

# The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

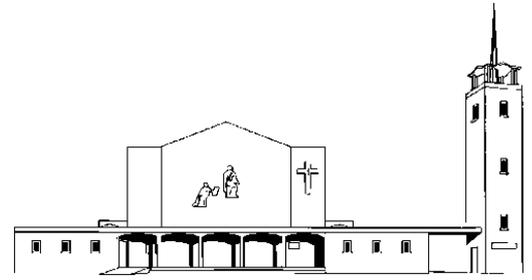
The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

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

GOSPEL: John 9: 1–41

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

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

**A SECOND GREAT PASSAGE FOR LENT FROM ST JOHN**, recounting the cure of the man born blind, forms our Gospel passage for this Sunday. Again it is a long meditation on conversion to Jesus, "the Light of the World." The man not only receives his sight, but grows in faith, even against the opposition of those around him, who despise him.

**OUR GROWING IN FAITH CAMPAIGN** has now been widened to embrace the whole parish, and most households in the parish should have received a postal pack\* to give more information on our parish's contribution to the diocesan scheme to support our **parishes**, our **priests**, and our **diocesan Caritas**. [\* IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE A POSTAL PACK for **Growing in Faith**, please take from the spare A4 packs available by the Newsletters.]

We are blessed to have been able already to raise in pledges over £100,000 from the first households who have contributed, which means that we are half way to our parish goal of £200,000. But this still means that we need *many generous and valuable contributions from the rest of the parish* to realise our dream of being able to afford to employ a part-time parish catechist for, say, 5 years: if we are able to get to our target, then as a parish we will retain £62,000 of the donations. I urge you, when you have read the information provided, to weigh up your own possible contribution to the scheme. There are 'pledge forms' included again with this week's Newsletter, on which you can record your intended level of giving — this is not a formal binding contract, of course, but a statement of intent; as the donor you are always in control of the gift, and can raise or lower your giving at any point if future circumstances change. Most donors are, like myself, spreading their giving over 5 years to allow an affordable monthly amount. Please — if you are able to give — return the pledge forms to the Presbytery in the next week or so, so we can keep abreast of our approach to the parish goal.

**BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON** — our auxiliary bishop in Hertfordshire — will be with us for the whole of next weekend for a parish visitation. He will celebrate, and preach at, the Sunday Masses. I do ask that plenty of altar servers make the effort to serve (and arrive early!) next weekend.

**May God bless the mothers of our parish today for a happy Mothering Sunday!**

**Fr Philip**

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



In the depths of his conscience, man detects a law which he does not impose upon himself, but which holds him to obedience. Always summoning him to love good and avoid evil, the voice of conscience when necessary speaks to his heart: do this, shun that. For man has in his heart a law written by God; to obey it is the very dignity of man; according to it he will be judged. Conscience is the most secret core and sanctuary of a man. There he is alone with God, Whose voice echoes in his depths. In a wonderful manner conscience reveals that law which is fulfilled by love of God and neighbour.



## PRAYER & LITURGY

**GAETANO CHIAZZA** has died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. **His funeral will be on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> at 12 noon with Don Antonio.**

**SALVATORE RUSSO** of Tregelles Road has died recently. His funeral arrangements will be announced when arranged. *May they rest in peace.*

**FIRST FRIDAY:** The first Friday Mass will be at **7.30pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April.** This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, prayed for the pro-life cause.

**LATIN MASS:** The monthly Latin Mass, with sung chants, will be at **5.00pm Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April.**

### HOLY WEEK – advanced notice of times:

**PALM SUNDAY** 13<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> April: CHRISM MASS at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** 17<sup>th</sup> April  
**8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
9.30–Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 18<sup>th</sup> 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:** 19<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30am and 7.30pm. Several priests available on these occasions.**

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:  
BISHOPS STORTFORD: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm  
WARE: 10<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm Adults; 12<sup>th</sup> April 10am children and families  
WALTHAM CROSS: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 8pm  
HERTFORD parish (tel. 582019) has many extra confessions during Holy Week.

