

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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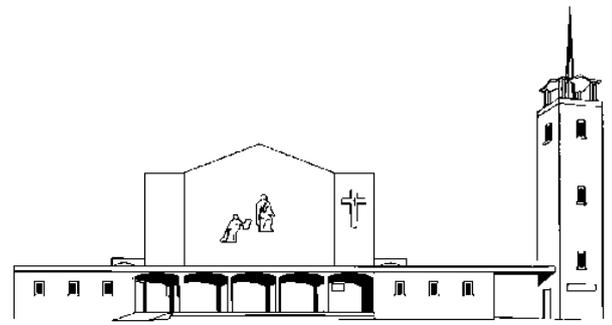
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

(<http://yofhomilies.wordpress.com>)

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

Secretary: Dawn Bates (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am–3pm)



Year C

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

21ST FEB 2016

GOSPEL: Luke 9: 28–36

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

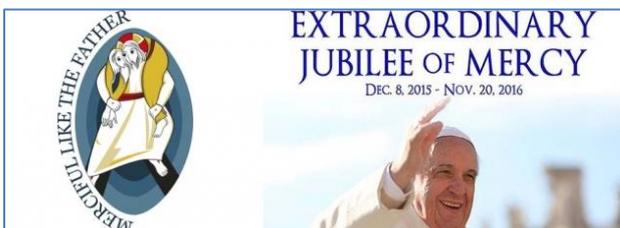
THIS SECOND SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF LENT is always devoted to a meditation on the mysterious event of Jesus's Transfiguration, when He let His divinity radiate out from His human body in a hitherto unseen way. This awesome moment — rather frightening for the three apostles at first — served to strengthen their faith in Jesus as divine, and therefore prepared them in some way for the more glorious miracle of the Resurrection. For us, hearing of this event near the start of Lent, it serves to be a light by which we may see our way through Lent, and we may be encouraged to want to know Jesus ever better in His divine glory. It is as if the Transfiguration of Jesus were the light 'at the start of the tunnel' and His Resurrection were the light 'at the end of the tunnel.' Thus this knowledge of Jesus's divinity, experienced in the Transfiguration, helped the apostles cope with the shocking events of Jesus's Passion, and helps us keep faithful to the penances of Lent by which we seek to serve our loving God all the more faithfully.

THE 'HOLY YEAR OF MERCY' 2015–16 includes the sacred practice of passing through one of the 'Holy Doors of Mercy' and so I have arranged a morning trip to go together on a mini-pilgrimage to Westminster Cathedral on Thursday 25th Feb. Add your name to the sign-up sheet if you want to join us. We shall meet by 10am at Broxbourne station, catch the 10.12 or 10.17 train, and visit the cathedral 11am–12noon, entering via the Holy Door, and following the Cathedral's special itinerary inside, the 'Way of Mercy.' There will then be half an hour of free time, for you to make your own visit around the cathedral &/or go to Confession. We will then attend — and I will concelebrate — the 12.30pm lunchtime Mass in the cathedral. Do think of coming, as a way of entering into the 'Year of Mercy' in a special way, that of 'pilgrimage.'

May Christ's divine radiance shine on us and light us up with holiness this Lent!

Fr Philip

From *Misericordiae Vultus*, Pope Francis on the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 8:



With our eyes fixed on Jesus and His merciful gaze, we experience the love of the Most Holy Trinity. The mission Jesus received from the Father was that of revealing the mystery of divine love in its fullness. "God is love", St John affirms for the first and only time in all of Holy Scripture. This love has now been made visible and tangible in Jesus' entire life. His person is nothing but love, a love given gratuitously. The relationships He forms with the people who approach Him manifest something entirely unique and unrepeatable. The signs He

works, especially in favour of sinners, the poor, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering, are all meant to teach mercy. Everything in Him speaks of mercy. Nothing in Him is devoid of compassion.

PRAYER & LITURGY

MARIA SYED RIP of Stortford Road, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. **The funeral will be on Tuesday 23rd February at 12 noon with Don Antonio.**

May she rest in peace.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting March 18th.** 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 **this Sunday 21st February** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction.

YEAR OF MERCY: On **Thursday 25th February**, Fr Philip will lead a morning visit to the *Holy Door of Mercy* at Westminster Cathedral. Inside the Cathedral there is a pilgrimage 'Way of Mercy' to follow, with accompanying prayers. We would then attend together, at the end, the 12.30pm Mass. **If you would like to attend, please do sign the sheet at the back of church.** More information about the year, Holy Doors and the Indulgence available: <http://rcdow.org.uk/year-of-mercy/>.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Young helpers, from year 6 upwards are needed to help with the children's liturgy. If you are interested, please contact Claire Hay 07971-063520 or Janet Pearce 07711-257560.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE: The Cardinal invites all couples in the diocese who are celebrating 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th or 60th (+ anything over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2016 to Mass on **Sat 14th May at 3pm** at Westminster Cathedral. If you would like to attend, please communicate to the Presbytery these details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and e-mail (or tel. number, if no e-mail) by **6th March**.

CONGRATULATIONS to Pelle and Michele De Luca who celebrate their 40th Wedding Anniversary on 21st February.

LENT

PARISH "PENANCE" FOR LENT: in Lent, we will have no final hymn at Sunday Mass, and then we will **keep silence** in the body of the church, so as to allow a period of prayer for those who wish to remain after Mass in Thanksgiving. Please abide by this!

