

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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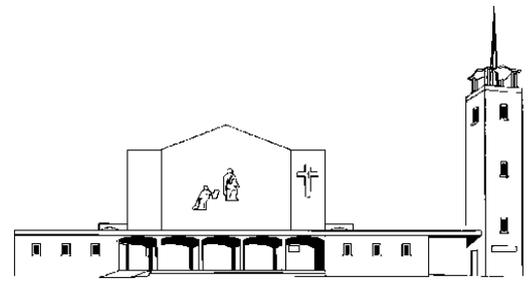
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

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

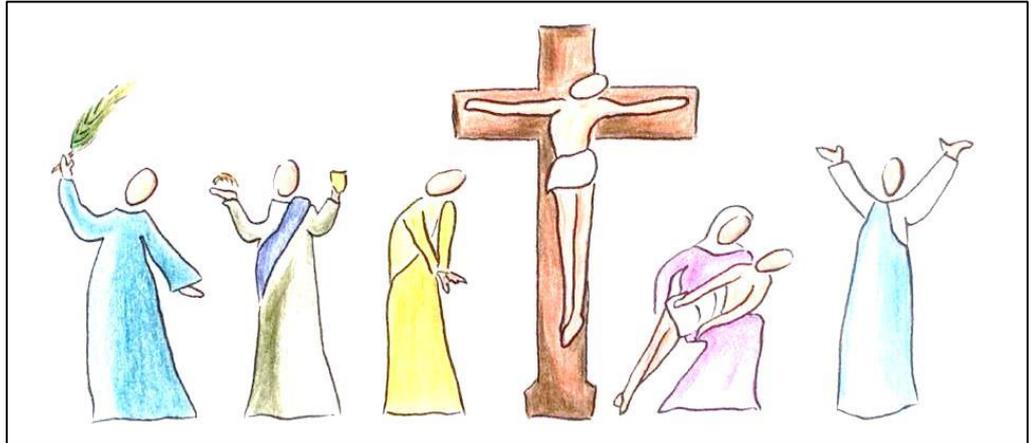
PALM SUNDAY

29th MARCH 2015

GOSPEL: The Passion according to St Mark.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THIS MOST HOLY WEEK IS NOW UPON US, beginning with the dramatic events of Palm Sunday and Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The week ahead is a most important week for our spiritual lives, and I ask you to come in good numbers and



take part in the services and Masses. In particular, each of us needs to make sure that we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) at some point in the Lent / Easter season, so I would urge you to make use of the **Penitential Services this Monday (11.30am; and 7.30pm)**, when a number of priests will be available for you. Additionally, I plead with you to make Good Friday an *absolute priority* this week. No Catholic should have any intention of being anywhere other than at the **Good Friday 3pm Service of the Passion**** — this is the solemn celebration of the Crucifixion of Our Lord, His death on the Cross for us — and so we *must* come and keep it a holy day. On Good Friday we fast (aged 16–60), and we eat no meat (aged 14+): please keep these disciplines religiously. (** there is Children's Liturgy available on Good Friday in the crypt.)

I REALLY THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE TO OUR PLANNED-GIVING CAMPAIGN, and for thinking about how you support the parish financially through your weekly offertory. We received nearly 150 pledge cards from you, with at least 36 commitments to give by standing order, and 110 commitments to give by weekly envelopes. Everyone who filled in a pledge card last weekend will have a letter to collect this weekend at the table in the church porch: for many of you this will include the standing-order request form, or the requested box of parish envelopes. So, **please do visit the 'Planned Giving' table in the parish before you leave the church today**, to collect your letter. If you were away last weekend, and missed the chance to make your pledge, there are copies of the Planned-Giving material, and pledge cards, available alongside the newsletters: I do ask you, please, if you missed the opportunity last week, to make your own commitment to supporting your parish financially.

May God bless us as we meditate on the saving Passion of Our Lord Jesus.

Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 45:



The Lord is the goal of human history, the focal point of the longings of history and of civilization, the centre of the human race, the joy of every heart and the answer to all its yearnings. He it is Whom the Father raised from the dead, lifted on high and stationed at His right hand, making Him judge of the living and the dead. Enlivened and united in His Spirit, we journey toward the consummation of human history, one which fully accords with the counsel of God's love: "To re-establish all things in Christ, in the heavens and on the earth."

PRAYER & LITURGY

HOLY WEEK:

Tuesday 31st March: CHRISM MASS at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 2nd April
8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
9.30–Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

GOOD FRIDAY: 3rd April
10am Stations of the Cross
c. 10.45am *Churches Together* Act of Witness –
Meet at Clock Tower in town.
3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7pm Stations of the Cross (Archbishop Romero meditations)

HOLY SATURDAY: 4th April
9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15am and 11.15am Mass

RECONCILIATION BEFORE EASTER

In addition to regular times for Confession, there is additional availability of the Sacrament:

Penitential Services for the parish on Monday 30th March at 11.30am and 7.30pm. Several priests available on these occasions.

Extra opportunities for Confessions in Holy Week:

After 9.15am Mass Monday & Tuesday
Holy Thursday: after Morning Prayer (c.9.15am) and before evening Mass 7pm–7.30pm.
Good Friday: after Stations of the Cross (10.45am) and before (2pm–2.30pm) and after 3pm Liturgy, and before evening Stations (6.30pm).
Holy Saturday: 10–11am.

