

# The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

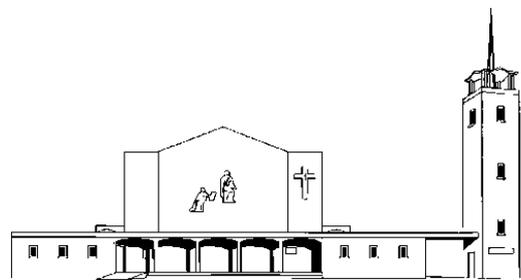
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(<http://yofhomilies.wordpress.com>)



**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**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014**

GOSPEL: Matthew 17: 1–9

*His face shone like the sun.*

**My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,**

**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) — has now reached a new stage, and this weekend during the homily I will be explaining the essential need for it as we extend our request to the wider parish community. Over 100 households in the parish have already heard directly about the scheme, and many who are in a position to do so have — like myself — generously made a pledge or are considering doing so, and I am so thankful to them for having led the way.

The needs of the Church being funded by **Growing in Faith** are detailed in the **postal packs** that the rest of the parish will be receiving in these days, and which you can peruse at home. I do ask that you look over the material carefully, and consider if you are in a financial position to support the parish and the diocese at this time. Our own 'parish project' is truly to enable us to "grow in faith," because it is to fund a part-time parish catechetical co-ordinator, to allow us to reach out beyond what we are already doing, and engage new parishioners in their life of faith. I dearly hope that the bulk of the parish will get behind this project, to enable the parish to have a new 'lease of life.' Pope Francis has called on us insistently in *Evangelii Gaudium* not to be complacent in our parish ministry and our evangelization: our projects within *Growing in Faith* are precisely to achieve this wonderful outreach.

If you have received a postal pack in these days, you should receive a phone call from myself or one of your fellow parishioners shortly, to follow up and answer any questions you may have. Please pray about your involvement, and decide in conscience if you can support the programme financially, and at what level. Most donors are spreading their giving over 5 years to allow an affordable monthly amount to grow into a sizeable donation. Thank you for all your generosity!

**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. 14:**



Now, man is not wrong when he regards himself as superior to bodily concerns, and as more than a speck of nature or a nameless constituent of the city of man. For by his interior qualities he outstrips the whole sum of mere things. He plunges into the depths of reality whenever he enters into his own heart; God, Who probes the heart, awaits him there; there he discerns his proper destiny beneath the eyes of God. Thus, when he recognizes in himself a spiritual and immortal soul, he is not being mocked by a fantasy born only of physical or social influences, but is rather laying hold of the proper truth of the matter.

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**SUNDAY HOLY HOUR** is held on the third Sunday of each month. It will next take place 5pm **this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March**. Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a Scriptural reflection.

**FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday evening of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March**. 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

**'IDEAS FOR LENT 2014'** — which I made available to you last Sunday — may be found alongside the Newsletters again this week (pink sheets) for those of you who missed a copy. Also on parish website.

**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.

**"COME FOLLOW ME"** the diocesan faith-sharing booklet will look at the "Joy of the Gospel." The booklet is now available from the back of the church by the newspapers for £1.50. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

**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.**

**CAFOD LENT FAST DAY** was last Friday, **and the envelopes will be handed out and collected this weekend** after all Masses. If you are a tax payer, please don't forget to gift-aid your donations. Tonight 1 in 8 of us will go to bed hungry. For some, finding food is a daily struggle. CAFOD is working with poor communities around the world on our behalf, so they can put food on the table. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. **Please give as generously as you can, so that hunger doesn't remain a fact of life.**

**LENT LUNCHESES** will be held every Tuesday during Lent at Barclay Hall (St Catherine & St Paul's Anglican church hall) at 12.15pm for £3. **Fr Philip will be the speaker on 8<sup>th</sup> April so our team of helpers need 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, 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 the 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.

[www.rcdow.org.uk/growing-in-faith](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/growing-in-faith)

## CATECHETICS

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

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME:** next meeting will be on **Mon 24<sup>th</sup> March 7–9pm** for candidates and parents in the crypt.

**“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 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm.**

### SCHOOLS

**ST AUGUSTINE’S NURSERY APPLICATIONS 2014:** Applications for children due to start nursery places in Sept 2014, those born between 01/09/2010 and 31/08/2011, are open **Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 21<sup>st</sup> March.** Applications must be made to School and Herts CC [www.hertsdirect.org/nurseryadmissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/nurseryadmissions). Application form available from the school office or to download from school website. Please return completed form with a copy of Baptism certificate to the school office before **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014.**

**200 CLUB RENEWALS** take place after Masses on **this weekend.** Any new members can speak to one of the St Augustine’s Under 5’s committee or contact Theresa Casbard on 301551.