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY was last **Friday** and the envelopes are attached to the newsletter and will be collected after Mass this weekend. This year CAFOD is working to ensure girls living in the world's poorest countries are free to change their lives by getting an education. Extra Good news: the UK government has promised to match every pound and penny you give to CAFOD this Lent!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: the "Way of the Cross" prayed in church each Friday (12.30pm, after Mass), & Saturday (9.30am, before Mass.) And in Italian at 5.30pm each Friday.

LENTEN ALMS Our 2016 Lenten Alms appeal will be in support of *Caritas Westminster*, the official social outreach arm of the Diocese of Westminster. Lent is the perfect time for us to think of those suffering without — the poor, the marginalized, the least among us — and to make a sacrifice through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. *Caritas Westminster* works across our Diocese, throughout London and Hertfordshire, enabling and co-ordinating parish communities to find practical solutions that address a variety of local social needs. For example, rough sleeping, food poverty, human trafficking, youth employability and loneliness. **You will find the box throughout Lent in front of the lectern.**

'**LENT EXTRA**' booklets with daily Lent meditations are now available to buy for £1.75 by the newspapers.

'**LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS**' is the diocesan faith-sharing booklet for Lent, on the theme of mercy: booklet now available from the back of church for £2. Please place your money for either of these items in the 'newspaper' wall-box.

LENT LUNCHES will be held every Tuesday during Lent at Barclay Hall (St Catherine & St Paul's Anglican church hall) at 12.15pm for £3 — profits to Christian Aid.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is on **Friday 4th March**. The services will be held at the Methodist Church, Middlefield Road, Hoddesdon, 10.30am and 8pm at Wormley Free Church, Slipe Lane. All are invited to worship under Cuban palm trees.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our sick parishioners and friends: Moyra O'Neill, Peter Tanner, John Askew, Rosa Augello, Roberto Piacentini, Helen & Michael Sherman, Annette Pinto, Anne Smith, Siobhan Fiorentini, Michael Foley and Michael Sherman.

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

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

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



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

CATECHETICS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The sixth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 9th March 8–9pm**. The sixth session for the children will be **Sat 12th March 10am–12noon**.

CONFIRMATION 2016: The next session held on **Monday 22nd February at 7.15pm** for candidates and parents. Candidates will need to have read **chapter 12 & 13** of the Gospel of Mark.

“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**

continues on the 23rd February at 7pm.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next Baptism course will be held on **Wed 2nd AND 16th March 7.30pm–9pm** in the Presbytery. This course needs to be completed prior to arranging the Baptism.

SCHOOLS

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his visiting this week, Wednesday afternoon, calling at homes in: Norris Rise, Westfield Road, Brookside, Cillocks Close, Jersey Close.

200 CLUB RENEWALS take place after Masses on the weekends of the **6th and 13th March**. If you would like to join contact Theresa Casbard 301551 or email t.casbard@ntlworld.com.

TEXT GIVING: Our diocese is now making available a new way to 'top up' your offerings or to make special gifts to our parish, e.g. if you are away for a weekend. By using your mobile telephone, you can now text £5 as an offering to help support the running costs, ministries and programmes, or the cost of maintenance and repairs to our buildings. Simply type: "Parish" (then space) then "HODDE". Send it to 70800 and £5 will be added to your mobile phone bill which will come directly to our parish.

CHURCH CLEANERS: At least **two more cleaners are urgently needed** to help clean for just one hour per month. If you can help, please do contact the presbytery.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip would like to continue meeting parishioners/families in their homes, as much as possible. Sunday lunch 1.30pm is a good (but by no means only) time. Free dates: 21st February; 6th, 13th & 20th March.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 20th Feb 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>John & Johanna Doyle anniv.</i></p> <hr/> <p>4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Martin & Bridget Moriarty RIP</i></p> <p>Sun 21st Feb SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** <i>Carmela De Luca RIP anniv.</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> † 5.00pm Holy Hour</p>	<p>PAGE 156 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Genesis 15: 5–12, 17–18 <i>God enters into a Covenant with Abraham, the man of faith.</i></p> <p>Psalm 26 — The Lord is my light and my help.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Philippians 3: 17–4:1 <i>Christ will transfigure our bodies into copies of his glorious body.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Glory and praise to you, O Christ!</i></p> <p>Gospel: Luke 9: 28–36 <i>As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Transfiguration of Jesus (p. 72) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)</p> <p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</p> <p>1st Reading: Exodus 3: 1–8, 13–15 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1–6, 10–12 Gospel: Luke 13: 1–9</p>
<p>Mon 22nd Feb THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Mary Heraughty RIP anniv.</i></p> <p>Tues 23rd February 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Santa Soldano RIP</i> 12 noon Funeral <i>Maria Syed RIP</i></p> <p>Wed 24th February 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Kitty O'Malley RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt</i></p> <p>Thurs 25th February NO Mass — pilgrimage to Westm. Cathedral Holy Door</p> <p>Fri 26th February (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Josephine Murphy RIP</i> 12.30pm Stations of the Cross</p> <p>Sat 27th Feb 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>Andrée Harding 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 <i>any other time.</i></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>Mario & Giuseppina Vaccaro RIP</i></p> <p>Sun 28th Feb THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am <i>Johnny Flynn RIP</i> †</p>	<p>REGULAR EVENTS</p> <p>Mon 22nd 7.15pm Confirmation, crypt Tues 23rd 7pm RCIA, presbytery Wed 24th 6pm Brownies, crypt</p>
<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.*