

# The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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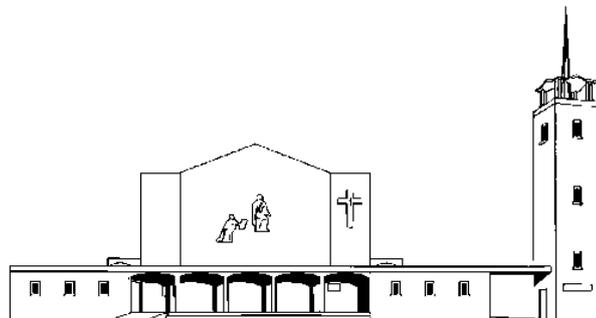
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[www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon)

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

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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



**Year B NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2015**

GOSPEL: John 6: 41-51

*I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.*

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

On these consecutive Sundays, we are reflecting on John's Gospel, which is about Jesus the "Bread of Life." This Sunday, the emphasis is on Jesus, the living bread which has come from heaven.

He is the Living Bread that came from Heaven. Through these words, Jesus was preparing the believers for the Last Supper that would introduce the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist in the Holy Catholic Church.

Many did not believe Jesus. They complained. They asked how could He have come down from Heaven when they knew that His father was Joseph and His mother was Mary. Many did not believe because they were not listening to what Jesus was revealing to them. They had worldly minds that were darkened, seeking to challenge every word that Jesus spoke, rather than listening. Through the hardening of their hearts, they were not spiritually disposed, and that prevented them from perceiving the truth.

It is the same today; there are some who do not hear any of the teachings of the Holy Catholic Church, because they are not listening. They are placing all their energies towards challenging every word, every authority, every doctrine that the church put across. Instead of listening to the teaching of the church, they put emphasis on science, technology and modern medicine which is not authentic all the time, but rather compromises medical ethics. Sometimes, it is necessary to remain silent and listen to the teaching of the church, then prayerfully reflect on what we have heard, allowing the grace of God to enlighten our hearts, so see the truth that God is always with us.

Indeed, we can trust that in Jesus, especially in the Eucharist that God is with us at all times and therefore, we can bless the Lord at all times. The Psalmist reminds us "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord." People of faith do that in the celebration of the Eucharist and the celebration of relationships with others. Those celebrations are not about how good we are, but the good we become in the community of faith when we participate in the celebration of Mass and partake in the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist.

Let us ask the Lord to give us a listening heart and embrace his word which can satisfy our hunger and quench our thirst.

**Fr John Baptist Kisembo.**

**From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 58:**



The Gospel of Christ constantly renews the life and culture of fallen man, it combats and removes the errors and evils resulting from the permanent allurements of sin. It never ceases to purify and elevate the morality of peoples. By riches coming from above, it makes fruitful, as it were from within, the spiritual qualities and traditions of every people of every age. It strengthens, perfects and restores them in Christ. Thus the Church, in the very fulfilment of her own function, stimulates and advances human and civic culture; by her action, also by her liturgy, she leads them toward interior liberty.

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH** Sienna Teoli who will be baptised this weekend.

**ITALIAN MASS:** Please note that there will be NO Italian Mass until **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September**.

**SUNDAY MASS ON HOLIDAY:** Even when on holiday we are bound to attend Sunday Mass every weekend, whether we are in this country or abroad. If you need help in locating a church in another part of this country, please feel free to phone the Presbytery and we'll happily look it up for you in the Catholic directory.

**FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting Sept 18<sup>th</sup>**. A semi-formal hour in the Lady Chapel to reflect together on Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord. All welcome!

**SUNDAY HOLY HOUR** (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September** with Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, and a Scriptural reflection.

**FUNERALS:** Fr Philip is now adopting a new routine at funerals. Any family tributes etc. will now take place *before* the beginning of the funeral Mass, immediately after the deceased's body has been brought in to church. This will help the Mass and funeral ceremonies flow better as liturgy, and also take away the drawn-out anxiety of those intending to speak.

### 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, Jenny Miller, Peter Tanner, Anne Smith, Maureen Fallon, Siobhan Fiorentini, Kitty O'Rourke & Michael Foley.*

**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. 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.

**Chaplains are: Lister, Jacqueline Humphreys 01438-285518 or 07884-187463; Princess Alexandra, Fr Leszek Gamracy 01279-426017**



Fr Philip thanks those who have donated to our 'Growing in Faith' initiative, to benefit both the diocese, and our own parish's project of employing a part-time catechetical co-ordinator. **We have raised pledges of c. £190k, to give our parish project, ultimately, a slice of c. £55k.**

On the parish noticeboard in the porch is a breakdown of how much we have already raised for the various diocesan and parish projects, with data up to the end of 2014. As for our own project of a parish catechist, Fr Philip is in discussion with the diocesan agencies, to try and locate a suitably qualified person for the post.

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

## CATECHETICS

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** photos now available to view online at Amwell Studios at [www.amwellstudios.co.uk](http://www.amwellstudios.co.uk). Click on online galleries and then St Augustine's First Holy Communion. The username is 'staugustine' and the password is either '210615' or '280615.'

**CONFIRMATION 2016:** The next session will be held on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September** from 7.15-8.45pm in the crypt for parents and candidates.

**"RCIA"** – '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 will begin 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm** but if anyone is considering becoming a Catholic (or is an adult Catholic wishing to be confirmed), please contact Fr Philip as soon as possible. There are green leaflets outlining RCIA by the newsletters.

**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next course will be held on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September** from 7.30-9pm in the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

## SCHOOLS

**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 will be in nursery-year and year 6 in 2015/16.** When Fr Philip last asked, there were 8 requests for references for Secondary School, and 3 requests for references for Primary School.

