

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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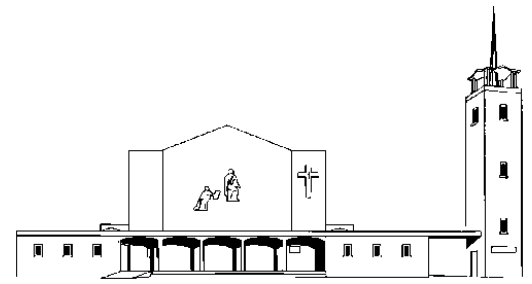
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

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 ASCENSION OF THE LORD

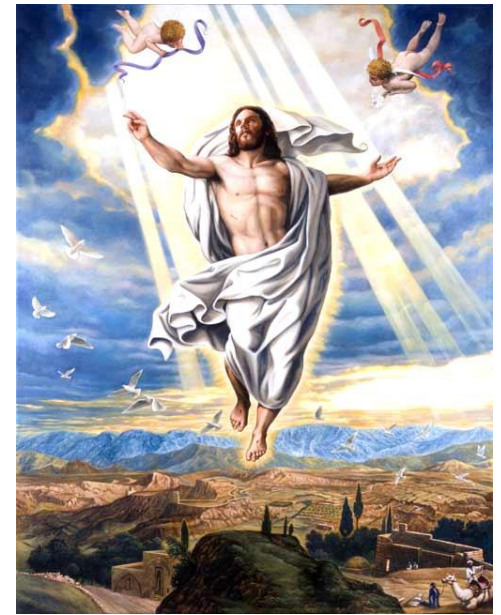
17th MAY 2015

GOSPEL: Mark 16: 15–20

He was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE CELEBRATE TODAY THE GREAT FEAST OF THE ASCENSION! After Our Lord's appearances over the course of some weeks, following on from His Resurrection, He withdrew from our sight to 'return to heaven.' He does not abandon us, but indeed promises His apostles the coming of the Holy Spirit, the 'Advocate,' the one who will stand by them and be their helper and guide. That's the glorious event we will celebrate next weekend, the feast of Pentecost. Jesus's Ascension, therefore, is not some reluctant acceptance of departure, with sadness, but it's a joy that He goes to prepare a place for us in heaven. He ascends in His humanity, taking our human flesh into the glory of God's presence. Jesus does not shed His human body, but takes our nature into heaven, where He awaits those who remain faithful to Him. It is, as it were, His homecoming, and we are joyful that He is glorified by His return to the Father. We look up to heaven, as the apostles did on the day of the Ascension, and long to be with Him one day. Jesus says, in St John's Gospel, "I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared a place for you, I shall return to take you with Me, so that where I am, you may be too." What beautiful words, from our Risen Lord, who desires nothing other than that we share His bliss in eternity!



I WILL BE AWAY ON RETREAT IN HALF-TERM WEEK, and I am grateful to the Xaverian Missionary priest, Fr Bideri Nyagasaza, who will celebrate the Masses of Pentecost weekend, and give the annual Mission appeal for the support of their missionary work. Also, I thank Fr Michael Stewart who will offer the Masses of the weekdays in the following week. Please welcome these supply priests and give them your support as they visit our parish.

May God bless us in this month of devotion to Mary. May she pray for our country! Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 50:



Marriage and conjugal love are by their nature ordained toward the begetting and educating of children. Children are really the supreme gift of marriage and contribute very substantially to the welfare of their parents. The God Himself who said, "it is not good for man to be alone" (Gen. 2:18) and "Who made man from the beginning male and female" (Matt. 19:4), wishing to share with man a certain special participation in

His own creative work, blessed male and female, saying: "Increase and multiply" (Gen. 1:28). Hence, while not making the other purposes of matrimony of less account, the true practice of conjugal love, and the whole meaning of the family life which results from it, have this aim: that the couple be ready with stout hearts to cooperate with the love of the Creator and the Saviour, who through them will enlarge and enrich His own family day by day.

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Alessia Noto and Cherry Rock, baptised this weekend.

CONFIRMATION: We congratulate Simona Canalella who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend.

CALOGERO MILAZZO RIP of Salisbury Road died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral will be on **Tues 19th May at 2pm.**

PASQUALE RE RIP of Lord Street, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral will be on **Fri 22nd May at 2pm with Don Antonio.** *May they rest in peace.*

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR (3rd Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **this Sunday 17th May** with Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, and a Scriptural reflection.

ADORATION/MORNING PRAYER will not take place on Monday, only Mass at 9.15am.

THE XAVERIAN MISSIONARY FATHERS will be making an appeal **next weekend** at all Masses.

MONTH OF OUR LADY: During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed before each Sunday Mass. The Rosary in Italian will be said on Thursday evenings at 7pm.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS: The June – September rota for Readers and Ministers of Communion is to be drawn up shortly. Please advise Pat Kavanagh by **Wed 27th May** at the latest of any weekends you are NOT available and also of any changes in personal details (telephone number, address etc). Please contact Pat Kavanagh patandcarolkav@btinternet.com or by telephone 449282.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting June 19th.** 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!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY SIGN-IN: The Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service Guidance on creating a safe environment for Children and Vulnerable adults requires that we keep a register of those present for each church activity. As of **Sunday 31st May** children (and any adults present) will be required to self-register at Children's Liturgy. The leader and helpers will be able to assist them with this. If you have any questions or concerns please contact our

Safeguarding Rep Claire Hay on 07971-063520

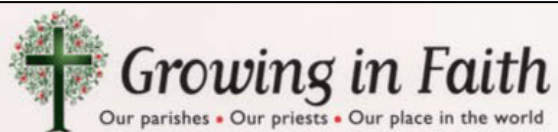
HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

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, Sylvia Mullick, and 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 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.** 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 is in discussion with another priest of the Diocese who already has plans for a part-time post and we look to share together a person to fill his post and our post for catechetical co-ordinator.

