Fr Philip for the Sacrament of Anointing at any time.

REGULAR EVENTS

NEWSLETTER ITEMS TO PRESBYTERY IN WRITING, BY FAX, OR E-MAIL BY 9AM THURS WITH YOUR NAME & PHONE NO. — THANK YOU. NEW PARISHIONERS Please take a parish membership form & information leaflet from the box attached to the notice board. The completed forms should be posted through the presbytery letterbox. **MOVING HOME?** Please post your new details through the presbytery letterbox. **PARROCCHIANI:** *Si pregano tutti i parrocchiani di prendere i questionari (uno per ciascun famiglia) che si trovano vicino al tabellone degli avvisi. Una volta compilati, i questionari devono essere riconsegnati depositandoli nella cassetta della posta vicina alla statua di Sant'Antonio.*

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