

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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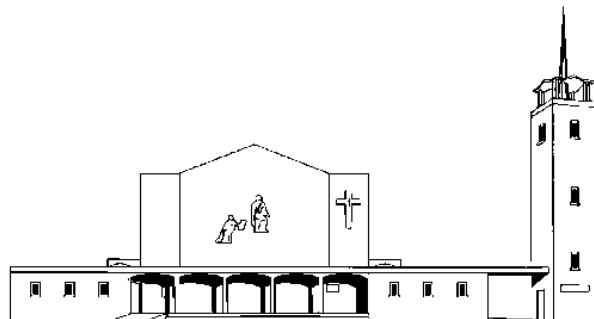
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

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

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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



Year C

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

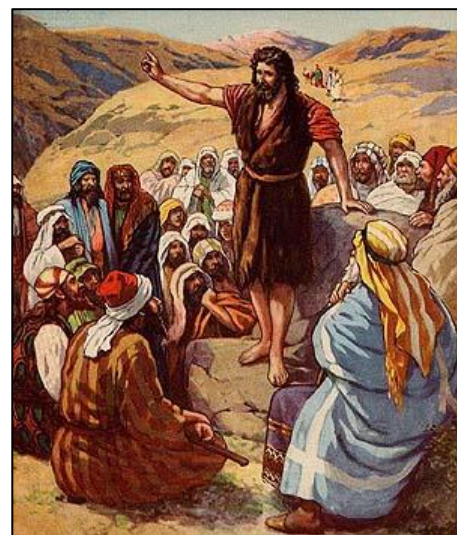
6TH DECEMBER 2015

GOSPEL: Luke 3: 1–6

All mankind shall see the salvation of God.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

AS WE CELEBRATE TODAY THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, with the message of John the Baptist's preaching repentance, we are pleased to have with us for 9.15am Mass Bishop John Sherrington, who has been our auxiliary bishop in Herts for four years. With the ordaining of new auxiliary bishops for the diocese next month, and some subsequent re-organisation, Bishop John will be transferred to caring for the parishes of the North-London area. We are sorry to lose him, as he has been a kind and dignified Shepherd for us over these years, but we are very happy that he is able to be with us today for a final visit to Hoddesdon.



FINAL CALL FOR TICKETS FOR "JINGLE ALL THE WAY," which is taking place **on Monday** to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas. Performed by RISE Theatre, it will take place in the church **7th December** 7.15–9pm. We are selling tickets again this weekend after Masses, and some tickets may be available on the door (£5 only). Please spread the word and come to support this!

THE JUBILEE 'YEAR OF MERCY' BEGINS THIS WEEK with Pope Francis's opening the Holy Door at St Peter's on 8th December. In our diocese, the Cardinal will open Westminster Cathedral's Holy Door at Vespers and Benediction at 3.30pm Sunday 13th December: all welcome. Those making a brief pilgrimage during the Year to the Cathedral Holy Door or the other Holy Doors in the Diocese may gain the Jubilee Indulgence for themselves or the Holy Souls. Our closest Holy Door is at **Waltham Cross** (Immaculate Conception and St Joseph) and on **Sunday 13th at 3.30pm** there will be a ceremony for the opening of that Holy Door, with Bishop Sherrington. The Cardinal has prepared **A Pilgrimage Companion for the Year of Mercy** by way of explanation, helping us to experience God's mercy to the full: **please pick up your copy, available in the porch** (£1 or donation). More information about events during the year, Holy Doors and the Indulgence is available on <http://rcdow.org.uk/year-of-mercy/>. May this Holy Year be for all, as Pope Francis wishes, "a true moment of encounter with the mercy of God."

We pray for the hope and peace that Advent should bring to us as we await the Lord. Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 78:

VATICAN II,
50 YEARS ON:
THE NEW
EVANGELIZATION

Peace is never attained once and for all, but must be built up ceaselessly. Moreover, since the human will is unsteady and wounded by sin, the achievement of peace requires a constant mastering of passions and the vigilance of lawful authority. ... A firm determination to respect other men and peoples and their dignity, as well as the studied practice of brotherhood are absolutely necessary for the establishment of peace. Hence peace is likewise the fruit of love, which goes beyond what justice can provide. That earthly peace which arises from love of neighbour symbolizes and results from the peace of Christ which radiates from God the Father.

