

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

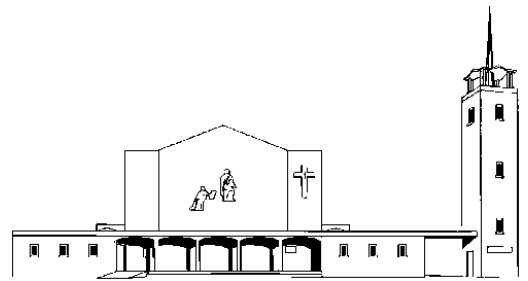
The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

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



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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

Year A

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

14TH SEPT 2014

GOSPEL: John 3: 13–17

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

SOME FEASTS OF THE CHURCH'S YEAR — SUCH AS TODAY'S, 'THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS' — replace the ordinary Sunday liturgy, and take precedence.

So, this Sunday being the 14th September, we celebrate this feast of Jesus's holy Cross, on which He won the victory for us. It's at a diametrically opposite side of the year to Good Friday, this feast, and suddenly brings back to mind the events of Passiontide. We reflect on the suffering of the Lord as He bore His Cross to Calvary, and on His willingness to die for our salvation. Jesus's death on the Cross was not so much an execution, as a sacrifice: He could easily have escaped the misery of the Cross, had He so wished, by His *power* as God; but His *divine love* for us would not let Him. He offers His life on the 'altar' of the Cross, raised up as a sign for all mankind that this is the extent to which God loves us: that He would die for us. When we see the Host at Mass — the Body of Christ — lifted high for adoration after the consecration, we should always think of Jesus lifted up on the Cross.

The origin of this feast is in the unearthing of various relics of the Cross by the Empress St Helena, mother of Constantine, when she visited the Holy Land to erect various shrines at the holy places. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, built over the locations of the Crucifixion and Resurrection, was dedicated — supposedly on this date — in 335AD. The relic of the True Cross, housed there, became an object of great devotion, understandably, and is the origin of our venerating the wood of the Cross together on each Good Friday. Another event linked to this feast is the recovery of the relic, in 629AD, after the Persians had stolen it from Jerusalem in 614. The then emperor, dressed as a barefoot pilgrim, himself carried it back in to the Holy Sepulchre church.

St Cross School also keeps this as their feast-day, so we congratulate them on their special day — Mass was celebrated for this feast, in school, on Friday. May the academic year ahead be very blessed for all the members of St Cross School and its wider community.

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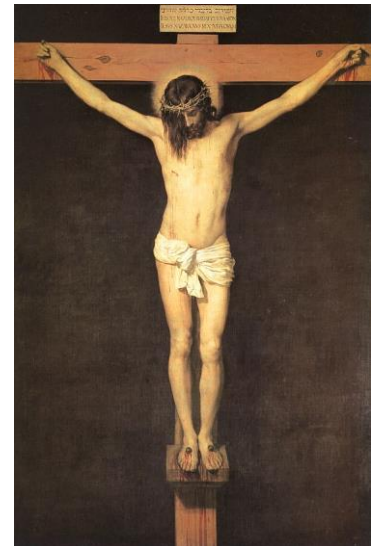
May we fall down in praise of the Lord Jesus, lifted high on the Cross for us!

Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 29:



All men are endowed with a rational soul and are created in God's image; they have the same nature and origin and, being redeemed in Christ, they enjoy the same divine calling and destiny; there is here a basic equality between all men and it must be given greater recognition. Undoubtedly not all men are alike as regards physical capacity and intellectual and moral powers. But forms of social or cultural discrimination in basic personal rights on the grounds of sex, race, colour, social conditions, language or religion must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design.



PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Gabriella Hillier baptised this weekend.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS to Giuseppe Castiglione and Felicia Filocco married here in the church this weekend. May God bless them in their married life.

FRANCESCO ACQUISTO RIP of Walton Road died recently. His funeral is on **Wednesday 17th September at 12 noon**. Our sympathies go out to his family. *May he rest in peace.*

THURSDAY MASS: now that Fr Joseph has moved, there cannot always be Mass each Thursday, so please check the Newsletter weekly with regard to Mass on a Thursday.

MASS: On **Friday 19th** at **9.30am** there will be Mass in church with St Augustine's School. There will still be the 12 noon Mass.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **Friday 19th September**. A semi-formal quiet hour in the Lady Chapel to reflect on Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord. All welcome!

NEW ALTAR SERVERS: Children (any age) who have at least made their First Holy Communion and wish to become altar servers, please contact the presbytery so that training can be arranged.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR: third Sunday of each month. It will next take place at 5pm **Sunday 21st September**. Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a Scriptural reflection.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP: the group will resume again on **Thurs 25th Sept** at 1.30pm in the presbytery. All are welcome to join.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION/READERS: The next rota for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for the period Oct 2014 – Jan 2015 is being drawn up. Can you please let Pat Kavanagh know of any dates that you are **NOT** available during this period by 24th September at the latest (final date). Please also advise of any changes in personal details plus provide details of your email address (for sending out future rotas). Please either telephone 449282 or e-mail patandcarolkav@btinternet.com.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Please note there will now be no Children's Liturgy at the 11.15am Mass, and efforts will be concentrated on 9.15am Children's Liturgy.

MASS INTENTIONS: Please note that Saturday

evening/Sunday Mass intentions are now booked right up to and including Christmas. Mass intentions for weekdays are far less booked up; many possible dates are free.

3.30 ITALIAN MASS resumes on **Sun 21st Sept**.

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, Joseph Penheiro, Peter Tanner and Sylvia Mullick.