**UNDER-5’s PAMPER NIGHT:** Playgroup is holding a fundraising Ladies’ Pamper Night on **Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> March from 7pm.** There will be a number of different therapists available offering manicures, facials, massages and more. Tickets £3 in advance/£3.50 on the door. Please call in at playgroup or call Irayna on 07805-542576.

**ST CROSS SCHOOL** are holding a pop quiz night, **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7.30pm.** Bring your own drinks and nibbles, £5 entry. Teams of 6-8 people, either bring a team or join one on the night. You can buy tickets on the night but please email us if you are planning on coming to friends@stcross.herts.sch.uk.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**PLANNED-GIVING BOXES:** boxes for new financial year available from this weekend. It costs a lot to send them out, so please remember to collect your box after Mass. If you would like to make a new request for envelopes, please see a member of the finance committee at the back of the church.

**RETROUVAILLE – a lifeline for troubled marriages:** The next programme begins on the **28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk), or download one from the parish website under ‘Donate to Our Parish.’

**DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2014:** flyers are now available for the diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage — a special 25<sup>th</sup> annual pilgrimage! — with the Cardinal to the Marian shrine of Lourdes. 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 us to join him on the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy land. 17<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014. During the pilgrimage you will follow Jesus’ footsteps from Galilee to Jerusalem and on to Bethlehem. 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: Tel: 020 7798 9173 email: [geraldaly@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:geraldaly@rcdow.org.uk) or Gill Didino at Tangney Tours Tel: 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: 13<sup>th</sup> April.

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

### SAINT OF THE WEEK

*ST PATRICK — 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH*

St Patrick was born around 385 and as a boy of 14 was captured during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. During his captivity, he turned to God in prayer and his captivity lasted until he was 20. He escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found sailors who took him back to Britain. He began his studies for the priesthood and was later ordained a bishop and was sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years and worked many miracles. After years of living in poverty, he died on March 17<sup>th</sup> 461 at Saul, where he built the first church.



## Masses this week

### Sat 15<sup>th</sup> March

9.30am Stations of the Cross  
10am Mass **Gaetano Martorana**

6.30pm\* **Denis O'Donovan & William Phelan RIP**

### Sun 16<sup>th</sup> March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9.15am\*\* **For the Parish**  
11.15am\*\* **Patrick Murphy RIP**  
3.30pm Italian Mass †  
5pm Adoration, Evening Prayer & Benediction

### Mon 17<sup>th</sup> March ST PATRICK, Bishop

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer  
9.15am Mass **Michael Stickland RIP**

### Tues 18<sup>th</sup> March

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer  
9.15am Mass **Kathleen Gemmell RIP**

### Wed 19<sup>th</sup> March ST JOSEPH, Husband of Our Lady

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer  
9.15am Mass **Erick & Mollie Field RIP Anniv** — followed  
by coffee in the crypt  
11am **Funeral Delia Virgo RIP**

### Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> March

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer  
9.15am Mass **Emilio Russo RIP**

### Fri 21<sup>st</sup> March

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)  
11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction  
12 noon Mass **Michael Finn RIP**  
12.30pm Stations of the Cross

### Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> March

9.30am Stations of the Cross  
10am Mass **Roy Clucas's Ints**

6.30pm\* **Pasquale Ricotta RIP**

### Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> March THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

9.15am\*\* **Margaret & Peter White RIP Anniv**  
11.15am\*\* **For the Parish**  
3.30pm 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

**PAGE 155 in the Mass books**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Genesis 12: 1–4

*The call of Abraham, father of the People of God.*

**Psalm 32 — May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 2 Timothy 1: 8–10

*God calls and enlightens us.*

Gospel Accl: **Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 17: 1–9

*His face shone like the sun.*

**PREFACE TODAY:** Transfiguration (p. 72)

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:** no. 2 (p. 25)

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Exodus 17: 3–7

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 5: 1–2, 5–8

**Gospel:** John 4: 5–42

### 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

**Tues 18<sup>th</sup>** 1.30pm Guild tea & chat presbytery

**Tues 18<sup>th</sup>** 7pm RCIA, presbytery

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup>** 6pm Brownies, crypt

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup>** 7.30pm All Saints

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