

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

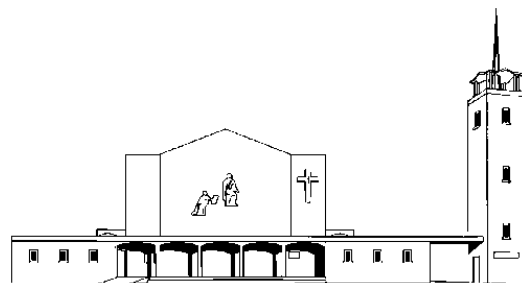
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Year C ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 14TH AUG 2016

Luke 1: 39-56 – *The Almighty has done great things for me, he has exalted the lowly.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THE 15TH AUGUST IS THE GREAT FEAST OF OUR LADY'S ASSUMPTION INTO HEAVEN, and this year gets transferred from Monday to Sunday. It's a very beautiful feast, kept fervently across much of the Catholic world as a public holiday and celebration – in Italy, for example, as 'Ferragosto.' Our Lady, having been conceived immaculate (i.e. free from original sin) had no reason not to share immediately in the perfect glory of heaven, and so was taken up soul *and* body to heaven after her earthly life was at an end. This is what we call her *Assumption*. We may speculate that this is what would have happened to each of us, had mankind never sinned against God: a peaceful transition, body and soul, into heaven after earthy life. But even so, despite our sin and the sufferings of death, it gives us the hope and consolation that one day, please God, we shall also be made ready – by a life of virtue, a purification in purgatory, and the gift of God – for a full, *bodily* sharing in the resurrection-life of heaven, like Our Lady.



IT WAS LOVELY TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE as a Westminster-diocesan group in the global reach of the 'World Youth Day' pilgrimage with 2 million others joining the Pope in Kraków, Poland. You can find some links to reports on the parish's new FaceBook page (search for "@CatholicHoddesdon") and there are many beautiful photos available on the diocese's Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/catholicwestminster/albums>.

I AM GRATEFUL TO FR JOHN BAPTIST KISEMBO for his care for the church and parish during my absence, and we wish him well as he takes some days of rest with his cousin prior to supplying for a further two weeks in Hertford parish. I will go and see him in a week or so in Hertford, and take him out for dinner as a little 'thank you' from me!

May the prayers of Our Lady in Heaven help us on our pilgrim way through life! Fr Philip.

From *Misericordiae Vultus*, Pope Francis on the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 21:



If God limited himself to only justice, he would cease to be God, and would instead be like human beings who ask merely that the law be respected. But mere justice is not enough. Experience shows that an appeal to justice alone will result in its destruction. This is why God goes beyond justice with his mercy and forgiveness. Yet this does not mean that justice should be devalued or rendered superfluous. On the contrary: anyone who makes a mistake must pay the price. However, this is just the beginning of conversion, not its end, because one

begins to feel the tenderness and mercy of God. God does not deny justice. He rather envelopes it and surpasses it with an even greater event in which we experience love as the foundation of true justice.

PRAYER & LITURGY

GIUSEPPE RE RIP: Mr Re of Ware Road has recently died, and his funeral is arranged for **Tuesday 23rd August 9.30am**. Our sympathies go out to his family. May he rest in peace.

ITALIAN MASS: Please note that there will be NO Italian Mass in August. The next Mass will be on Saturday 3rd September at 4pm.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting THIS Friday, August 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!

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR (3rd Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **Sunday 21st August** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA (22nd to 26th May 2017): a 4-night pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady in Portugal, 100yrs on from the apparitions. Flyers now available in porch. Price expected to be £575. Please phone up the Presbytery to register your interest. We need **very soon** to give numbers to the Pilgrimage operator, **so we need your names a.s.a.p.** Already 27 people have asked to come.

MASS FOR ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS will be held on **Saturday 10th September at 2pm** at Westminster Cathedral. The principal celebrant will be Cardinal Vincent Nichols and all volunteers are welcome.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: John Askew, Rosa Augello, Helen & Michael Sherman, Annette Pinto, Anne Smith, Siobhan Fiorentini, Marina Morris, & Doney Beary.

PLEASE TELL US IF ANYONE IS HOUSEBOUND, EVEN TEMPORARILY, SO THEY CAN BE VISITED & HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION.

Housebound parishioners may like to know that Mass is regularly broadcast on the internet from the Catholic Church in Bishops Stortford:
<http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford>

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, Rev Anthony Curran 01438-285138 or 07884-187463; Princess Alexandra, Fr Leszek Gamracy 01279-426017

CATECHETICS

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Friday 9th and Wednesday 14th September** from 7.30–9pm in the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

CONFIRMATION 2017: applications have now closed for next year's Confirmation group, and we need to receive the yellow form back in from any candidates who forgot to bring it to the first session last week. We look forward to welcoming you to the next session on **12th September at 7.15pm** in the church crypt.

"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 will begin on 6th September at 7pm.** If anyone is considering becoming a Catholic (or is an adult Catholic wishing to be confirmed,) please contact Fr Philip as soon as possible. There are green leaflets outlining RCIA by the newsletters.



