

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

Tel: 01992 440986 Fax: 01992 440244

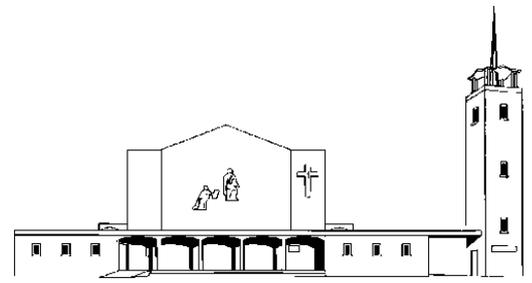
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

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

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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



Year B

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

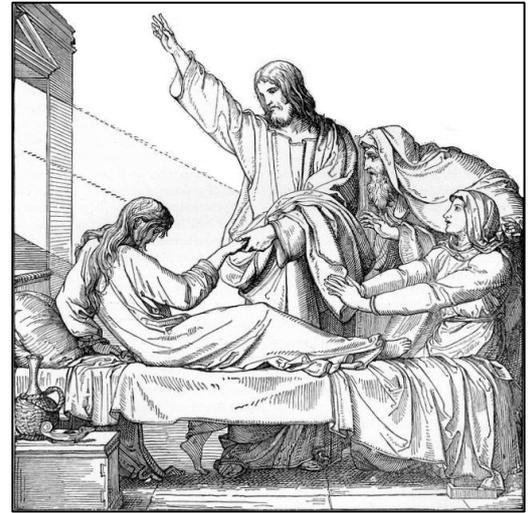
8th FEB 2015

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 29–39

He cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY, IN CAPERNAUM, JESUS HEALS SIMON'S MOTHER-IN-LAW, and this is the first of countless healings that we hear of even in ch. 1 of St Mark. Clearly, Jesus was known, from the outset, as one who had miraculous powers over sickness, over the demons, and over the natural world. No wonder it was that "the whole town came crowding round the door." Rapidly the news spread about Jesus, and about the wonders He worked; and the people were amazed, for they had never seen, or expected, anything like this. God's power to work miracles in our lives, to bring about healing and peace, is there for us always in Jesus's gifts in the Church. Let us appeal to Him today for all we need from Him, remembering how He healed those who, full of faith, came to Him in His earthly ministry.



THIS WEEKEND I AM INVITING YOU TO TAKE PART IN A 'VOLUNTEERING' EXERCISE together. It's a new initiative — something I have never tried before — in which I will offer you a chance to volunteer your time and talents to re-invigorate many of our parish tasks and groups. After a short introduction at the homily time, and a prayer together to the Holy Spirit, I will invite you to take the cards and pens from the pew ends, and fill them in to the extent that you can / wish to. It may well be that some of you have never been asked, and yet would like to be asked, to join up to help the parish with its various dimensions of life. I stressed last weekend, in my lead-up to this exercise, that it may not be that everyone has extra time to give right now — I don't want you to feel awkward about this! I would, however, like to ask you honestly before God to think about your contribution to the life of our parish. No parish can run without the good will, time, and commitment of its parishioners, and I invite you to reflect on this as we complete our exercise in faith together. In anticipation, and in Jesus's Name — Thank you!

May God bless our parish as we seek to grow together towards the Kingdom.

Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 42:



The union of the human family is greatly fortified and fulfilled by the unity, founded on Christ, of the family of God's sons. Christ, to be sure, gave His Church no proper mission in the political, economic or social order. The purpose which He set before her is a religious one. But out of this religious mission itself come a function, a light and an energy which can serve to structure and consolidate the human community according to the divine law. As a matter of fact, when circumstances of time and place produce the need, she can and indeed should initiate activities on behalf of all men, especially those designed for the needy, such as the works of mercy and similar undertakings.

PRAYER & LITURGY

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK 7th–14th FEB: A time to celebrate, focus and give thanks for married relationships. The 6.30pm Mass **this Saturday** will include a celebration of marriage, including a renewal of vows. Afterwards we'll have a bring-and-share table in the Crypt. All are welcome!

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Luciano Assirati and Anastasia Tona who will be baptised this weekend.

GAETANA LOMANTO RIP of Westgate House, Ware, died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Tuesday 17th February at 9.30am.** *May she rest in peace.*

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR (3rd Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **Sunday 15th Feb** Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a Scriptural reflection.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting Feb 20th.** 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!

FREE PRAYER PAMPHLETS for 'After Holy Communion' and for 'Praying as a Family' are available to take from the back of church.

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE: The Cardinal invites all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2015 to a Mass on **Sat 23rd May at 3pm** at Westminster Cathedral. If you wish to attend, please communicate to the Presbytery the following details: husband's and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and e-mail (or telephone number, if no e-mail) by **8th March.**

LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY is on **18th February** and Mass will be at 9.30am, 12 noon and 8pm. If you are a Eucharistic Minister, reader or altar server and can assist at the Masses, please sign your name on the lists at the back of the church. **Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting (for those aged 16–60) and abstinence (for those aged 14+).** This means that we consciously choose to eat less — one main meal only — and that (as on all Fridays) we eat no meat whatsoever.

'SAINTS HELPING US TODAY': Fr Philip will be showing a six-session DVD series exploring

Saints Thérèse of Lisieux, Benedict, Francis of Assisi, Patrick, Ignatius of Loyola and Catherine of Siena, during Lent. The talks will be on **Lent Wednesdays at 10.15am** after coffee in the crypt. Dates are: 25th Feb, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March & 1st April.

