

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

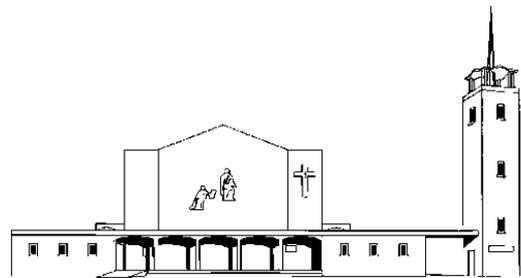
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(<http://yofhomilies.wordpress.com>)



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 IN ORDINARY TIME

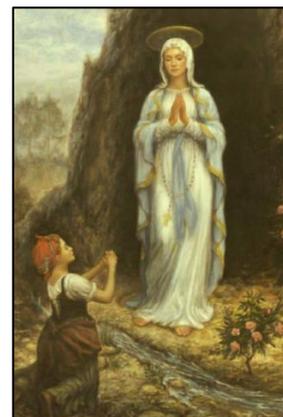
9th FEBRUARY 2014

GOSPEL: Matthew 5: 13–16

You are the light of the world.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

ON TUESDAY — 11th FEBRUARY — WE KEEP THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES and this gives me the opportunity to say something about Lourdes, and also to advertise to you the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes which the diocese organises at the end of July. Our Lady appeared to St Bernadette first on 11th February 1858 in the poor little village of Lourdes in the foothills of the Pyrenees. She appeared to her a total of 18 times over the next few weeks, and asked Bernadette to get the Church to build a chapel there and to ask the people to come in procession to pray and do penance. These apparitions led to Lourdes becoming one of the greatest shrines in the Catholic world, with millions of pilgrims going there each year.



Our diocesan pilgrimage, led by the Archbishop, is having its 25th trip this year! It runs from Sunday 20th to Saturday 26th July, and is a very blessed opportunity. There is a special facility — the *Accueil Marie St Frai* — where pilgrims needing some nursing care can also be looked by our own doctors/nurses/helpers, after so they can participate in the pilgrimage. If you would like to see more about the diocesan pilgrimage from previous years, then take a look at <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/lourdes/>. As soon as application forms are available for this year's pilgrimage, I will place them by the newsletters.

OUR GROWING IN FAITH CAMPAIGN — our parish's contribution to the diocesan scheme to support our parishes, our priests, and our diocesan *Caritas* (caring for the poor and needy) — is now well under way. I am immensely thankful for the ways in which those I have already met in the parish one-to-one have listened and responded to the needs for which the campaign is fundraising, to take our parish and our diocese more confidently into the coming couple of decades. Our parish, along with some 25 or 30 others, is taking part in *Growing in Faith* in this season (Jan–Easter), and by the end of 2014 all the diocese's parishes will have made their contribution. Our own parish will benefit, please God, by the local project detailed inside the Newsletter. *** **On the evening of March 12th Bishop John Sherrington** will come and explain further about the campaign *** and give us all the opportunity to ask questions and consider giving to the scheme. Drinks and nibbles will be provided so we can mingle and chat with the bishop afterwards.

May God bless us this week and may Our Lady's prayers help us to be holy.

Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 12:



But what is man? About himself he has expressed, and continues to express, many divergent and even contradictory opinions. In these he often exalts himself as the absolute measure of all things or debases himself to the point of despair. The result is doubt and anxiety. The Church certainly understands these problems. Endowed with light from

God, she can offer solutions to them, so that man's true situation can be portrayed and his defects explained, while at the same time his dignity and destiny are justly acknowledged.

PRAYER & LITURGY

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK 7th–14th February: at the 6.30pm Mass **this Saturday 8th Feb** couples will be invited to renew their marriage vows during the Mass and there will be prayers of thanksgiving for the sacrament of Matrimony. After Mass, there will be a shared table supper for all in the crypt. Please come along if you are free; bring a plate or two of food and something to drink – everyone is welcome.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR is held on the third Sunday of each month. It will next take place 5pm on **Sunday 16th February**. This is an evening of Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday evening of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **Friday 21st February**. 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!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: More helpers are needed to assist at the 11.15am Mass. If you can help please contact Claire Hay 07971-063520.

ARCHBISHOP'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE: The Archbishop invites all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th+ wedding anniversary to a Mass on **Saturday 7th June at 3pm**. If you qualify, please contact the presbytery with the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) **by the 28th February**.

MASS INTENTIONS: Please note that Saturday evening/Sunday Mass intentions are now booked up until July. Mass intentions for weekdays are far less booked up; many possible dates are free.

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



We began our **Growing in Faith** season recently, with the letter from Archbishop Vincent. If you missed the letter, then further copies are available by the Newsletters (on yellow sheets). We will focus on **Growing in Faith** up to Easter here in Hoddesdon.

The aim of *Growing in Faith* is to provide three-fold support for the work of the Catholic Church in our diocese and parishes:

1. To build up parish life.*
2. To support priests' welfare, in particular the funding of priestly training for our nearly-40 seminarians; and the care for those priests in retirement and sickness.
3. To further the work of our diocesan *Caritas* (<http://rcdow.org.uk/caritas/>) which work 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 many other opportunities for catechesis and work amongst the youth & young adults of our parish which we could begin through a new employee.**

Fr Philip is gradually sharing this vision with more parishioners, but please contact him if you would like to know more sooner!

*** BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON WILL VISIT US RE **GROWING IN FAITH** ON 12TH MARCH ***

<http://rcdow.org.uk/growing-in-faith/> — has more information and a video message from the Archbishop.