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**

SCHOOLS/UNDER-5s

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE: If your child is presently in year 5 and would wish to go to St Mary's or another Catholic secondary school in 2017, or if your child is looking to go into Reception year in a Catholic Primary school in autumn 2017, then you will need to apply immediately to go on the list for requesting a 'Certificate of Catholic Practice' towards the end of 2016. An information pack is available now from the presbytery. Once you have completed the form and returned it to the presbytery, your name will be added to the weekly sign-in-sheet which will be available in the church porch on the noticeboard (by the fire-exit door) for signing after the Saturday evening vigil Mass and the Masses of Sunday. On this basis Fr Philip will be in a better position to judge whether he can issue the Certificate you ask for.

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S is looking for an enthusiastic early-years practitioner to join its small and friendly team committed to providing high quality early-years education and care for young children. As a key person with a good understanding of EYFS and a friendly and flexible approach you will be able to build positive relationship with children and their parents ensuring that each child's needs are recognised and met. Applicants to be qualified to level 3 or equivalent in early-years' childcare and education. Apply in writing with CV to: St Augustine's Under 5's, Charlton Close, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DR or e-mail staugustinesunder5s@hotmail.co.uk

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

FACEBOOK: We now have a FaceBook page; just search for "CatholicHoddesdon": please 'like' the page, and invite your parish friends to 'like' it too.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip intends to make house visits this Wednesday afternoon to parish homes in: Cranborne Road, Rye Road, Crossfield Road.

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB will not be held during August. The autumn dates will be: 6th & 20th September; 4th & 18th October; 1st, 15th & 29th November; and 13th December, 12.30-2.30pm in the crypt.

PARISH BBQ: Due to the lack of numbers last weekend, it was decided to postpone the BBQ

to **Sunday 11th Sept at 1pm.** We really hope that more parishioners will be able to attend, so that we can all enjoy this event. **Please fill out your request for tickets and hand it into the presbytery as soon as you can.** We do need final numbers by Monday 5th September 12 noon so that we can order the food and we cannot accept people after 12 noon. There won't be a bar, so please do bring your own drink and glasses. **Application forms are now available from the back of the church and by the BBQ board.** Adults are £5, children £1 and under 5's free. The lists for volunteers are now available at the back of church. **PLEASE volunteer to assist with the many jobs – setting out chairs/tables before, putting up gazebos, making potato/pasta salads, coleslaw and lots more! Without help, we cannot make this event happen.** Raffle prizes are also needed for the day, so if you can donate something, please hand it in at the presbytery as we would like to have all raffle prizes by the 5th September. Thanks for your support.

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

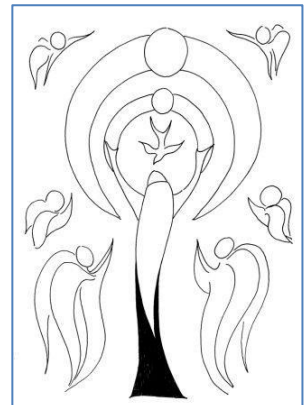
FEAST OF THE WEEK

Assumption of Our Lady

14th August

In 1950, when Pope Pius XII formally defined the dogma of the Assumption, he declared:

*"After We have poured forth prayers of supplication again and again to God, and have invoked the light of the Spirit of Truth, for the glory of Almighty God who has lavished his special affection upon the Virgin Mary, for the honour of her Son, the immortal King of the Ages and the Victor over sin and death, for the increase of the glory of that same august Mother, and for the joy and exultation of the entire Church; by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by Our own authority, We pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: **that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.**"*



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 13th August 10am Mass <i>In honour of Santa Lucia</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 188 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Apocalypse 11: 19, 12: 1–6, 10 <i>A woman adorned with the sun, standing on the moon.</i></p> <p>Psalm 44 — On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.</p> <p>2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20–26 <i>Christ as the first-fruits and then, those who belong to him.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Mary has been taken up into heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia.</i></p> <p>Gospel: Luke 1: 39–56 <i>The Almighty has done great things for me, he has exalted the lowly.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Assumption (p. 70) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 21ST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 66: 18–21 2nd Reading: Hebrews 12: 5–7, 11–13 Gospel: Luke 13: 22–30</p>
4.00pm* NO Italian Mass 6.30pm* James McGahern snr RIP & James McGahern jnr, Rose Ann McGahern, Philomena McGahern & Michael Page RIP annivs.	
Sun 14th August ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 9.15am Vincenzo & Grazia Castronovo RIP 11.15am For the Parish †	
Mon 15th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Ken Parker RIP	
Tues 16th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Kitty O'Rourke RIP	
Wed 17th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Bridget Daly & Kathleen Lee-Lozone RIP <i>— followed by coffee in crypt</i>	
Thurs 18th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Clementina Ojoh's intentions	
Fri 19th August <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass David Hale RIP	
Sat 20th August ST BERNARD, ABBOT 10am Mass Betty Mallinder's intentions	<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>
4.00pm* NO Italian Mass 6.30pm* For the Parish	
Sun 21st Aug 21ST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9.15am Stanley Abrahams RIP 11.15am Deceased members of Daly Family 5.00pm Holy Hour †	
<p style="text-align: right;">* 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>	
REGULAR EVENTS	

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.*