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:
WALTHAM CROSS: Monday 30th March 8pm
HERTFORD parish (tel. 582019) has many extra confessions during Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS: In keeping with the symbolism of the washing of feet of the 12 apostles, 12 men/boys are required for the washing of feet. If you can take part, please sign your name on the list at the back of the church. *There is only 1 person who has so far volunteered, so please do help if you can.*

During the Mass, there will also be a Rite of Re-commissioning for the Ministers of Holy Communion so, if you are a Minister, please attend the Mass at 8pm.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, READERS & ALTAR SERVERS: If you can assist at any of

the services during Holy Week, please sign your name on the lists at the back of the church.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ON GOOD FRIDAY: children should be taken straight to the crypt before 3pm. The children will be brought into the church to venerate the cross and have a blessing at Communion and should be collected from the crypt after the service.

GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL WALK OF WITNESS: Please gather at the clock tower from 10.30–10.45 to begin the walk at 11am.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR (3rd Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **Sunday 19th April** with Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, and a Scriptural reflection.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday (usually) of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting April 24th.** 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!

FR BRIAN REYNOLDS has recently had surgery for cancer. Please keep him in your prayers at this time of his treatment.

LENT

LENTEN ALMS are collected each year in support of charitable causes. The Archbishop has decided that this year's charity will be *Caritas*. *Caritas* has been created to help parishes set up and run projects designed to give practical help to the poor, the hungry, the lonely and the vulnerable in our diocese. To find out more about *Caritas*, please do take a leaflet which are beside the newsletters. **You will find the box throughout Lent in front of the lectern.**

'SAINTS HELPING US TODAY': Fr Philip is showing an excellent DVD series exploring Saints — **Thérèse of Lisieux**. This is on **Lent Wednesdays at 10.15am** after coffee in the crypt. Final dates: 1st April.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our sick parishioners and friends: Fr Brian Reynolds, 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, Sylvia Mullick, Maureen Fallon.

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.

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

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION: The next session will be held on **Mon 30th March 7pm** for Candidates and parents and will be the Reconciliation Service in church. **Please ensure you sign in when you arrive and collect a letter.** Candidates also need to have filled in 'page 4' with their choice of Confirmation saint's name and returned their blue sponsor forms.

FIRST-HOLY-COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The seventh meeting for parents will be on **Wed 22nd April 8-9pm** in the crypt and the children's meeting is on **Saturday 25th April 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. **The course continues on 31st March at 7pm.**

SCHOOLS

ST CROSS SCHOOL are performing their Easter production in school on **Tuesday 31st March** at 6.30pm. Dress rehearsal will be on Monday

30th March at 2pm in school. All are welcome.

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL are performing their Easter production in church on **Wednesday 1st April** at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will visit parishioners this week (Wed afternoon) in Stortford Road and Parrotts Fields. This completes his visiting of EN11. He will make a start on visiting the homes in EN10 after Easter.

PLANNED-GIVING BOXES: Boxes of envelopes for the new financial year will be available from the back of the church **this weekend.** It costs a lot to post them out, so please remember to collect your box after Mass.

AFTERNOON TEA and entertainment will be held in the crypt on **Sunday 19th April 3-5pm** for the elderly. If anyone is interested in joining us you will be welcome but please let me know ASAP, and also let me know if you need a lift. Margaret Byrne, 443351.

QUIZ NIGHT – Friday 17th April – in the crypt, To help raise money for Mary's Meals, a charity set up in 2002 to provide the poorest of children with breakfast before school. At the time of going to print the number of meals have reached 989,791. £5 per head – 8 to a team - 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, a bottle of something for the winning team, or maybe something for the Raffle, all donations will be much appreciated, you can drop that off to the presbytery.

ACCIDENTS WAITING TO HAPPEN: Over the last few weeks I have witnessed several "near accidents" with children in the church car park. Children should be accompanied at all times whilst on church property, i.e. car park, toilets, library area etc. In addition, I would like to thank the lady at the 6.30pm Mass for assisting young children whilst lighting candles in the Lady Chapel, when no adults were present. Thank you for your co-operation. Ellen Bartlett, Sacristan.

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 date: 12th April.

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

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 28th March 10am Mass <i>Pasquale, Rosa & Brigida Cattini RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 176 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4–7 <i>I did not cover my face against insult, I know I shall not be shamed.</i></p> <p>Psalms 21 — My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?</p> <p>2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11 <i>He humbled himself; but God raised him high.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!</i></p> <p>Gospel: The Passion according to Mark 14:1–15:47</p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Passion of the Lord (p. 59) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37–43 2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 1–4 Gospel: John 20: 1–9</p>
4.00pm Italian Mass 6.30pm* For the Parish	<p style="text-align: center;">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></p> <p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY 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 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 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>
Sun 29th March PALM SUNDAY 9.15am** <i>Ferraro Family</i> 11.15am <i>John & Frances Woolsgrove RIP</i> ‡	<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR EVENTS</p> <p>Tues 31st 1.30pm Ascent, crypt</p> <p>Tues 31st 7pm RCIA, presbytery</p>
Mon 30th March MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 9.15am Mass <i>Vincent Byrne RIP</i> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer	
Tues 31st March TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am <i>Barbara Wright's intentions</i>	
Wed 1st April WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt	
Thurs 2nd April MAUNDY THURSDAY 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 5.30pm Italian Mass 8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>For the parish</i> 9.30-Midnight Praying at the Altar of Repose	
Fri 3rd April GOOD FRIDAY <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+; fasting for those aged 16-60)</i> 9.45am Morning Prayer 10am Stations of the Cross 3.00pm** CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION 5.00pm Italian Liturgy 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	
Sat 4th April HOLY SATURDAY 9.45am Morning Prayer 4.00pm Italian Easter Vigil 9.00pm* Mass of the Easter Vigil <i>Priest's Int's</i>	
Sun 5th April EASTER SUNDAY 9.15am** <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am <i>Paolo Conti & Gaetana Lomanto RIP</i> ‡	
<p style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p> <p>** 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>	

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.*