

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

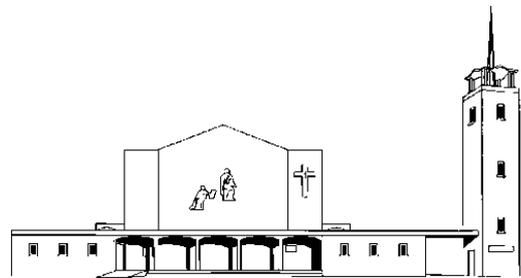
The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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

PALM SUNDAY

13TH APRIL 2014

GOSPEL: *The Passion according to St Matthew*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE BEGIN THIS MOST HOLY WEEK WITH OUR CELEBRATION OF PALM SUNDAY — the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We want to give this Holy Week to the Lord in a special way, devoting extra time to prayer and to the ceremonies which recount Jesus's life-giving Sacrifice. Please, therefore, note the times for the services this week, and put aside other things this week, to make sure that you make this week truly holy:

– **Penitential Services** (Monday): an ideal opportunity to make your Confession, as would be expected of every Catholic in the Lent/Easter time. TWO services, 11.30am and 7.30pm, for adults AND children.

– **HOLY THURSDAY**: at the evening Mass (8pm) we recall the sacred moment of the Lord's Last Supper. We enact the Washing of the Feet, and the institution of the Holy Eucharist; and then we process with Our Lord to pray at the Altar of Repose, recalling His time spent in agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

– **GOOD FRIDAY**: the solemn liturgy of Good Friday (3pm) is the place where we all should be on Friday. No Catholic should have any intention of being absent from the liturgy in which we commemorate the Lord's saving death on the Cross. PLEASE make sure you are present! Good Friday is a day when we fast and we abstain from all meat, for it is a day of penance. I ask that you also abstain from all shopping, and devote the day to simplicity and prayer.

– **HOLY SATURDAY**: is a quiet day as we consider Our Lord in His death, in the tomb. We await prayerfully the night time when we celebrate His Resurrection. The Easter Vigil (9pm) is the central liturgy of the whole Church year, and I encourage you to come. New adult members of our parish will be baptized and confirmed, and it will be a joyful expression of our 'rising to life' with Christ. This will be a beautiful beginning to our keeping of the joyful event of **EASTER SUNDAY**.

OUR GROWING IN FAITH CAMPAIGN is now in its final phase — we will conclude at the end of April, just after Easter. I do appeal to you to make your final decisions re your commitment to the scheme by filling in your pledge form and return it to the Presbytery (or to the 'Growing in Faith' box in the church porch). If you haven't had a pledge form yet, then please take one from alongside the Newsletters.

May God bless our parish as we adore God in the saving events of Holy Week!

Fr Philip



From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 17:



Only in freedom can man direct himself toward goodness. Our contemporaries make much of this freedom and pursue it eagerly; and rightly to be sure. Often however they foster it perversely as a licence for doing whatever pleases them, even if it is evil. For its part, authentic freedom is an exceptional sign of the divine image within man. For God

has willed that man remain "under the control of his own decisions," so that he can seek his Creator spontaneously, and come freely to utter and blissful perfection through loyalty to Him.

PRAYER & LITURGY

HOLY WEEK:

Tuesday 15th April: Chrism Mass at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 17th April

8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

9.30–Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

GOOD FRIDAY: 18th April

10am Stations of the Cross

c. 11am *Churches Together* Act of Witness –

Meet at Aldi at 10.55am.

3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7pm Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY: 19th April

9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15am and 11.15am Mass

RECONCILIATION BEFORE EASTER

Penitential Services: Monday 14th April at 11.30am and 7.30pm. Several priests available on these occasions.

Extra opportunities for Confession in Holy Week:

— After 9.15am Mass Mon, Tues, Wed.

— Holy Thursday: after Morning Prayer (c. 9.15am) and before evening Mass (7pm–7.30pm).

— Good Friday: after Stations of the Cross (10.45am); and before (2pm–2.30pm) and after 3pm Liturgy, and before evening Stations (6.30pm).

— Holy Saturday: 10–11am.

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:

WALTHAM CROSS: Monday 14th April 8pm

HERTFORD parish (tel. 582019) has many extra confessions during Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS: In keeping with the symbolism of the washing of feet of the 12 apostles, 12 men/boys are required for the washing of feet. If you can take part, please sign your name on the list at the back of the church. **During the Mass, there will also be a Rite of Re-commissioning for the Ministers of Holy Communion so, if you are a Minister, please attend the Mass at 8pm.**

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, READERS & ALTAR SERVERS: If you can assist at any of the services during Holy Week, please sign your name on the lists at the back of the church.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ON GOOD FRIDAY: children should be taken straight to the crypt before 3pm. The children will be brought into the church to venerate the cross and have a blessing at Communion and should be collected from the crypt after the service.

GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL WALK OF WITNESS:

this takes a different form this year, with the different groups of Christians starting from various locations at 11am, and carrying banners illustrating the instruments of the Passion etc., converging on the Town Centre for about 11.15am for a joint act of praise and witness. **Please gather outside Aldi in readiness to depart at 11am** for this event.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR is held on the third Sunday of each month. It will next take place 5pm **Sunday 18th May.** Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a Scriptural reflection.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday evening of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **Friday 16th May.** 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. All welcome!

LENT

HALF DAY OF RECOLLECTION: Unfortunately, it has not been possible to arrange this during the Lent season but we hope to have one later in the year.

