

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

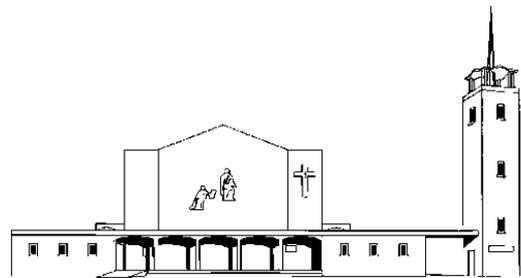
The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

Tel: 01992 440986 Fax: 01992 440244

Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

(<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 EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2ND MARCH 2014

GOSPEL: Matthew 6: 24–34 *Do not worry about tomorrow.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

OUR FINAL GOSPEL PASSAGE THIS SUNDAY FROM THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT reminds us forcefully that we are in God's hands. "Do not worry," says Jesus — knowing, of course, that we do have the tendency to worry about all sorts of things! Ultimately, our life is determined by God, and it is to Him that we must always turn, seeking His direction for our life, and not our own. Most importantly, the Lord reminds us that we are not to be slaves of money! We need the use of money to live, but we must not get so caught up in its pursuit as to lose all sight of the real aims of life: to love God, love our neighbour, and get to heaven!

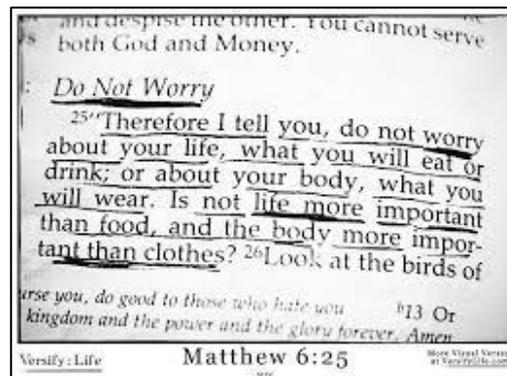
LENT WILL SOON BE UPON US — our annual chance to get our priorities right once more, and to place the Lord at the heart of our lives. Lent begins this Wednesday with Mass and the distribution of ashes, marking our penitence and our intention to co-operate anew with God's grace. Please make every effort to come to Mass this Wednesday and to begin Lent well in the sight of God:

MASS & ASHES: Wed 5th March, 9.30am (with Primary Schools), 12noon, 8pm

I THANK YOU FOR SUPPORT FOR THE GROWING IN FAITH CAMPAIGN and am extremely grateful that some parishioners are assisting me in the task of reaching out into the parish to share it, inviting your involvement. If you get a request to have a visit from a parishioner, do be generous in letting them come to fill you in on *Growing in Faith* and what we can do with the money raised. If you have already kindly offered to contribute financially to the campaign, but have not yet returned your pledge form, I would be grateful to receive it soon, so we can have some idea how we are faring in respect to our goal. *** **On the evening of March 12th (8pm) Bishop John Sherrington** — our auxiliary bishop in Hertfordshire — will come and address an open meeting of the parish, and explain further about the campaign, and answer questions. Please keep this date free to hear and meet the bishop. ***

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. 13:



What divine revelation makes known to us agrees with experience.

Examining his heart, man finds that he has inclinations toward evil too, and is engulfed by manifold ills which cannot come from his good

Creator. Often refusing to acknowledge God as his beginning, man has disrupted also his proper relationship to his own ultimate goal as well as

his whole relationship toward himself and others and all created things. Therefore man is split within himself. As a result, all of human life, whether individual or collective, shows itself to be a dramatic struggle between good and evil, between light and darkness. Indeed, man finds that by himself he is incapable of battling the assaults of evil successfully, so that everyone feels as though he is bound by chains. But the Lord Himself came to free and strengthen man, renewing him inwardly and casting out that "prince of this world" who held him in the bondage of sin. For sin has diminished man, blocking his path to fulfillment.

PRAYER & LITURGY

TERRY MCINTYRE RIP of Osborne Road, Broxbourne died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. **The funeral will be on Friday 7th March at 12 noon.** His body will be received into the church the night before, with a short vigil of prayer, 7.30pm Thursday 6th. *May he rest in peace.*

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at **7.30pm on Friday 7th March.** This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, which is always prayed for the pro-life causes.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR is held on the third Sunday of each month. It will next take place 5pm **Sunday 16th March.** 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 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!

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

LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY is on **5th March** and Mass will be at 9.30am (with both schools) 12 noon and 8pm. If you are a Eucharistic Minister, reader or altar server and can assist at the Masses, please sign your name on the lists at the back of the church. **Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting (for those aged 16–60) and abstinence (for those aged 14+).** This means that we consciously choose to eat less – one main meal only and that (as on all Fridays) we eat no meat whatsoever.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: the “Way of the Cross” is followed in church each Friday (12.30pm, after Mass, except 7 March) & Saturday (9.30am, before Mass.) And in Italian at 5.30pm each Thursday.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is on **Friday 7th March.** The services will be at St Cuthbert's, Whitley Rd, 10am for 10.30am start, and at St Laurence, Church Lane, Wormley at 7.30pm for 8pm start. Please come to support this event.