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, John Lumley, Anne Smith 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. 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 recently 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. With some very large new donations, **we have raised now pledges of c. £190k, to give our parish project, ultimately, a slice of c. £55k.** An update on 'Growing in Faith' can be seen on the noticeboard above the newspapers, though it doesn't yet include the most recent pledges.

Fr Philip continues exploratory discussions with various contacts about filling the post of a catechetical co-ordinator. 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.

The latest newsletter from Growing in Faith is available this weekend with *The Announcer*.

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

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION: The next session will be held on **Mon 9th Feb 7.00pm** for Candidates only. Chapter 12 of St Mark's Gospel needs to have been read in preparation for this session. If you haven't yet paid the £10 to cover materials or the £18 retreat money, please drop it off to the presbytery as soon as possible. Thank you. **The retreat day will be on Saturday 14th Feb at 11am in the crypt and will finish with Mass at 4pm in the crypt. Parents and siblings are welcome to come to the Mass.**

FIRST-HOLY-COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The sixth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 11th March 8-9pm** in the crypt and the children's meeting is on **Saturday 14th March 10-12 noon.**

"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 10th February at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Wednesday 18th and Friday 27th March** from **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.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

SEX-SELECTIVE ABORTION: please visit the website www.stopgendercide.org to inform yourselves about gender-selective abortion and to support the Abortion (Sex-Selection) Amendment. Thank you to everyone who contacted our MP. We have heard directly from Charles Walker MP that he has put his name to the amendment and will support it in favour of the ban.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S NURSERY: Applications for September 2015 will open **Mon 9th Feb.** Applications must be made to Herts County Council (www.hertsdirect.org/nurseryadmissions). You will also need to complete the school application form which is available from the school office or can be downloaded from www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/admissions. Closing date for applications is Friday 20th March.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip intends to make house visits to parishioners on Wednesday afternoon

this week in Whitley Road, Lilac Road, Castle Road, Lea Road.

200 CLUB WINNER for February was no 190 Mrs McIntyre. Congratulations!

PARISH ACCOUNTANT: The Parish Finance Committee would like to know if there is a parishioner with computer accounting experience who would like to volunteer for a specific role on the committee. It involves keeping the parish financial records on a web-based system, administering the parish finances and would require no more than an average of 3-4 hours each week. A short attendance at the presbytery on a Monday would be a requirement but a significant amount of the work could be carried out offsite to suit individual needs. Training and support is readily available. For a job description and to receive more information, please contact the presbytery.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip 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: 15th February; 8th, 15th & 22nd March.

CHURCH CLEANING: Judy Livingstone, Eddie & Eileen Linford & Cheryl Holbourn. Thank you!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK OUR LADY OF LOURDES

11th FEBRUARY

O ever Immaculate Virgin, Mother of Mercy, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comforter of the afflicted, you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings; look with mercy upon me. By appearing in the Grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary, whence you dispense your favours; and already many sufferers have obtained the cure of their infirmities, both spiritual and corporal. I come, therefore, with complete confidence to implore your maternal intercession. Obtain, O loving Mother, the grant of my requests. Through gratitude for your favours, I will endeavour to imitate your virtues, that I may one day share your glory. Amen.



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy						
Sat 7th February 10am Mass <i>Casey Family Intentions</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 134 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Job 7: 1–4, 6–7 <i>Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.</i></p> <p>Psalms 146 — Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.</p> <p>2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16–19, 22–23 <i>I should be punished if I did not preach the Gospel.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!</i></p> <p>Gospel: Mark 1: 29–39 <i>He cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 5 (p. 55) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p>1st Reading: Leviticus 13: 1–2, 44–46 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 31–11:1 Gospel: Mark 1:40–45</p>						
4.00pm Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Kevin O'Neill RIP</i> Sun 8th Feb 5TH SUN IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am <i>Terry McIntyre RIP</i> ‡	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> <p style="text-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 style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> <p>Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p style="text-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> <p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> <p>Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>						
Mon 9th February 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Assunta & Henryk Nolewajka RIP</i>							
Tues 10th Feb ST SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Deceased members of McIntyre Family</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR EVENTS</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Mon 9th 7pm Confirmation, crypt</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Wed 11th 6.00pm Brownies, crypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tues 10th 1.30pm Guild tea & chat, crypt</td> <td>Sat 14th 11am Confirmation Day Retreat, crypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tues 10th 7pm RCIA, presbytery</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Mon 9th 7pm Confirmation, crypt	Wed 11th 6.00pm Brownies, crypt	Tues 10th 1.30pm Guild tea & chat, crypt	Sat 14th 11am Confirmation Day Retreat, crypt	Tues 10th 7pm RCIA, presbytery	
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Wed 11th February OUR LADY OF LOURDES 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15 Mass <i>Deceased members of Griffin Family</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt	<p>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: <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>						
Thurs 12th February 9.15am Mass <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</i>							
Fri 13th February <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Joseph Penheiro RIP</i> Sat 14th Feb STS CYRIL, MONK & METHODIUS, Bishop 10am Mass <i>Mary & Joseph Murphy</i>							
4.00pm Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Peter Yee RIP anniv.</i> Sun 15th Feb 6th SUN IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am <i>Joe Phelan & Lauren Eley RIP Anniv</i> 5.00pm Holy Hour ‡							
<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>							