

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

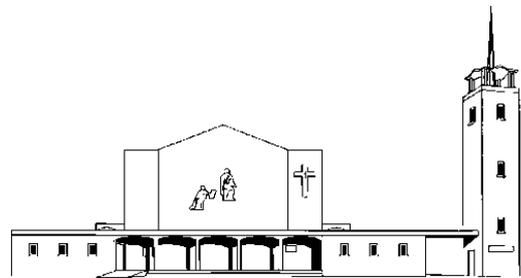
The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 27th JULY 2014

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL FOCUSES ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Jesus referred to the Kingdom of God as a hidden treasure, a box filled with golden coins buried somewhere in a field. Likewise, He spoke of the Kingdom as a precious pearl, a jewel found by a businessman who astutely sold everything he owned in order to buy it. He spoke too of the Kingdom as fishing net filled with fish both good and bad. Later, He referred to the Kingdom as leaven in dough, as light, salt and seed. Likewise, He called it a ripe harvest, a royal feast and a wedding banquet.

What is the kingdom of God for us in our everyday terms, as we live our lives here in the world? How do we identify and describe God's kingdom here on earth? Some think of the Kingdom as a remote and distant heaven in another world at the end of life. Others think it's an ideal political and economic order. Some think that the Kingdom is exclusively God's business, not ours, and we have only to wait and receive it from God's hands. Some identify the Kingdom as the Church, what's inside the Church is the Kingdom, what's outside the Church is not part of God's Kingdom.

God's Kingdom is God's desire for human life, the expression of His will that your life, and those who live in your life, might be filled with His joy, His love, His mercy, His justice, His truth and His peace. In God's kingdom there is joy and happiness as expressed in the Lord's prayer.

Jesus was recognised as the Son of God because those around Him were filled with joy, newness of life as demonstrated in His miracles, signs of the arrival and reign of God's kingdom.

People should enjoy good life in God's kingdom and so Jesus cried: "Stop being deaf! That's no good. Hear! Stop being blind! That's no good. See! Stop being crippled. That's no good. Move! Stop being mute. That's no good. Speak!" The kingdom of God is within your reach, embrace it and you will have good life. I have come to give them life abundantly.

GRATITUDE: I am grateful to Fr Philip for having invited me to cover him while on holiday and to all you dear friends for your warm welcome, kindness and hospitality. May God reward you abundantly.

Fr John Baptist.

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 24:



The Lord Jesus, when He prayed to the Father, "that all may be one ... as we are one" opened up vistas closed to human reason, for He implied a certain likeness between the union of the divine Persons, and the unity of God's sons in truth and charity. This likeness reveals that man, who is the only creature on earth which God willed for itself, cannot fully find

himself except through a sincere gift of himself.

PRAYER & LITURGY

ROSARIA GIARDINA PAPA RIP of Ashfield Nursery, Goffs Oak died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. **The funeral will be on Friday 1st August at 2pm with Don Antonio.** *May she rest in peace.*

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at **7.30pm on Friday 1st August.** This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, which is always prayed for the pro-life cause.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION is on **Friday 15th August** for the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be Mass at 9.15am, 12 noon and 8pm. If you are a reader, Minister of Holy Communion or altar server and can assist at the Masses, please do sign your name on the lists at the back of the church.

SUNDAY MASS ON HOLIDAY: Even when on holiday we are bound to attend Sunday Mass every weekend, whether we are in this country or abroad. If you need help in locating a church in another part of this country, please feel free to phone the Presbytery and we'll happily look it up for you in the Catholic directory.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR is held on the third Sunday of each month. It will next take place at 5pm **Sunday 17th August** (There will be no Holy Hour in July). Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a Scriptural reflection.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP: Please note there will be no meeting in July or August, but the group will resume again on **Thursday 25th September** at 1.30pm in the presbytery. All are welcome to join.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday evening of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **Friday 19th September.** 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!

ITALIAN MASS: Please note that there will be NO Italian Mass now until **Sunday 21st September.**

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, 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 Sławek Jedrych 01279-426017



Our parish's **Growing in Faith** season has run from January–Easter, giving us the chance, along with all Westminster Catholics, to support the needs of the local Church.

So far we have received committed pledges of **£173,000** (£42,000 for parish), but there are still parishioners who have indicated that they wish to give, but have not yet filled in pledge forms. I urge that they do so at the earliest opportunity in order for us to be sure of reaching our target, so we can move on to seeking an employee with confidence.

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 PRAY that the right person can now be sought.**

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

CATECHETICS

FIRST-HOLY-COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The photos are now available to view online at Amwell Studios at www.amwellstudios.co.uk. Click on online galleries and then St Augustine's First Holy Communion. The user name is *staugustine* and the password is either 220614 or 290614.

CONFIRMATION: The next session will be held on **Monday 15th September** from 7–8.30pm in the crypt for candidates and parents.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Wednesday 10th and 17th September** 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.

