

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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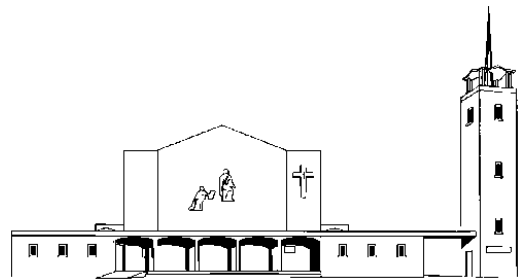
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

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

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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



Year B

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

4TH JANUARY 2015

GOSPEL: Matthew 2: 1–12

We saw his star and have come to do the king homage.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

A HAPPY FEAST-DAY OF THE EPIPHANY TO YOU ALL! This is another of the great feasts of the Christmas season, and an important occasion. We recall the arrival of Magi from the East — outsiders, non-Jews — who have come to do the Lord homage. By their coming to seek Christ from *outside* Israel, they immediately point to the fact that Jesus will be the Saviour of all peoples: all nations and races, and in fact, all humanity. This is therefore a great feast for the worldwide Church: a rejoicing that the Jewish Messiah has come — but He has come for us all! The gold acknowledges Him as King of Kings; the incense shows that He is the very God Himself; and the myrrh ointment signifies One born to die. In this great feast of Epiphany we are drawn into the world-changing mystery of the baby born at Bethlehem! As He has given Himself to the world, we should give ourselves entirely to Him.



THE CARDINAL'S PASTORAL LETTER ON THE FAMILY from last Sunday I have copied and made available to you this week, especially as many parishioners were still away on Christmas breaks last weekend. The pamphlet to which he refers I have also copied (pink paper) and is available alongside the Newsletters. I will be thinking about how best as a parish to respond to his request to ponder these important questions.

FINALLY, I WANT TO RE-ITERATE MY THANKS to all those who helped greatly at Christmas time and in the lead-up to our celebrations. I also want to thank you for the many cards, gifts and greetings I received at this sacred season, and to wish you all that you be greatly blessed in the coming year with a joyful living-out of our holy faith.

A happy ongoing Christmastide to you all! May the Lord bless us greatly in 2015! Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 39:



We do not know the time for the consummation of the earth and of humanity, nor do we know how all things will be transformed. As deformed by sin, the shape of this world will pass away; but we are taught that God is preparing a new dwelling place and a new earth where justice will abide, and whose blessedness will answer and surpass all the longings for peace which spring up in the human heart. Then, with death overcome, the sons of God will be raised up in Christ, and what was sown in weakness and corruption will be invested with incorruptibility. Enduring with charity and its fruits, all that creation which God made on man's account will be unchained from the bondage of vanity. Therefore, while we are warned that it profits a man nothing if he gain the whole world and lose himself, the expectation of a new earth must not weaken but rather stimulate our concern for cultivating this one. For here grows the body of a new human family, a body which even now is able to give some kind of foreshadowing of the new age.

PRAYER & LITURGY

MASS: This **Friday** there will be an extra Mass at 1.45pm in church with both primary schools. All parishioners are welcome to attend. There will still be Mass at 12 noon as usual.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting January 16th**. 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!

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR (3rd Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **Sunday 18th Jan**. Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a Scriptural reflection. Holy Hour will end 5.45 to allow Fr Philip to get to Christian Unity Service.

ANNUAL CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE will be held on **Sunday 18th January 2015** at Riverside Church, Rye Road at 6pm. This service is held on behalf of the Churches Together in Hoddesdon and all parishioners are welcome.

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, Jenny Miller, Joseph Penheiro, Peter Tanner, John Lumley 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 all who have been continuing Direct Debits and regular giving to *Growing in Faith!* There are still some parishioners who

proposed to give at the 'Commitment Weekend' whom he has still to write to, to see if they are still in a position to honour those pledges.

Fr Philip has been having some exploratory discussions with an advisor from the diocese about the post of a catechetical co-ordinator. **This local parish project is a very important one.** 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.

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

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION: The Enrolment Masses will be on **10th/11th January** and will involve a simple statement of commitment to ongoing preparation. The next session will be held on **Monday 12th Jan at 7.00pm for candidates and parents.** Chapter 9 & 10 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, please drop it off to the presbytery as soon as possible. Thank you.

FIRST-HOLY-COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The fourth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 7th Jan 8–9pm** in the crypt and the children's meeting is on **Saturday 10th Jan 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 6th January at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Friday 9th and Wednesday 21st January 2015** 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

SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal **next weekend.** In common with the Catholic Church, SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The Society's work covers a wide spectrum of pro-life, pro-family issues. It seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and defends the disabled, elderly and incapacitated from euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools and offers pro-life support for teachers,

parents and medical professionals. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOL PRIEST'S REFERENCE. Fr Philip will hold one further session for those looking to gain admission to reception, for the signing of priest's reference forms. This will be on **Mon 5th Jan 10.30am–12.30pm**. There is no need to make an appointment, please just attend at the allocated times. If you cannot make this time, please ring to make an appointment.