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

CATECHETICS

FIRST-HOLY-COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The final meeting for parents will be on **Wed 3rd June 8–9pm** in the crypt and the children's meeting is on **Saturday 6th June 10–12 noon.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The second part of the course will be held on **Tues 19th May** from

7.30pm-9pm in the church.

CONFIRMATION 2016: Fr Philip wishes to see each candidate (in *next year's* year 9 or above) and a parent for a short chat (20–30 minutes) before the summer. **Applications will close for this programme on 13th July.** Please contact the presbytery for an appointment. In general, these will be between 3.30-6pm on the following days: 1st June, 15th June, 22nd June, 6th July and 13th July.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL: The SAFA committee are holding a pamper night on **Thursday 21st May** which include a variety of stalls. Doors open 6pm, with treatments commencing at 6.15pm. These can be booked from 27th April. Entrance is £3.50 with a complimentary glass of wine. For further info contact Geraldine Jaselsky on 441222 or book online at safahoddesdon@gmail.com.

ST CROSS SCHOOL will be having a May Procession on **Friday 22nd May at 1.15pm.** Refreshments will be available and all are welcome to attend.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

TRAIDCRAFT stall will be at the back of the church after all Masses **this weekend.**

CAFOD PEDAL AGAINST POVERTY 2015: A sponsored bike ride will take place on **Sunday 7th June** along the River Lea. Two routes are available — 10 or 19 miles. Registration costs of £6 per rider (covers all admin costs of ride, including a CAFOD cycling vest). Tel. 020-8449-6970, or Westminster@cafod.org.uk for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will be visiting homes on Wednesday afternoon this week in Osborne Rd, Monks Close, Stafford Dr., Churchfields, St Michael's Rd, McKenzie Rd, Grosvenor Rd.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HODDESDON are holding "The Big Picnic" on **Sunday 31st May** from 11am at the Broxbourne Recreation Ground. All are welcome!

MAY PROCESSION: A big thank you to all who helped to make the procession such a success; thanks to the sacristan Ellen Bartlett, Gemma Castle for the beautiful floral arrangements; all those who helped with the refreshments and thanks to all the Brownies and Brownie leaders.

LIFT TO MASS: An elderly lady who resides at a nearby old people's home needs a lift to the 11.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. If you can help, please do contact the presbytery.

APF RED BOX: The magazine is now available and all boxes should be emptied. Please ring Ellen Bartlett on 464677. Thanks to those who have already emptied their boxes.

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.

CONCERT: Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' is being performed by professional artists, along with the Ware Choral Society, on **Saturday, 6th June**, at 7.30 pm, in The Drill Hall, Amwell End, Ware. For more info and tickets, please call Anne Byrne, 467097, or Theresa, 301551.

SPIRIT IN THE CITY festival welcomes Saltmine Theatre's production of 'Three Witnesses' — a remarkable play based on the Gospel of St Luke for its London premiere at Notre Dame de France church, **Wed 10th June 7.30 pm.** Tickets: £7. Book online: www.bit.ly/3wtickets or tel. 020-7440-2663, email: info@spiritinthecity.org www.spiritinthecity.org

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: 17th and 31st May, 7th and 14th June.

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY PRAYER

O God, whose word is truth and in whose light we see light, guide those who tell the story of our times through word and image. Make them seekers after truth and advocates of human dignity. Grant discernment to all who rely on their labours, and, as we confront the pain and promise of this world, awaken in us a sense of wonder at your presence and of longing for your peace. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

| Masses this week | Today's Liturgy |
|---|---|
| <p>Sat 16th May 10am Mass <i>Francisco Alfonso Pires & Maria Perreira Luiz Pires</i></p> <hr/> <p>4.00pm Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Mary & Harry Pappin RIP</i></p> <p>Sun 17th May THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 9.15am <i>Patrick & Tom Lawlor RIP Anniv</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> ‡ 5.00pm Holy Hour</p> | <p>PAGE 269 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 1:1–11 <i>He was lifted up while they looked on.</i></p> <p>Psalms 46 — God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Ephesians 1: 17–23 <i>He made him sit at his right hand in heaven.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Alleluia!</i></p> <p>Gospel: Mark 16: 15–20 He was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place.</p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Ascension I (p. 61) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)</p> <p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS PENTECOST SUNDAY</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 2: 1–11 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 3–7, 12–13 Gospel: John 20: 19–23</p> |
| <p>Mon 18th May 9.15am Mass <i>Peggy & Michael Bartlett</i></p> <p>Tues 19th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Barbara Murphy RIP Anniv</i> 2.00pm Funeral <i>Calogero Milazzo RIP</i></p> <p>Wed 20th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Jimmy Monihan RIP</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt</p> <p>Thurs 21st May 9.15am Mass <i>Marinetta Giacom RIP</i></p> <p>Fri 22nd May (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Armano & Anna Beschizza RIP</i> 2.00pm Funeral <i>Pasquale Re RIP</i></p> <p>Sat 23rd May 10am Mass <i>Nadia Miragliotta RIP</i></p> | <p>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) 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>ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p>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>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</p> |
| <p>4.00pm Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>For the Parish</i></p> <p>Sun 24th May PENTECOST SUNDAY 9.15am** <i>Mary & John Hayden Anniv</i> 11.15am <i>Girolamo Ferraro RIP</i> ‡</p> | <p>REGULAR EVENTS</p> <p>Tues 19th 1.30pm Guild, crypt Wed 20th 6pm Brownies, crypt</p> |
| <p>* 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> | |

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.