CATECHETICS

FIRST-HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Please note the next meeting for parents will not be until **Wed 23rd April** from 8–9pm in the crypt. The next meeting for the children will be on **Saturday 15th March at 10am**.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: The next meeting will be on **Monday 24th February 7–9pm** for candidates and parents. **If any candidate did not collect a letter after the session last Monday, please do contact the presbytery immediately.**

“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 11th February at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Monday 3rd and Friday 14th March** from **7.30pm-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

TRAIDCRAFT: Raise cash by recycling trash! Here is a way to dispose of used mobile phones and printer cartridges (not Epson). When mobiles are binned they end up in landfill sites where toxic contamination can be caused. Plastics used in a typical printer cartridge can take up to 1000 years to decompose. At the back of church is a collection box for you to dispose of these items. Many thanks to those who have done so. Money raised from this will go to support *Traidcraft*, providing business skills and expertise to producers of crafts and foodstuffs in poor countries overseas.

SCHOOLS

ST CROSS SCHOOL is celebrating this year its 80th Anniversary. To mark this great milestone the school want to develop a Jubilee Peace Garden within their grounds. In order to achieve this, the school will be relying on voluntary contributions for the materials, seating, plants and a commemorative focus. If you would like to help by making a donation, please do contact the school on 467309.

MISCELLANEOUS

RETROUVAILLE – a lifeline for troubled marriages: The next programme begins on the **28th March** at a hotel in Hatfield. If your marriage is in difficulty, or you have already separated, please contact Clive and Kathy Jones on 07973-380443 to discuss in complete confidence how you can be helped to bring healing and a fresh start to your marriage.

STANDING ORDER: If you are currently using the offertory envelopes, to make life easier, you may wish to consider changing over to standing order instead. If you wish to do so, please collect a form from the back of the church, the presbytery or alternatively you can email the parish office hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk, or download one from the parish website under ‘Donate to Our Parish.’

WEEKEND RETREAT for men will be held from **25th-27th July** at High Leigh Conference Centre. The retreat will be led by Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, the Preacher to the Papal Household. Booking forms should be sent off as soon as possible and can be

found at the back of the church. For further details visit <http://www.harvesters.org.uk>. Fr Cantalamessa is an *outstanding* preacher, and even gives the retreats to the Pope at the Vatican! Really worth being there to hear him!

SPONSORED 10KM WALK will be held on **Sunday 2nd March** to raise funds for the **Nadia Miragliotta** Brighter Future Fund and the **Daniela Ruggiero** Scholarship Fund. Entrance is £5 (payable before the 14th Feb). You will need to meet at 9.30am for 10am start. The route will be from Hoddesdon Clock Tower into Stanstead Abbots, onto Amwell Hill and along the main road past Van Hages, stopping off at the cemetery and finishing at Hoddesdon Clock Tower. The walk is open to all however, children will have to be with an adult and it is hoped that everyone can stick together. For further info, or if you would like to sponsor/make a contribution, e-mail mruggiero@playfairpartnerships.com. At the evening Mass the night before (Sat 1st March, 6.30pm) there will be a little rite of blessing at the end of Mass for those taking part in the walk.

200 CLUB: The winner for January is no 61 — Ms J Leighfield. Congratulations!

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: 16th February and 2nd March.

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

11th FEBRUARY

O ever Immaculate Virgin, Mother of Mercy, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comforter of the afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings; look with mercy upon me. By appearing in the Grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, whence you dispense your favours; and already many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal. I come, therefore, with complete confidence to implore your maternal intercession. Obtain, O loving Mother, the grant of my requests. Through gratitude for your favours, I will endeavour to imitate your virtues, that I may one day share your glory. Amen.



Masses this week		Today's Liturgy	
Sat 8th February 10am Mass <i>Phyllis Lawlor RIP</i>		PAGE 133 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 58: 7–10 <i>Then will your light shine like the dawn.</i> Psalm 111 — The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright. 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 1–5 <i>During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus as the crucified Christ.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Matthew 5: 13–16 <i>You are the light of the world.</i>	
6.30pm* <i>Bridget & Martin Moriarty RIP</i>			
Sun 9th FEB FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am ** <i>Maria & Onofrio Panepinto RIP Anniv</i> 3.30pm Italian Mass ‡		PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no 5 (p. 69) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)	
Mon 10th Feb ST SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Gerard Anderson RIP</i>		NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15: 15–20 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 6–10 Gospel: Matthew 5: 17–37	
Tues 11th Feb OUR LADY OF LOURDES 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Michael Feury RIP Anniv</i>			
Wed 12th Feb 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Carmela De Luca RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt		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.	
Thurs 13th Feb 9.15am Mass <i>Liz Littler RIP</i>			
Fri 14th Feb STS CYRIL, Monk & METHODIUS, Bishop <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Peter Yee RIP Anniv</i>		ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.	
Sat 15th February 10am Mass <i>Mrs Renehen RIP</i>			
6.30pm* <i>For the Parish</i>		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.	
Sun 16th Feb 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** <i>Edward McGrath RIP Anniv</i> 11.15am** <i>Daniela Ruggiero RIP</i> 3.30pm Italian Mass ‡ 5.00pm Holy Hour			
** 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)			
REGULAR EVENTS			
Tues 11th	2-3.30pm Ascent, crypt	Wed 12th	6pm Brownies, crypt
Tues 11th	7pm RCIA, presbytery	Sun 16th	5pm Holy Hour

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.*