### **JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE**

**ASSISTED-SUICIDE BILL:** "On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September the House of Commons will debate and vote on a Bill to legalise assisted suicide. This will put the most vulnerable people in our society at risk. Please contact your MP, urging them to attend the debate and vote against the Bill. You can send an e-mail to your MP via the Catholic Bishops' Conference website ([www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide)) or send a letter by post, a draft of which can be found at the back of the Church. Even better, you could ask to see your MP and express your concerns directly." (Cardinal Vincent Nichols)

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

**HOUSE VISITS:** Fr Philip has now finished his second complete visitation of the homes within the bounds of the parish. He is grateful for all the welcome he has received, and all the opportunity to chat to parishioners at their homes. He will initiate a third round of visits, starting in the north of the parish, in September.

**SPARE ROSARIES:** The Catenian 'Rosary group' has been sending Rosaries to Aboriginals in Australia and to third world countries in Africa, but many more are needed. If you have any spare rosaries at home, please do drop them off to the Presbytery — or through the letter box by St Anthony's statue — so that we can pass them on to the Catenians.

**LADIES GUILD** has now finished for the summer and will resume again on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September.**

**CHARITY CONCERT:** The concert held on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July for Felsted Aid was a big success raising £561. Thank you to all who

attended and supported this very worthy charity. We need to spread the word even further next year. For the first year twenty people attended, year 2 thirty two, and this year 70 people had a most enjoyable evening, so it was a record attendance! Margaret Byrne.

**SUNDAY LUNCH:** Fr Philip would like to meet parishioners/families in their homes, as much as possible. Sunday lunch 1.30pm is a good (but by no means only) time. Free dates: 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Joanne Dawes, Lena & Carmela Tona and Giuseppina Tuzzeo. Thank you!

### **SAINT OF THE WEEK**

#### **ST LAWRENCE** **10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

St. Lawrence, one of the deacons of the Roman Church, was one of the victims of the persecution of Valerian in 258, like Pope Sixtus II. At the beginning of the month of August, 258, the emperor issued an edict, commanding that all bishops, priests, and deacons should immediately be put to death. On 6 August Pope Sixtus II was apprehended in one of the catacombs, and executed forthwith. Four days later, on the 10th of August, Lawrence, also suffered a martyr's death. St Ambrose relates that when St Lawrence was asked for the treasures of the church, he brought forward the poor, among whom he had divided the treasure, in place of alms; also that when Pope Sixtus II was led away to his death, he comforted Lawrence, who wished to share his martyrdom, by saying that he would follow him in three days. The saintly Bishop of Milan also states that St Lawrence was burned to death on a gridiron.



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Sat 8<sup>th</sup> August ST DOMINIC, Priest</b> 10am Mass <i>Kenneth Parker RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PAGE 117 in the Mass books</b></p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Kings 19: 4-8  <i>Strengthened by the food he walked until he reached the mountain of God.</i></p> <p><b>Psalms 33 — Taste and see that the Lord is good.</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Ephesians 4: 30-5: 2  <i>Follow Christ by loving as he loved you.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loved me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!</i></p> <p><b>Gospel:</b> John 6: 41-51  <i>I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.</i></p> <p><b>PREFACE TODAY:</b> ad lib.  <b>EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:</b> ad lib.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b>            ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Apocalypse 11: 19, 12:1-6,10  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26  <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 1: 39-56</p>
4.00pm*NO Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Franco Martorana RIP &amp; Calogero Amico RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b>            Saturday 10.30 – 11am &amp; 5.30 – 6.15pm            Sunday 8.30 – 9am &amp; 10.40 – 11am            or ask Fr Philip at any other time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROSARY</b>            Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b>            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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b>            Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.  <b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b>  <b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b></p>
<b>Sun 9<sup>th</sup> August 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> 9.15am <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am <i>Maria-Teresa Lucia Martorana RIP</i> †	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>REGULAR EVENTS</b></p>
<b>Mon 10<sup>th</sup> August ST LAWRENCE, Deacon &amp; Martyr</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Eddie Ogbodu Intention</i>	<p><b>NEWSLETTER ITEMS TO PRESBYTERY IN WRITING, BY FAX, OR E-MAIL BY 9AM THURS WITH YOUR NAME &amp; PHONE NO. —NEW PARISHIONERS</b> Please take a parish membership form &amp; information leaflet from the box attached to the notice board. The completed forms should be posted through the presbytery letterbox. <b>MOVING HOME?</b> Please post your new details through the presbytery letterbox. <b>PARROCCHIANI:</b> <i>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.</i></p>
<b>Tues 11<sup>th</sup> August ST CLARE, Virgin</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Bridget Daly RIP &amp; Kathleen Lee-Lozone RIP</i>	
<b>Wed 12<sup>th</sup> August</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Terry Cahill RIP Anniv</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt	
<b>Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Aug</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Deceased member of the Knivett Family</i>	
<b>Fri 14<sup>th</sup> August ST MAXIMILLIAN MARY KOLBE, Priest &amp; Martyr</b> <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Annie McIntyre RIP</i>	
<b>Sat 15<sup>th</sup> August</b> 10am Mass <i>Bernadette Munday RIP</i>	
4.00pm* NO Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>James McGahern Snr, James McGahern Jnr, Rosie Ann &amp; Philomena McGahern &amp; Michael Page RIP</i>	
<b>Sun 16<sup>th</sup> August ASSUMPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b> 9.15am <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am <i>Sheila Smith</i> †	
<p style="text-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>	