

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

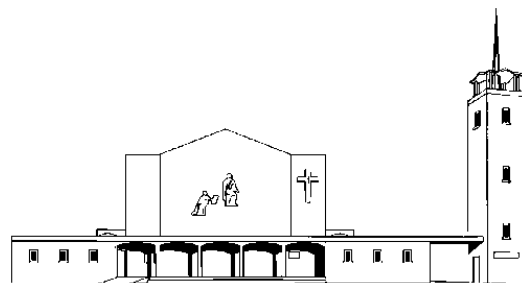
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Year C ST AUGUSTINE – PARISH PATRON SAINT 28TH AUGUST 2016

Matthew 23: 8-12 *The greatest among you must be your servant*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

OUR PATRONAL FEAST OF ST AUGUSTINE falls this Sunday, 28th August, and is obviously a great occasion for celebration! The image here (right) is a representation of the key moment in Augustine's life when, in a garden in Milan, Italy – far from his original home of Thagaste, Algeria – he was freed from his spiritual torments by a moment of intense grace from the Lord: he heard a little child's playful, sing-song repetition, "*Tolle, lege ... Tolle, lege*" ("Take, and read") ... and he took the chance to pick up his bible and read wherever his



eye chanced to fall. He read a passage of St Paul, and his heart was won over by the mercy of God, calling him away from a life of pride in his own achievements, and away too from a life of unchastity. This occurred in the autumn of 386AD, and then he set about receiving instruction and preparation for Baptism. St Ambrose, the archbishop of Milan baptized him at Easter 387, when St Augustine was nearly 33. He subsequently returned to North Africa, and in 397AD was ordained the bishop of Hippo, in modern-day Algeria, where he remained as bishop over 30yrs, until his death in 430AD.

As we keep our patronal feast, let's ask St Augustine's prayers for our own personal journey of conversion: may God break into our lives too with power to help us break patterns of sin, and give us that grace to see His hand at work in our daily lives, that we may rejoice in God whom St Augustine poetically described as "O beauty ever-ancient, ever-new."

May the Lord encourage us through the life, conversion, and prayers, of our patron! Fr Philip

From *Misericordiae Vultus*, Pope Francis on the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 22:



A Jubilee also entails the granting of *indulgences*. This practice will acquire an even more important meaning in the Holy Year of Mercy. God's forgiveness knows no bounds. In the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God makes even more evident his love and its power to destroy all human sin. Reconciliation with God is made possible through the paschal mystery and the mediation of the Church. Thus God is always ready to forgive, and he never tires of forgiving in ways that are continually new and surprising. Nevertheless, all of us know

well the experience of sin. We know that we are called to perfection (cf. Mt 5:48), yet we feel the heavy burden of sin. Though we feel the transforming power of grace, we also feel the effects of sin typical of our fallen state. Despite being forgiven, the conflicting consequences of our sins remain. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God forgives our sins, which he truly blots out; and yet sin leaves a negative effect on the way we think and act. But the mercy of God is stronger even than this. It becomes *indulgence* on the part of the Father who, through the Bride of Christ, his Church, reaches the pardoned sinner and frees him from every residue left by the consequences of sin, enabling him to act with charity, to grow in love rather than to fall back into sin.

PRAYER & LITURGY

BANK HOLIDAY MASS on Monday will be at 10am. The church will be closed after Mass.

ITALIAN MASS will resume next weekend with Mass at 4pm on 3rd September.

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at 7.30pm on **Friday 2nd September**. This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, which is always prayed for the pro-life cause.

LATIN MASS: The monthly Latin Mass, with sung chants, will be next Sunday at 5.00pm, **Sunday 4th September**.

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

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30-8.30pm: **next meeting Sept 16th**. 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 18th Sept**, 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 29 people have asked to come.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: A training event for all helpers and leaders will be held on **Saturday 3rd September from 10am to 12pm** in the crypt. New volunteers are welcome! Contact Claire Hay 07971-063520 .

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 **Fri 9th and Wed 14th September** 7.30-9pm in the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, 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 Sept 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 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 needs an enthusiastic early-years practitioner to join its 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 will be hoping to visit parish homes this Wednesday afternoon in the following roads: Essex Road, Parrotts Field, Alamein Close, Pulham Avenue.

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, from 12.30-2.30pm in the crypt. All are welcome for lunch and a friendly, unrushed chat!

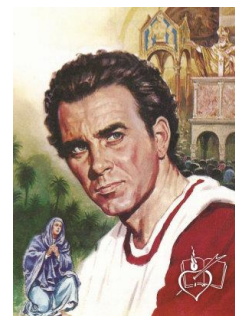
PARISH BBQ: The BBQ will now be on **Sunday 11th Sept at 1pm**. We really hope that more parishioners will be able to attend, so that we can all enjoy this event. **Please fill out your request for tickets and hand it into the presbytery as soon as you can.** We do need final numbers by **Monday 5th 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: Michele & Pelle De Luca and Mary Dineen. Thank you for your help!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

From St Augustine's Confessions

"Late have I loved You, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved You! You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for You. In my unloveliness I plunged into the lovely things which You created. You were with me, but I was not with You. Created things kept me from You; yet if they had not been in You they would not have been at all. You called, You shouted, and You broke through my deafness. You flashed, You shone, and You dispelled my blindness. You breathed Your fragrance on me; I drew in breath and now I pant for You. I have tasted You, now I hunger and thirst for more. You touched me, and I burned for Your peace." (bk X, xvii, §38)



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 27th August ST MONICA 10am Mass <i>Vincenzo Genuardi RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Yellow sheets</p> <p>1st Reading: Wisdom 7: 7–10, 15–16 <i>I loved Wisdom more than health or beauty</i></p> <p>Psalm 118 — Lord, teach me Your statutes</p> <p>2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 8–12 <i>Proclaiming to the pagans this infinite treasure of Christ</i></p>
4.00pm* NO Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>For the Parish</i>	<p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! You have only one Father, and He is in heaven; You have only one Teacher, the Christ. Alleluia.</i></p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 23: 8–12 <i>The greatest amongst you must be your servant</i></p>
Sun 28th August ST AUGUSTINE 9.15am <i>Margaret & Alan Lawlor</i> 11.15am <i>Gaetana Conti RIP</i> ‡	<p>PREFACE TODAY: Pastors of the Church EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 23RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</p> <p>1st Reading: Wisdom 9: 13-18 2nd Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17 Gospel: Luke 14: 25-33</p>
Mon 29th August BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST 10am Mass <i>Jordi Rierra Corrigan RIP</i>	<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>
Tues 30th August SS MARGARET WARD, ANNE LINE & MARGARET CLITHEROW 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Ken Parker</i>	<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>
Wed 31st August ST AIDAN 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Giuseppe Distefano RIP</i> — followed by coffee in crypt	<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>
Thurs 1st September NO MASS TODAY	<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR EVENTS</p>
Fri 2nd September <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Riccardo & Luigia Beschizza RIP</i> 7.30pm Mass <i>Francesca Crimauddo RIP Anniv</i> 8.00pm Holy Hour	
Sat 3rd September ST GREGORY THE GREAT, Pope 10am Mass <i>Marietta Sorrentino RIP</i>	
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Kitty O'Rourke RIP</i> Sun 4th Sept 23RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9.15am <i>Olivia Teddy Ferraro's Intentions</i> 11.15am <i>President's Mass – Catenians</i> 5.00pm Latin Mass <i>For the Parish</i> ‡	
<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>	

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.