PRAYER & LITURGY

ANNE FAGAN RIP of Riverside Avenue, Broxbourne died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. The Reception of her body into the church will be on Tuesday 8th December at 5pm and **her funeral will be on Wednesday 9th December at 9.15am.**

PAMELA TAYLOR RIP of The Hollies, Broxbourne died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. **Her funeral will be on Wed 23rd Dec at 11am.** *May they rest in peace.*

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting Dec 11th.** 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!

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS

JINGLE ALL THE WAY: We are delighted to welcome the professional Christian theatre company RISE Theatre, performing their brand new Christmas sketch show, 'Jingle all the way!' **this Monday 7th December at 7.15pm in the church.** 'Jingle all the way!' explores the true meaning of Christmas through a mix of comedy, drama, live music and Christmas Carols! Join us for a fun, entertaining and faith-filled evening for all the family! **Tickets (£5 only) available to buy after all weekend Masses.**

YEAR OF MERCY "A Pilgrimage Companion" books are available to buy for £1, or a donation, from the table at the back of church.

CAROL SERVICE: Our parish carol service will be held on **Sunday 20th December at 5.00pm** which will be followed by mince pies and refreshments in the crypt. Adult and young readers are needed, so if you are able to assist, please sign the list at the back of the church. **Volunteers are needed to help with the refreshments, so if you can help, please contact the presbytery.**

RECONCILIATION FOR CHRISTMAS: Our Parish Penitential Service will be on **Monday 21st December at 11.30am and 7.30pm.** Fr Philip will also hear confessions as much as possible after Sunday Masses in Advent. Penitential Services in other local parishes are:
WARE: Adults: Thursday 17th December 7.30pm
WALTHAM CROSS: Monday 21st Dec 8pm.
HERTFORD parish (tel. 582019) has extra confessions in the week before Christmas.

SCHOOL CAROLS: St Augustine's School is holding its Carol Service in church on **Thurs 10th**

Dec at 6.30pm. St Cross is holding its Carol Service on **Tues 15th Dec at 7pm.** All welcome.

MIDNIGHT MASS/CHRISTMAS DAY: If you are a Minister of Holy Communion, Reader or Altar Server and can assist at the Christmas Masses, please sign your name a.s.a.p. on the lists at the back of church.

EPIPHANY PARTY will be held on **Saturday 2nd January 2016** after the 6.30pm Mass in the crypt. We will have a shared meal and if you can bring either a sweet or savoury dish, please do sign your name on the list at the back of the church. Drinks provided by parish.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our sick parishioners and friends: *John Askew, Rosa Augello, Roberto Piacentini, Helen Sherman, Annette Pinto, Peter Tanner, Anne Smith, Siobhan Fiorentini and 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



On the noticeboard is now posted the most recent summary of our parish's 'Growing in Faith' donations, which 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.**

As yet we have not sourced anyone to take up the post of a parish catechist, but Fr Philip is in discussion with friends in the diocese who have experience in this area, to try and find a recommended and suitably qualified person for the post. Do pray that this can come about soon.

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

CATECHETICS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The fourth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 6th Jan 8–9pm** in the crypt. The fourth session for the children will be **Sat 9th Jan 10am–12noon**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: MASS BOOKS for children are available from the Presbytery (price £1) — a colourful simple Missal, with all the Mass responses, very suitable for children of First-Holy-Communion age.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 'PRAYER PARTNERS' are needed for all the children on the First Holy Communion programme. A prayer partner prays for a child whilst they are preparing to make their Communion. Please print your name in capital letters on the blue list at the back of the church.

CONFIRMATION 2016: next session held on **Monday 7th December at 7.15pm** in the church for **candidates and parents** for the performance of "Jingle All the Way."

"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 continues on the 7th December at 7.15pm** with attendance at 'Jingle All the Way.'

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Fridays 8th and 29th Jan 2016, 7.30pm–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 & YOUNG PEOPLE

CRYPT DISPLAYS: our Primary Schools are updating their displays in the crypt. St Cross has already placed its powerful display regarding Blessed Oscar Romero; and St Augustine's is soon going to show some of the pieces from the term's RE 'Art Competition'. Thank you to both Schools for this beautiful decoration to our crypt!