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 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.

Prior to the summer we had received committed pledges of **£173,000** (leading to £42,000 for the parish project). It is still important and necessary that we top up this amount, and Fr Philip asks those who are able to, especially those who committed to pledging back at the 'commitment weekend' but have not yet returned their official pledge form, to do so soon. Pledge forms are still available in the porch, alongside the Newsletters.

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

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION: The next session will be held on **Monday 15th September** from 7–8.30pm in the crypt for candidates and parents. The candidates will need to have **read chapter one of the Gospel of Mark** (from the book they were given) before the meeting on the 15th.

BAPTISM COURSE: The second part of the course will be held on **Wednesday 17th September** from 7.30pm–9pm in the church.

FIRST-HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Application forms will be available to collect after all Masses this weekend. These are for children in Year 3 and above for the course of preparation for receiving First Confession and First Holy Communion. Forms will only be available after Sunday (or Saturday evening) Masses. **Please return the completed forms to the presbytery by Fri 26th September. The first meeting for parents will be on Wed 1st October from 8-9pm 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 16th 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. There are green leaflets outlining RCIA by the newsletters.

MARRIAGE COURSE: The next course is due to start imminently. Any couples that are hoping to marry next year will need to complete the course, so please do contact the presbytery.

JUSTICE & PEACE AND PRO-LIFE

BROXBOURNE FOODBANK A.G.M. takes place on **Wed 8th Oct** at St James’s church, Goffs Oak at 10am. All welcome, to hear about its work and think about getting more involved.

SCHOOLS

ST MARY’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL will be holding their Open Evening on **Tuesday 23rd September** 6–8.30pm. All parents with children in year 6 are most welcome to attend.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS to our Catholic Primary & Secondary schools requires the Parish Priest to provide a priest’s reference as testimony of **Catholic practice, i.e attendance, every week, at Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass.** This accords with the diocesan guidance for priests,

<http://www.rcdow.org.uk/fileupload/upload/prf4117200691341.pdf>. In order to help him be just and fair to the practising Catholics of our parish, Fr Philip will continue to adopt the pattern of occasionally in the next few months asking those who will require a priest’s form to be signed to come and see him briefly (each and every time he asks) after Sunday Mass. **This concerns those whose children are now in nursery-year and year 6 in 2014/15.**

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip intends to visit parish homes in the following streets this coming Wednesday afternoon: Highwood Road, Howfield Green, and Ware Road (odd nos.).

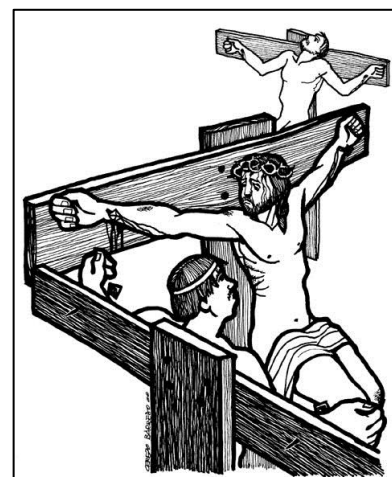
COFFEE MORNING will be held on **Friday 26th September** at 11am in the crypt in aid of MacMillan Cancer. Please do come along to support this worthwhile cause.

QUIZ NIGHT in aid of The Daniela Ruggiero Scholarship Fund is on **Friday 26th September** in the crypt. 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.

PARISH MAGAZINE: We hope to have the magazine available to purchase very shortly.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip thanks all the parish households to which he has been invited, and would like to meet 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: 21st, 28th September.

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



Masses this week

Sat 13th September ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, Bishop
10am Mass *Thomas Farrell*

6.30pm* For the Parish

Sun 14th Sept EXALTATION OF HOLY CROSS

9.15am** *John & Frances Woolsgrove RIP*

11.15am *Vincenzo & Grazia Castronovo RIP*

3.30pm NO Italian Mass †

Mon 15th September OUR LADY OF SORROWS

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Anne Smith's intentions*

Tues 16th Sept STS CORNELIUS, POPE & CYPRIAN

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *O'Driscoll, Dooley & Saunders Families and all travellers*

Wed 17th September

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Arthur & Ellen McCarten* — followed by coffee in the crypt

12 noon **Funeral** *Francesco Acquisto RIP*

Fri 19th September

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)

9.30am Mass in church with St Augustine's School

11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction

12 noon *Leonardo & Vincenza Palminteri RIP*

Sat 20th Sept STS ANDREW TIM TAE-GON, & COMPS

10am Mass *Pat Gudgin RIP*

6.30pm* Dennis Dempsey RIP

Sun 21st Sept 25TH SUN IN ORDINARY TIME

9.15am** *For the Parish*

11.15am *Antonio Martorana*

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 181 in the Mass books

1st Reading: Numbers 21: 4–9

If anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

Psalms 77 — Never forget the deeds of the Lord.

2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11

He humbled himself, therefore God raised him high.

Gospel Accl: *Alleluia, alleluia! We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you; because by your cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!*

Gospel: John 3: 13–17

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

PREFACE TODAY: Victory of the Cross (p. 70)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 27)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 6–9

2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 20–24, 27

Gospel: Matthew 20: 1–16

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

Mon 15th 7pm Confirmation, crypt

Tues 16th 1.30pm Guild tea and chat crypt

Tues 16th 7pm RCIA, presbytery

Wed 17th 6pm Brownies, crypt

Fri 19th 7.30pm Prayer group, church

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.*