

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

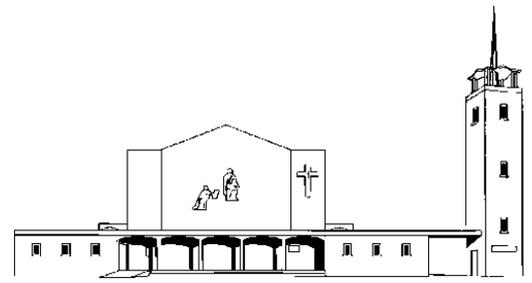
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Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

Secretary: Dawn Bates (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am–3pm)

Also in residence: Fr Joseph Thayil Mathew (chaplain to Syro-Malabar-rite Catholics)

Year A

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9th MARCH 2014

GOSPEL: Matthew 4: 1–11

Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

OUR JOURNEY TO EASTER HAS BEGUN, WITH LENT'S START ON ASH WEDNESDAY. Our Lord's 40 days in the wilderness — days of fasting and prayer, and resistance to the devil's temptations — we hear of in today's Gospel passage. And it is these 40 days which we imitate in our own fast of Lent. We should engage with this season by fasting, prayer and almsgiving, and take this seriously as a time to grow closer to the Lord. The better we keep Lent, the better we will be ready for the joyous celebration of Easter!



Last weekend we heard the Cardinal talk about the Pope's recent document, *Evangelii Gaudium* ("The Joy of the Gospel"). In the coming weeks, we will be able to sample his teaching through a series of inserts (purple pages). These will take us through the Sunday Gospels for Lent and connect them with the desire of the Pope that we manifest the joy of the Gospel and be the Lord's active, willing, faithful "missionary disciples," taking the Gospel joyfully to others.

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 crucial stage, and within the next week or so, I will be widening its reach, so that everyone who has not yet had a chance to hear about it one-to-one will be able to. As a part of this, I invite everyone in the parish to come and meet our auxiliary bishop in Hertfordshire,

*** * Bishop John Sherrington on Wednesday evening March 12th (8pm) * ***

He will come and address an open meeting of the parish in the crypt, and explain further about the *Growing in Faith* 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. Please let's show our unity as a parish in coming to meet Bishop Sherrington this Wed.

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:



Though made of body and soul, man is one. Through his bodily composition he gathers to himself the elements of the material world; thus they reach their crown through him, and through him raise their voice in free praise of the Creator. For this reason man is not allowed to despise his bodily life, rather he is obliged to regard his body as good and honourable since God has created it and will raise it up on the last day. Nevertheless, wounded by sin, man experiences rebellious stirrings in his body. But the very dignity of man postulates that man glorify God in his body and forbid it to serve the evil inclinations of his heart.

PRAYER & LITURGY

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

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.

"**LENT EXTRA**" booklets with daily Lent meditations are now available to buy. All last week's copies sold out, but 20 more are now provided! Just £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.

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 is this coming **Friday 14th March** and the envelopes will be handed out and collected **next weekend** after all Masses. If you are a tax payer, please don't forget to gift-aid your donations.

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.**

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.

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

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: next meeting will be on **Mon 10th March 7–8.30pm** for candidates only. NOTE SHORTER TIME ALLOCATION.

“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: Second part of the course will be held **Fri 14th March 7.30pm-9pm** in the church.

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.

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

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.’

SPONSORED WALK FOR NADIA & DANIELA: We wanted to write to say thank you for the blessing at the end of Mass last Saturday Evening. Thankfully the weather on Sunday 2nd remained dry until the walk was completed. There was a fantastic turnout and both families were over whelmed by the amount of support we received from the local community. Can we ask that if possible all sponsorship money be handed in on or before March 14th. Once again thank you. Stephanie & Mike Miragliotta, and Maria & Tony Ruggiero.

THE 200 CLUB WINNERS for March are: First prize no. 141, Mr R M Cookson. Second prize no. 71, Mrs S Brown. Third prize no. 126, Mrs M Lee-Lozone. Congratulations to them all!

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: 13th April.

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK



LENT FAST DAY PRAYER

Giver of life, from tiny seeds and parched earth Your gentle hand grows richest fruit. Reveal to us, Creator God, the seeds within us; moisten the soil that our neglect has made dry. For alone we lack the vision of Your Kingdom. Alone, we fail to recognise the hungry in our midst. Alone, we lack the strength to fulfil Your purpose. With Your inspiring love, Redeemer of all, may the shoots of our potential break free and our hands, voices and spirits toil in communion so that Your garden of plenty can be shared by all. Amen.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 8th March 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>Joseph & Mary Murphy RIP</i>	<p align="center">PAGE 151 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Genesis 2: 7–9, 3: 1–7 <i>The creation and sin of our first parents.</i></p> <p>Psalm 50 — Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Romans 5: 12–19 <i>However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!</i></p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 4: 1–11 <i>Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Temptation of Lord (p. 71) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)</p> <p align="center">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</p> <p>1st Reading: Genesis 12: 1–4 2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1: 8–10 Gospel: Matthew 17: 1–9</p>
6.30pm* For the Parish 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 ‡	<p align="center">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> <p align="center">Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.</p> <p align="center">ROSARY</p> <p>Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p align="center">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> <p>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.</p>
Mon 10th March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Dulcie Cowley-Freeman RIP Anniv</i> 11.45am Funeral <i>Margaret Fowler RIP</i>	
Tues 11th March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Roy Clucas's intentions</i>	
Wed 12th March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Jim O'Brien RIP</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt	
Thurs 13th March 9.15am Mass <i>Milly Yarwood RIP Anniv</i>	
Fri 14th March CAFOD LENT FAST DAY <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Megan Marie-Louise RIP</i> 12.30pm Stations of the Cross	
Sat 15th March 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>Gaetano Martorana</i>	
6.30pm* Denis O'Donovan & William Phelan RIP Sun 16th March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am** <i>Patrick Murphy RIP</i> 3.30pm Italian Mass ‡	
<p align="center">*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)</p>	

REGULAR EVENTS			
Mon 10th	7pm Confirmation, crypt	Wed 12th	6pm Brownies, crypt
Tues 11th	2-3.30pm Ascent, presbytery	Fri 14th	7.30pm Baptism course
Tues 11th	7pm RCIA, presbytery	Sat 15th	10am 1 st HC session

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**