

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

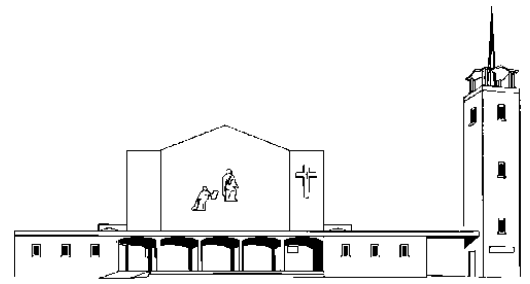
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(<http://yofhomilies.wordpress.com>)



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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

6TH APRIL 2014

GOSPEL: John 11: 1–45

I am the resurrection and the life.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE WELCOME OUR AUXILIARY BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON to our parish this weekend for his visitation. Bishop John will be celebrating the parish Masses and preaching to us and meeting us over the weekend. We are thankful to God for his kind and diligent ministry to the parishes and priests of Hertfordshire since his arrival here in September 2011.

A THIRD GREAT PASSAGE FOR LENT FROM ST JOHN, recounting the awesome event of the raising of Lazarus, forms our Gospel passage for this Sunday. After the long dialogues we've heard over the past two Sundays — Jesus with the woman at the well; and then with the man born blind — Jesus today speaks at length to the sisters of Lazarus, Martha and Mary, and reveals to them His power over human life and death. Lazarus's 'raising' is a resuscitation — a further spell of mortal life — and yet it prefigures the wonder of Jesus's own, glorious, eternal resurrection on Easter Sunday after His death on the Cross.

OUR GROWING IN FAITH CAMPAIGN is now entering its final phase, and so I do appeal to you to make your final decisions re your commitment to the scheme, if you are able. So far, 70+ households in the parish have made their contribution, and in generous fashion. I know that many of you still do intend to make a contribution — I just ask that you do now fill in your pledge form and return it to the Presbytery (or to the 'Growing in Faith' box in the church porch). If another 50–100 households, say, were able to make a pledge of something like £30/month for the 5 years of the campaign, then we would reach our parish goal with ease, and be able to seek the employed parish catechist we desire. Every contribution, large or small, is welcome; but we do need those who are financially able to give a more sizeable gift, and to be generous at this time. If you haven't had a pledge form yet, then volunteers will be able to hand you one as you leave Mass this Sunday. I am grateful to you all for taking forward our parish's spiritual life in this way.

May God bless our parish as we move nearer the saving events of Holy Week!

Fr Philip



From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 16:



In fidelity to conscience, Christians are joined with the rest of men in the search for truth, and for the genuine solution to the numerous problems which arise in the life of individuals from social relationships. Hence the more right conscience holds sway, the more persons and groups turn aside from blind choice and strive to be guided by the objective norms of morality. Conscience frequently errs from invincible ignorance without losing its dignity. The same cannot be said for a man who cares but little for truth and goodness, or for a conscience which by degrees grows practically sightless as a result of habitual sin.

PRAYER & LITURGY

SALVATORE RUSSO of Tregelles Road has died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 9th April at 12.30pm.** *May he rest in peace.*

HOLY WEEK:

PALM SUNDAY 13th April: Blessing of the Palms will take place at every Mass. **Please note the 9.15am Mass will begin at 9am with the blessing of the Palms in the parish garden by the grotto.** We will then process from the garden to church

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 11.15am.

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

In addition to the regular times for Confession, there will be the additional availability of the Sacrament:

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

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:
BISHOPS STORTFORD: Friday 11th April 7.30pm
WARE: 10th April 7.30pm Adults; 12th April 10am children and families
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.

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

PARISH "PENANCE" FOR LENT: in Lent, we will have no final hymn at Sunday Mass, and then we will **keep silence** in the body of the church, so as to allow a period of prayer for those who wish to remain after Mass in Thanksgiving. Please abide by this!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: the "Way of the Cross" followed in church each Friday (12.30pm, after Mass) & Saturday (9.30am, before Mass.) Stations of the Cross in Italian each Friday at 5pm.

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.**

LENT LUNCHES held every Tues during Lent at Barclay Hall (St Catherine & St Paul's church hall) at 12.15pm for £3. **Fr Philip is speaking on 8th April.** **Our team of helpers needs to arrive at 10.30am.**

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 included with 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 8th April at 7pm**.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

CAFOD: The amount collected for March was £324.50. Thank you to all who made donations.

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 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 wish to do so, or have any queries or concerns about Gift Aid, please contact Bill Pollard, 01992-461315.

PLANNED-GIVING BOXES for new financial year available from the back of church this weekend.

THANK YOU: the Ruggiero & Miragliotta families would like to thank you for all of your continued support and overwhelming participation and kindness. The walk on the 2nd March was a huge success and we were taken aback by the number of people that showed up to support and participate in the event. Your continued support has helped us raise an incredible amount of £14,689.10 which will be divided between the two charities. The generous support of the community we are part of makes it possible for both charities to exist, and both families are proud to be part of this community.

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: 13th April.

CHURCH CLEANING: Judy Livingstone, Elena Sachaj and Eddie and Eileen Linford. Thank you!

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 5th April 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Corinne Camilleri-Ferrante RIP</p>	<p>PAGE 170 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Ezekiel 37: 12–14 <i>I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.</i></p> <p>Psalm 129 — With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Romans 8: 8–11 <i>The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!</p> <p>Gospel: John 11: 1–45 <i>I am the resurrection and the life.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Raising of Lazarus (p. 72) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: ad lib.</p> <p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4–7 2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11 Gospel: Matthew 26:14–27:66</p>
<p>6.30pm* Dennis Dempsey RIP</p> <p>Sun 6th April FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** Aidan & Owen Doyle RIP Anniv 11.15am** Paolo Conti RIP 3.30pm Italian Mass † 5pm Latin Mass For the Parish</p>	<p>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at <i>any other time.</i></p> <p>ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
<p>Mon 7th April 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Deceased members of Mezzullo & Mercurio Families</p> <p>Tues 8th April 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Terry Mcntyre RIP</p> <p>Wed 9th April 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Anna & Giuseppe Chiparo RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt 12.30pm Funeral Salvatore Russo RIP</p> <p>Thurs 10th April 9.15am Mass Pat Walsh's Intention</p> <p>Fri 11th April <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Phyllis Lawlor RIP 12.30pm Stations of the Cross</p> <p>Sat 12th April 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Roy Clucas's Intention</p>	<p>*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)</p>
<p>6.30pm* John & Frances Woolsgrove</p>	<p>REGULAR EVENTS</p> <p>Tues 8th 2-3.30pm Ascent, crypt Tues 8th 7pm RCIA, presbytery</p> <p>Wed 9th 6pm Brownies, crypt</p>
<p>Sun 13th April PALM SUNDAY 9.15am** Thomas Lawlor 11.15am** For the Parish 3.30pm Italian Mass †</p>	

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.*