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5s has a vacancy for a temporary playgroup assistant with a NVQ level 3 or equivalent. The position will be from Jan 2015 and reviewed in July 2015. The successful candidate will have previous experience of the EYFS and Learning Journals. Contact Lynn or Lorraine on 460614.

MISCELLANEOUS

EPIPHANY PARTY will be held on **Saturday 3rd January** 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. Drinks will be provided by parish.

PARISH MISSION: Thank you to everyone who made a donation to St Patrick's Community for the Parish Mission. A total of £1,292.71 was raised, which has been sent on to them for their ongoing work of evangelization.

CRIB APPEAL: Each year the Catholic Children's Society (Westminster) works to support over 9,000 disadvantaged children and families across the entire diocese. Studies suggest child poverty will rise from 2.3m (2014) to 3.2m by 2020. This figure reveals just how deeply child poverty reaches into our communities, even those areas generally regarded as well off. The Catholic Children's Society listens to people's needs and responds to the "cry of the poor" with imaginative and efficiently delivered programs. With the difficult economic situation continuing the Society relies entirely on the generosity of individuals to continue their work and need to raise a minimum of £100,000 this Christmas.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip intends to make house visits to parishioners in these streets this Wednesday: Brickendon Ct, Cedar Green, Yewlands.

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: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th Jan.

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

A Prayer of Consecration of the Family to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary



Most holy Hearts
of Jesus and Mary,
united in perfect love,
as you look upon us with
mercy and caring,
we consecrate our hearts,
our lives, our family to you.
We know the beautiful example
of your home in Nazareth was meant to be
a model for each of our families.
We hope to have,
with your help,
the unity and strong, enduring love you gave
to one another.
May our home be filled with joy.
May sincere affection, patience,
tolerance and mutual respect be freely given
to all.
May our prayers be filled with the needs of
others, not just ourselves and may we always
be close to your sacraments.
Bless those who are present,
as well as those who are absent,
both the living and the dead;
may peace be among us
and when we are tested,
grant us the Christian acceptance of God's
will.
Keep our family close to your Hearts;
may your special protection be with us
always.
Most Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
hear our prayer. Amen.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy								
Sat 3rd January 10am Mass <i>Michael Dolan RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 115 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 60: 1–6 <i>Above you the glory of the Lord appears.</i></p> <p>Psalms 71 — All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 2–3, 5–6 <i>It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!</i></p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 2: 1–12 <i>We saw his star and have come to do the king homage.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Epiphany (p. 53) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 42: 1–4, 6–7 2nd Reading: Acts 10: 34–38 Gospel: Mark 1: 7–11</p>								
4.00pm Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Calogero Amico RIP & Franco Martorana RIP</i> Sun 4th January EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 9.15am** <i>Edward McGrath RIP</i> 11.15am <i>Giuseppe Tambuzzo RIP Anniv</i> 5.00pm Latin Mass <i>For the Parish</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 <i>any other time.</i></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 5th January 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Monica Hunter RIP</i> Tues 6th January 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Antonio Insalaco RIP</i> Wed 7th January 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15 Mass <i>Vincent Byrne RIP</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt Thurs 8th January NO MASS	<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR EVENTS</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Tues 6th</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Fri 9th</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7pm RCIA, presbytery</td> <td>7.30pm Baptism Course</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed 7th</td> <td>Sat 10th</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8pm Parents 1st HC meeting</td> <td>10am 1st HC class, crypt</td> </tr> </table>	Tues 6th	Fri 9th	7pm RCIA, presbytery	7.30pm Baptism Course	Wed 7th	Sat 10th	8pm Parents 1 st HC meeting	10am 1 st HC class, crypt
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Fri 9th January <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Terry McIntyre RIP</i> 1.45pm Joint schools Mass in church Sat 10th January 10am Mass <i>Giuseppe & Rosaria Cannatella Golden Wedding Anniversary</i>									
4.00pm Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 11th January THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 9.15am** <i>John & Frances Woolsgrove RIP</i> 11.15am <i>Phyllis Lawlor RIP 1st Anniv</i> ‡									
<p style="text-align: center;">*Vigil Mass of Sunday</p> <p>** With Children's Liturgy (nursery-age to year 2 only)</p> <p>‡ There are also Sunday evening Masses in English in Hertford (6pm) and Waltham Cross (6.30pm)</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:** *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.*