“**LENT EXTRA**” booklets with daily Lent meditations are now available to buy for £1.50 by the newspapers. Please place your money in the newspaper box. **Fr Philip has contributed to this issue with the Holy Week reflections!**

“**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. The booklet can be

used by individuals as well as groups. If you would like to run/join a group, please do sign the lists at the back of the church.

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 8th April so our team of helpers need to arrive at 10.30am.**

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, 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 from January–Easter, with our opportunity, along with all the Catholics of the Diocese, 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** (<http://rcdow.org.uk/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.

Fr Philip is gradually sharing this vision one-to-one with more parishioners, and starting this coming week, some other parish volunteers will also begin to share the needs of the fundraising with you.

*** BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON WILL VISIT US
RE **GROWING IN FAITH** ON 12TH MARCH 8PM —
PLEASE KEEP THIS DATE FREE! ***

<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 10th March 7–8.30pm (please note earlier finish time)** for candidates only.

“**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 March at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Monday 3rd and Friday 14th March** from **7.30pm–9pm** in the crypt. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 24th Feb – 9th March: **St Cross School** is hosting The Big Brew, to be held in the hall on **Friday 7th March, from 1.30 - 3.00pm.** £1 suggested donation for entry, a cup of tea and biscuit. All are welcome!

As a Fairtrade Parish, we endeavour 1) to serve Fairtrade coffee and tea at Parish events; 2) set up a stall of *Traidcraft* products at the back of church on

a regular basis; and 3) promote Fairtrade goods during Fairtrade Fortnight. This helps us be aware of the injustices of unfair trading in the developing world, and of the work of the Fairtrade Foundation providing better opportunities. (See noticeboard)

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 10th Feb – Fri 21st March.** Applications must be made to School and Herts CC 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 21st March 2014.

200 CLUB RENEWALS take place after Masses on **15th/16th March.** Any new members can speak to one of the St Augustine's Under 5's committee or contact Theresa Casbard on 301551.

MISCELLANEOUS

MARY WAGNER — Fr Philip's acquaintance in a Toronto jail for spreading a gentle pro-life message to those at risk of aborting their babies — has written to us with great thanks for the kindness of some of our parishioners for sending her a Christmas card. In total she received over 1000 items of mail. Let us keep her in our prayers in her incarceration.

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.

DIOCESAN HOLY-LAND PILGRIMAGE 2014:

Cardinal Vincent invites us to join him on the 4th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy land. 17th – 25th 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 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: 2nd, 16th and 30th March.

CHURCH CLEANING: Filomena Mezzullo, Dave & Kathy Greenall, Maria Ventura and Theresa Casbard. Thank you!

Masses this week		Today's Liturgy	
Sat 1st March ST DAVID, Bishop, Patron of Wales 10am Mass <i>Phyllis Lawlor RIP</i>		PAGE 142 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 49: 14–15 <i>I will never forget you.</i> Psalm 61 — In God alone is my soul at rest. 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 4: 1–5 <i>The Lord will reveal the secret intentions of men's hearts.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Matthew 6: 24–34 <i>Do not worry about tomorrow.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 8 (p. 70) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28) NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 1st Reading: Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1–7 2nd Reading: Romans 5: 12–19 Gospel: Matthew 4: 1–11	
6.30pm* <i>Salvatore, Maria & Giuseppe Tona</i> Sun 2nd March 8TH SUN IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</i> 11.15am ** <i>Francesco Cannatella RIP</i> 3.30pm Italian Mass † 5.00pm Latin Mass <i>For the Parish</i>			
Mon 3rd March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Georgiou Azzopardi RIP</i> Tues 4th March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Mr and Mrs Francis's intentions</i> Wed 5th March ASH WEDNESDAY <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+; fasting for those aged 16-60)</i> 8.15am Adoration 9.30am Mass with schools <i>Peggy & Michael Bartlett RIP</i> 12 noon Mass <i>Deceased members of Mezzullo & Mercurio Families</i> 8.00pm Mass <i>Francis McCarthy RIP</i> Thurs 6th March 9.15am Mass <i>Roy Clucas's Intention</i> Fri 7th March WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Funeral Terry McIntyre RIP 7.30pm Mass <i>Michael Hay RIP</i> 8.00pm Holy Hour Sat 8th March 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>Joseph & Mary Murphy RIP</i> 6.30pm* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 9th March FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** <i>Deborah & Anthony Convey</i> 11.15am** <i>Dennis Lynch RIP</i> 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)		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			
Mon 3rd 7.30pm Baptism Course, crypt Tues 4th 1.30pm Guild Tea & Chat		Wed 5th 6pm Brownies, 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 ciascuna 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**