

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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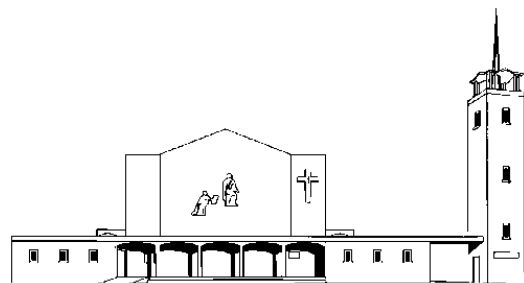
Web-site: www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

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Year C NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 7TH AUG 2016

Luke 12: 32-48 You too must stand ready.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's, this Sunday's Gospel portrays a master returning suddenly late at night from a wedding and finding his servants ready to welcome him. This master stands for Christ who will come to take us to the kingdom on the day of our death. Shall we be ready to meet him when that day comes? We need to be prepared all the time persevering in living our faith, having our lamps lit because no one knows when the Lord God shall call us to appear before Him.

Then, Jesus added, "Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. Where? In God's kingdom."

Jesus concluded His teaching by saying, "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded."

Each one of us according to the various responsibilities entrusted to us will have to give accountability to the Lord. Those who are entrusted with the care of souls, the clergy members, the parents who have children, the teachers, the politicians, the judges, the lawyers, the police, everyone in whatever capacity shall be made accountable. Let us be ready all the time doing the duties entrusted to us by God faithfully.

This is my last weekend this summer. Farewell to all of you. My sincere thanks to Fr Philip who always invites me to cover for him when he is on holiday and all of you for your warm welcome and the love you show me in various ways. May God bless you abundantly. Let us keep one another in our prayers.

Fr John Baptist.

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



Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God's way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe. The experience of the prophet Hosea can help us see the way in which mercy surpasses justice. The era in which the prophet lived was one of the most dramatic in the history of the Jewish people. The kingdom was tottering on the edge of destruction; the people had not remained faithful to the covenant; they had wandered from God and lost the faith of their forefathers.

According to human logic, it seems reasonable for God to think of rejecting an unfaithful people; they had not observed their pact with God and therefore deserved just punishment: in other words, exile. ... And yet, after this invocation of justice, the prophet radically changes his speech and reveals the true face of God: "... How can I hand you over, O Israel! My heart recoils within me, my compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my fierce anger; ... for I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come to destroy." Saint Augustine, almost as if he were commenting on these words of the prophet, says: "It is easier for God to hold back anger than mercy". And so it is. God's anger lasts but a moment, his mercy forever.

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Loréna Rowe and Ivy Webb who will be baptised this weekend.

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!

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

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

MASS FOR 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.

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 NOW to register your interest.

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 are looking for an enthusiastic early years practitioner to join our 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 year's childcare and education. Apply in writing with CV to St Augustine's Under 5's Charlton Close Hoddesdon EN11 8DR or email 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 resume his visits on his return from World Youth Day and holiday.

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: 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**

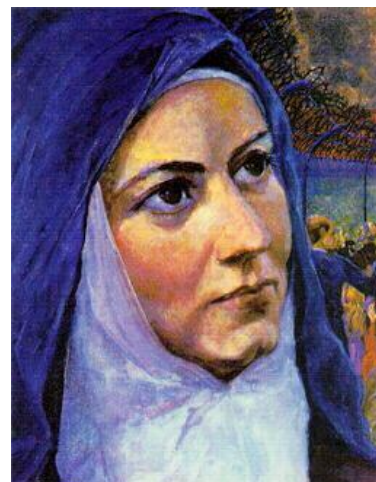
your request for tickets and hand it into the presbytery as soon as you can. We do need final numbers by Monday 5th September 12 noon so that we can order the food and we cannot accept people after 12 noon. There won't be a bar, so please do bring your own drink and glasses. **Application forms are now 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: Pina Johnson, Maria Manzo, Pam McCarthy, Charmaine Collins and Sara. Thank you for your help!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

9TH AUGUST

ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS



Lord, God of our fathers,

You brought Saint Teresa Benedicta to the fullness of the science of the cross at the hour of her martyrdom. Fill us with that same knowledge; and, through her intercession, allow us always to seek after you, the supreme truth, and to remain faithful until death to the covenant of love ratified in the blood of your Son for the salvation of all men and women. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 6th August THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD 10am Mass <i>Michael & Shirley Byrne's Intentions</i>	PAGE 121 in the Mass books
4.00pm* NO Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Vera Byrne's Intentions</i>	1st Reading: Wisdom 18: 6-9 <i>By the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.</i>
Sun 7th August 19TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9.15am** <i>Claire Hinton RIP</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> ‡	Psalm 32 — Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.
Mon 8th August ST DOMINIC, Priest 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Terry Cahill RIP</i>	2nd Reading: Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19 <i>Abraham looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.</i>
Tues 9th August ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Kay Gaffney & Margaret Staines RIP</i>	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia.</i>
Wed 10th August ST LAWRENCE, Deacon & Martyr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Eddy Ogbodu — followed by coffee in crypt</i>	Gospel: Luke 12: 32-48 <i>You too must stand ready.</i>
Thurs 11th August ST CLARE, Virgin 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Marina Morris Intentions</i>	PREFACE TODAY: ad lib EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: ad lib
Fri 12th August <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Kitty O'Rourke RIP</i>	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 1st Reading: Apocalypse 11: 19, 12: 1-6, 10 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26 Gospel: Luke 1: 39-56
Sat 13th August 10am Mass <i>In honour of Santa Lucia</i>	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>
4.00pm* NO Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>James McGahern Snr RIP & James McGahern Jnr, Rose Ann McGahern, Philomena McGahern & Michael Page RIP Anniv</i>	ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.
Sun 14th August THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 9.15am <i>Vincenzo & Grazia Castronovo RIP</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> ‡	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 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>	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
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.*