LENTEN ALMS are collected each year in support of charitable causes. The Archbishop has decided that this year's two beneficiaries will be: (i) *Aid to the Church in Need*, specifically for the relief they are providing to the people of Syria; (ii) *the Bakhita Fund* in association with *Caritas Westminster*, working together to provide aid and support to victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. **You will find the box throughout Lent in front of the lectern.**

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our sick parishioners and friends: 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, Margaret Johns, 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, and/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 01438-285518 or 07884-187463; Princess Alexandra, Fr Slawek Jedrych 01279-426017



Our parish's **Growing in Faith** season runs January–Easter, with our chance, along with all Westminster Catholics, to support the needs of the local Church.

The aim of *Growing in Faith* is three-fold:

1. To build up parish life.*
2. To support priests' welfare, in particular the funding of priestly training for our many seminarians; and care for those priests in retirement and sickness.
3. To further the work of our diocesan *Caritas* which promotes initiatives for the poor, needy and vulnerable in our diocese.

* **Our local parish project is a very important one: to employ a part-time parish catechist** to add to the great work already going on at St Augustine's in First Holy Communion and Confirmation, RCIA etc. by wonderful volunteers. There are so many other opportunities for catechesis and work amongst the youth & young adults of our parish which we could begin through a new employee. **Please think of making a contribution via the pledge forms available alongside this week's Announcer. Thank you!**

www.rcdow.org.uk/growing-in-faith

CATECHETICS

FIRST-HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: the next meeting for parents will be **Wed 23rd April** from 8–9pm in the crypt. The next meeting for the children will be on **Saturday 26th April at 10am.**

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: The Reconciliation Service will be on **Mon 28th April 7–8pm** for candidates and parents in the church. Four priests will be available, so that both candidates and parents can all avail themselves of the Sacrament.

“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 15th April at 7pm.**

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL are holding a car-boot sale on **Sat 3rd May**. Doors open for sellers at 11; and buyers from 1pm until 4pm. Cars £7, and vans £10. Entrance is 50p. For more information email lauraklydon@hotmail.co.uk.

MISCELLANEOUS

GIFT AID: We will soon be putting in a Gift Aid claim for the tax paid by parishioners on donations to the church in the year ending 5 April 2014. If you have signed a Gift-Aid form previously and are still paying UK tax, you do not need to take any action. If you are paying enough UK tax and have not yet signed a Gift Aid form you can still do so and it will apply to the previous year as well as future years. Provided you give by envelope or standing order this will enable the parish to reclaim 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to yourself. Gift-Aid forms are available beside the newsletters at the back of church. However, **if you have previously signed a Gift Aid form and have now stopped paying tax you will need to let the parish know.** If you have any queries or concerns about Gift Aid, please contact Bill Pollard, 461315.

THE ENGLISH & WELSH BRANCH OF THE CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

(www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org) will be launched **Fri 9th May, 10:30am–3pm** in Westminster Cathedral Hall, SW1P 1EP. Any grandparents wishing to represent the parish at the launch should contact edmundadamus@rcdow.org.uk or 020-7798-9363 as soon as possible as space is limited.

200 CLUB winner for April was Mrs M Zwager, no 3. Congratulations!

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2014: flyers are now available for the diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage — a special 25th annual pilgrimage! — with the Cardinal to the Marian shrine of Lourdes. Fr Philip will be going, as usual (staying at Metropole Hotel), and it would be lovely if this year a group of parishioners would want to come too. If there are parishioners who would need a certain degree of medical/nursing/personal care whilst in Lourdes, then this can be arranged through the special ‘St Frai’ accommodation. **Please pick up a flyer from alongside the parish newsletters now.**

DIOCESAN HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2014: Cardinal Vincent invites you to join him on the 4th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 17th–25th Nov 2014. Price: £1495 per person sharing a room; £275 single room supplement. For further details and a booking form contact Gerald Daly at the Diocesan Pilgrimage Office: 020-7798-9173, email: geraldaly@rcdow.org.uk or Gill Didino at Tangney Tours, 01732-886666.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip would like to continue meeting 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: 27th April, 4th and 11th May.

CHURCH CLEANING: Michele & Pele De Luca and Bianca Aguilon. Thank you!

Masses this week

Sat 12th April

9.30am Stations of the Cross

10am Mass **Ray Clucas's Intention**

6.30pm* **John & Frances Woolsgrove**

Sun 13th April PALM SUNDAY

9.15am **Thomas Lawlor RIP Anniv**

11.15am **For the Parish**

3.30pm Italian Mass ‡

Mon 14th April MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass **John O'Reilly RIP**

Tues 15th April TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass **Roy Clucas Int**

Wed 16th April WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass **Maria Teresa DiStefano** — followed by coffee in the crypt

Thurs 17th April MAUNDY THURSDAY

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

5.30pm Italian Liturgy and Confessions

8.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper For the Parish

9.30–Midnight Praying at the Altar of Repose

Fri 18th April GOOD FRIDAY

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+; fasting for those aged 16-60)

9.45am Morning Prayer 10am Stations of the Cross

3.00pm CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

5.00pm Italian Stations of the Cross

7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Sat 19th April HOLY SATURDAY

9.45am Morning Prayer

9.00pm* Mass of the Easter Vigil Priest's Int's

Sun 20th April EASTER SUNDAY

9.15am** **For the Parish**

11.15am** **John & Frances Woolsgrove**

3.30pm NO Italian Mass ‡

***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

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1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4–7

I did not cover my face against insult, I know I shall not be shamed.

Psalms 21 — My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11

He humbled himself; but God raised him high.

Gospel Accl: **Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

Gospel: The Passion according to Matthew 26: 14–27:66

PREFACE TODAY: Passion (p. 73)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

EASTER SUNDAY

1st Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37–43

2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 1–4

Gospel: John 20:1–9

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.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.

**Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust
Registered Charity No. 233699**

REGULAR EVENTS

Tues 15th

1.30pm Guild tea and a chat crypt

Tues 15th

7pm RCIA, presbytery

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.*