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS to our Catholic Primary & Secondary schools gives the opportunity to the Parish Priest to provide Certificate of Catholic practice, i.e **certifying 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>. **This currently concerns those with children now in nursery-year.**

PRIMARY SCHOOL 'CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE': Fr Philip will hold two sessions for those looking to gain admission to

Reception for the signing of the priest's form. These will be on **Wed 16th Dec 10.30–12.30pm** and **Mon 4th Jan 1.30–3.30pm**. There is no need to make an appointment, please just attend at the allocated times. If you cannot make either of these times, please ring to make an appointment. **PLEASE NOTE: an 'Information for Certificate of Catholic Practice' form is now available to collect from the presbytery. This form MUST be completed and handed back in to the presbytery prior to the dates of signing.**

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

CAFOD World Gifts are a fun and meaningful way to give gifts and make a difference to some of the poorest communities around the world at the same time. Catalogues are available at the back of church.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip intends to visit parish homes this Wednesday afternoon in: Middlefield Road, Thurgood Road, Barnfield Close, and Middlefield Avenue.

MILLY'S CHARITY WEEKEND: A big thank you to everyone who helped to make the weekend a success; Maria Cattini, Callum Scott, Catriona Briggs and the Brownie Mums who helped tidy away. A special thank you must go to Maria Scott and Mary Briggs for organising the event. The following amounts were raised: Save The Children £371.94 (including raffle), Traidcraft £138.89, The Brownies raised £531.80, The Nadia Miragliotta Brighter Future Fund £187.72 and UK Aid Felsted £115. **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the event.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOKS 2016 are now available for £4.50 from the back of the church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

200 CLUB WINNERS for December are Mr D Greenall £175; Mrs C Hinks £75; and Mr & Mrs Sweeney £50. Congratulations!

WARE CHORAL SOCIETY present 'Music for Christmas' on **Saturday 12th December** at 7.30pm at The Drill Hall, Amwell End, Ware. Tickets £13. Phone 01920-462346.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip would like to continue meeting parishioners/families in their homes, as much as possible. Sunday lunch 1.30pm is a good (but by no means only) time. Free dates: 6th December, 3rd and 10th January.

CHURCH CLEANING: Filomena Mezzullo, Theresa Casbard, Elizabeth Nsonwah and Laura Harwood. Thank you!

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 5th December 10am Mass <i>Pasquale Re RIP</i>	PAGE 84 in the Mass books
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Pasquale Ricotta RIP</i> Sun 6th Dec SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am** <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</i> 11.15am <i>Teresa Lucia Martorana RIP</i> 5.00pm Latin Mass <i>For the Parish</i> †	1st Reading: Baruch 5: 1–9 <i>God means to show your splendour to every nation.</i> Psalm 125 — What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. 2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 4–6, 8–11 <i>Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!</i>
Mon 7th December ST AMBROSE, Bishop & Dr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Phyllis Coleston RIP</i> Tues 8th December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Private Intention</i> Wed 9th December 8.15am Adoration NO Morning Prayer 9.15am Funeral <i>Anne Fagan RIP</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt. Thurs 10th December NO Mass	Gospel: Luke 3: 1–6 <i>All mankind shall see the salvation of God.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Advent 1 (p. 65) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28) NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 1st Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14–18 2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 4–7 Gospel: Luke 3: 10–18
Fri 11th December <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Henryk & Assunta Nolewajka RIP</i> Sat 12th December 10am Mass <i>Pietro Dileto RIP</i>	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at <i>any other time.</i> ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Luciano Dileto RIP</i> Sun 13th Dec THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am** <i>Mary & Christopher Byrne</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> †	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.
<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>	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 7th 7.15pm Confirmation, church	Wed 9th 6.00pm Brownies, crypt Fri 11th 7.30pm Prayer group, church

NEWSLETTER ITEMS TO PRESBYTERY IN WRITING, BY FAX, OR E-MAIL BY 9AM THURS WITH YOUR NAME & PHONE NO. —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.*