**SUNDAY HOLY HOUR** is held on the third Sunday of each month. It will next take place 5pm **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May.** 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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

'**IDEAS FOR LENT 2014**' may be found alongside the Newsletters again this week (pink sheets) if you previously 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.

**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 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, 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](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:** The Reconciliation Service will be on **Mon 28<sup>th</sup> April 7–8pm** for candidates and parents in the church.

**“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 1<sup>st</sup> April at 7pm.**

### SCHOOLS

**ST CROSS SCHOOL** are performing their Easter production in school on **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 7pm.** Dress rehearsal 2pm. All welcome.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** are performing their Easter production in church on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 7pm.** Dress rehearsal 2pm. All welcome.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** are holding a car-boot sale on **Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> May.** Doors open for sellers at 11; and buyers from 1pm until 4pm. Cars £7, and vans

£10. Entrance is 50p. For more information email [lauraklydon@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lauraklydon@hotmail.co.uk).

### JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

**CAFOD:** Many thanks to all who so generously donated and those helping with the talk and distributing/collection of envelopes for the Family Fast Day collection. Remember Lent in 2012 when you raised an astonishing £9 million, which was doubled by the government? Your generosity has helped to make toilets for people living with disabilities in Bangladesh. It has also installed storage tanks that collect rainwater for over 3,000 children and 78 teachers in one of the world's poorest countries: South Sudan

### MISCELLANEOUS

**PARISH ACCOUNTS 2013:** a summary of the parish accounts for 2013, alongside a schedule of our parish's charitable giving for 2013, is available for inspection on the blue boards at the S. end of the church porch.

**PLANNED-GIVING BOXES** for new financial year available from the back of church this weekend. It costs a lot to post 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 by the table for the envelopes.

**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. Fr Philip will be going, as usual, 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 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 17<sup>th</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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: 13<sup>th</sup> April.

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

## Masses this week

### Sat 29th March

9.30am Stations of the Cross

10am Mass **Roy Clucas's Ints**

6.30pm\* **Eva Cowley-Freeman RIP Anniv**

### Sun 30th March FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

9.15am\*\* **For the Parish**

11.15am\*\* **Frances Woolsgrove & Eileen**

**Sweeney RIP**

3.30pm Italian Mass †

5pm Syro-Malabar-rite Mass (Fr Joseph)

### Mon 31st March

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass **Terry McIntyre RIP**

12 noon Funeral **Gaetano Chiazza RIP**

### Tues 1st April

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass **Phyllis Lawlor RIP**

### Wed 2nd April

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass **Peter Barton RIP** — followed by coffee in the crypt

### Thurs 3rd April

9.15am Mass **Mr and Mrs Harrison Golden Wedding**

### Fri 4th April

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)

11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction

12 noon Mass **Roy Clucas's Ints**

12.30pm Stations of the Cross

7.30pm Mass **Justina Ogbodu RIP** 8.00pm Holy Hour

### Sat 5th April

9.30am Stations of the Cross

10am Mass **Corinne Camilleri-Ferrante RIP**

6.30pm\* **Dennis Dempsey RIP**

### 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**

**\*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 164 in the Mass books**

**1st Reading:** 1 Samuel 16: 1, 6–7, 10–13

*David is anointed King of Israel.*

**Psalm 22 — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

**2nd Reading:** Ephesians 5: 8–14

*Rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you.*

Gospel Accl: **Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!**

**Gospel:** John 9: 1–41

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

**PREFACE TODAY:** Man born Blind (p. 72)

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:** no. 1 (p. 18)

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**1st Reading:** Ezekiel 37: 12–14

**2nd Reading:** Romans 8: 8–11

**Gospel:** John 11: 1–45

### 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.

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust  
Registered Charity No. 233699

### REGULAR EVENTS

**Tues 1st** 1.30pm Guild tea and chat, crypt

**Tues 1st** 7pm RCIA, presbytery

**Wed 2nd** 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 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.*