“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 will begin on 9th September at 7pm** but if anyone is considering becoming a Catholic (or is an adult Catholic who wishes to be confirmed), please contact Fr Philip soon. There are also some green leaflets outlining RCIA by the newsletters.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

COMBATting EUTHANASIA: Please make your voice heard against the newly re-introduced Bill to legalize euthanasia/assisted suicide. 1. By signing the online petition at: www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/david-cameron-follow-through-on-your-declared-support-for-the-idea-that-assisted-dying-should-not-be-legalised. 2. By writing to our MP, Mr Charles Walker at his Westminster e-mail address: charles.walker.mp@parliament.uk. 3. By writing to some member(s) of the House of Lords (see today’s insert sheet on yellow paper).

PRO-LIFE PRISONER: You may recall that Fr Philip spoke about his friend Mary Wagner at Christmas and asked parishioners to send her Christmas cards as she was in prison after a peaceful protest. Mary has now been released from prison and would like to thank all her supporters for their prayers and other offerings. You can read Mary’s letter at <http://www.lifesitenews.com/pulse/mary-wagner-thanks-supporters-in-heart-warming-letter>.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his visits after his summer holidays.

CHURCH WINDOWS: If you do open any windows in the church, can you please ensure that you shut them before leaving the church as the rain and birds can cause a lot of damage. Thank you.

CHURCH: Please note that the church may be closed at various times due to the holidays.

BROXBORNE FOODBANK will be collecting food at Morrisons in Hoddesdon **on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th August**. Please email volunteerfoodbank1@gmail.com or phone Elaine Batten on 01992 428926 if you can help.

FR JOSEPH THAYIL MATHEW has been appointed Assistant Priest to the Brook Green parish alongside

continuing his ministry among the Syro-Malabar-rite community. He will move to his new residence at the beginning of September. **On St Augustine’s Day (28th August) we will have a reception in the garden after 10am Mass, and wish Fr Joseph all the best in his new posting.**

QUIZ NIGHT in aid of The Daniela Ruggiero Scholarship Fund has now been changed to **Friday 26th September** due to holidays. It will be held in the crypt and please join us for a night of fun, £5 per head – payable on the night – bring your own refreshments & nibbles. Start time 7.30pm. Please call Vicky Lee-Lozone on 07747-485023 or 01279-862688 to reserve a table. If you are unable to make it but would like to make a donation either cash or a bottle for the winning team then please drop that in at the presbytery.

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK DAY FOR LIFE PRAYER



Holy Mary,
Mother of Love, holding in your arms, the fruit of your womb,
Graciously look upon our earth and remove from it all that hardens our hearts and dims our eyes to the preciousness of human life, from the moment of conception to natural death.
Through the example of your tenderness teach us the ways of compassion and love that we may build up the civilisation of love among us and a society that is truly worthy of the human person.
Help us to reject all that contributes to a culture of death, and to work with others of goodwill in promoting the culture of life.
Bring us ever closer to your Son, so that we may know the fullness of life that he offers us and come to know that life more perfectly, with you, and all the angels and saints, in the eternal life of Heaven. Amen.

Masses this week

Sat 26th July Sts **JOACHIM & ANNE**, Parents of Blessed Virgin Mary

10am Mass *Luigi Maio RIP & Francesca Tranquillo RIP*

6.30pm* *For the Parish*

Sun 27th July 17TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.15am** *Patrick Fannell RIP Anniv*

11.15am** *Enrico Rega RIP*

3.30pm NO Italian Mass ‡

Mon 28th July

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Giuseppe Palminteri RIP*

Tues 29th July ST MARTHA

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Terry McIntyre RIP*

Wed 30th July

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Salvatore Russo RIP* — followed by coffee in the crypt

Thurs 31st July ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, Priest

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Maria Pereira Luiz Pires RIP*

Fri 1st August ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP & Dr

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)

11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction

12 noon Mass *Reg & Ivy Gifford RIP*

2pm Funeral *Rosaria Giardina Papa RIP*

7.30pm Mass *Franco Martorana RIP & Calogero Amico RIP*

8.00pm Holy Hour

Sat 2nd August

10am Mass *Silvestro Filocco RIP*

6.30pm* *James McGahern Snr, James McGahern Jnr, Rosie Ann & Philomena McGahern & Michael Page RIP*

Sun 3rd August 18TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.15am** *Maria & Salvatore Insalaco RIP*

11.15am** *Teresa Maria Lucia Martorana*

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: 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12

You have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself.

Psalm 118 — Lord, how I love your law!

2nd Reading: Romans 8: 28-30

God intended us to become true images of his Son.

Gospel Accl: *Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!*

Gospel: Matthew 13: 44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

PREFACE TODAY: ad lib.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: ad lib.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-3

2nd Reading: Romans 8: 35, 37-39

Gospel: Matthew 14: 13-21

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 29th 2-3.30pm Ascent, crypt

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.*