

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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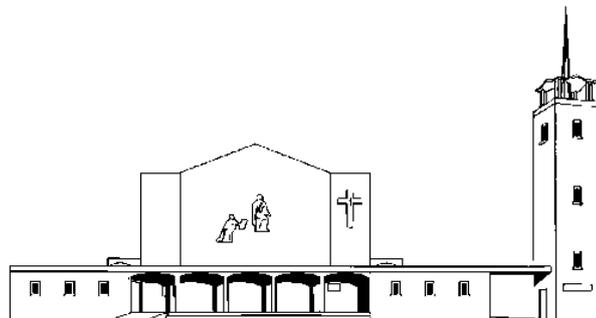
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

28TH FEBRUARY 2016

GOSPEL: Luke 13: 1–9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

AS WE COME TO THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT we find ourselves getting nearer to the middle of this sacred season, and maybe need to ask ourselves whether we are keeping the season well. If you've not yet focussed on this penitential season, then think about picking up a leaflet

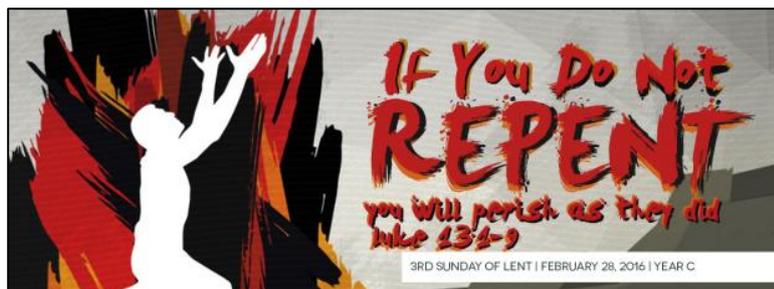
“**IDEAS for Lent 2016**” from alongside the Newsletters. Jesus reminds us in the Gospel to make sure that we examine our lives and repent of our sins — all the rest of our Lenten practices are geared towards the increase of goodness and the overcoming of temptation. Let's make sure that we are indeed keeping up some pious practices for Lent, and working towards making our Confession at some point in Lent in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Also, do cast your eyes over the CTS racks, as they are restocked with plenty of Lenten / Year of Mercy reading.

THIS PAST WEEK I'VE EXPERIENCED TWO LOVELY 'HOLY YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGES to the Holy Doors: one with St Cross children to the local Holy Door at Waltham Cross church; and another with a group of parishioners to the Cathedral Holy Door and 'Way of Mercy'. Both were very prayerful occasions, reminding us of the centrality of God's mercy in our daily Christian life, and of our need to exercise mercy to one another. They fed nicely into the keeping of Lent for us. Don't forget that anyone can make an individual pilgrimage to the holy doors at Waltham Cross, or at the Cathedral. I do encourage you to do so, to pray for mercy and mark the Holy Year.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PILGRIMAGE TO KRAKOW: there is still time for anyone (16–30yrs old) to join our little group for the papal event of World Youth Day early this summer (July 18th – 31st). We went on the first of the 'info' meetings with the diocesan youth service this week, and it sounds very exciting. Take a flyer, or look at: <http://dowym.com/events/wyd/> and speak to me soon!

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:



Jesus, seeing the crowds of people who followed him, realized that they were tired and exhausted, lost and without a guide, and he felt deep compassion for them. On the basis of this compassionate love he healed the sick who were presented to him, and with just a few loaves of bread and fish he satisfied the enormous crowd. What moved Jesus in all of these situations was nothing other than mercy, with which he read the hearts of those he encountered and responded to their deepest need. ... The calling of Matthew is also presented within the context of mercy. Passing by the tax collector's booth, Jesus looked intently at Matthew. It was a look full of mercy that forgave the sins of that man, a sinner and a tax collector, whom Jesus chose — against the hesitation of the disciples — to become one of the Twelve. Saint Bede the Venerable, commenting on this Gospel passage, wrote that Jesus looked upon Matthew with merciful love and chose him: *miserando atque eligendo*. This expression impressed me so much that I chose it for my episcopal motto.

PRAYER & LITURGY

MOYRA O'NEILL RIP formerly of Barclay Court, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Friday 11th March at 12 noon.**

MARIA REGA RIP of Duke Street, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Details of the funeral will follow in due course. *May they rest in peace.*

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at **7.30pm on Friday 4th March.** 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 at 5.00pm next **Sun 6th March.**

YEAR OF MERCY: 24 HRS' ADORATION will be held at The Immaculate Conception & St Joseph parish, Hertford SG14 1RX on **Friday 4th March after the 12.15 Mass and will continue all night up until noon on Saturday 5th March.** Priests will be available to hear confessions during this time. There will be facilities for tea and coffee in the Hall, should people need a break. All are welcome.

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 **Sunday 20th March** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction.

"THE GIFT" ... is coming! ... More news soon ...

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.**

LENT

PARISH "FAST" 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!

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, 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 LUNCHESES 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."

LENTEN REFLECTION will be held on **Saturday 12th March from 1-5pm** at the parish centre, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception & St Joseph, Waltham Cross EN8 7DP. All welcome!

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our sick parishioners and friends: 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 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, 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 7th March at 7.15pm** for candidates. Candidates will need to have read **chapters 14 & 15** 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 1st March 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.

UNDER 5'S: (i) **PAMPER NIGHT** is being held on **Friday 4th March from 6.30-9.30pm**. Tickets £3 in advance £3.50 on the door; mini treatments available. Please call playgroup on 460614.

(ii) **200 CLUB RENEWALS** take place after Mass 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.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip intends to be visiting parish homes this week, Wednesday afternoon, in: Brookside, Cillocks Close, Jersey Close,

SIERRA LEONE TALK will be given at URC Broxbourne church on **Mon 29th Feb at 2.30pm**. The talk entitled 'Education, Ebola and Endurance in Sierra Leone' will be given by Miriam Mason-Sesay, a former teacher of St Edmunds who moved to Sierra Leone.

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: 6th & 13th March.

CHURCH CLEANING: Filomena Mezzullo & Laura Harwood. Thank you!

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 27th Feb 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Andrée Harding RIP	PAGE 160 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Exodus 3: 1–8, 13–15 <i>I Am has sent me to you.</i>
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Mario & Giuseppina Vaccaro RIP	Psalm 102 — The Lord is compassion and love.
Sun 28th Feb THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** For the Parish 11.15am Johnny Flynn RIP †	2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1–6, 10–12 <i>The life of the people under Moses in the desert was written down to be a lesson for us.</i>
Mon 29th February 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Peggy McGillicuddy RIP	Gospel Accl: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
Tues 1st March ST DAVID, Bishop, Patron of Wales 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass All Souls	Gospel: Luke 13: 1–9 <i>Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.</i>
Wed 2nd March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Michael Pavitt RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt	PREFACE TODAY: Lent I (p. 70) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25) NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
Thurs 3rd March NO Mass	1st Reading: Joshua 5: 9–12 2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 17–21 Gospel: Luke 15: 1–3, 11–32
Fri 4th March (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Francesco Cannatella RIP Anniv 12.30pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Mass Biagio Cicchirillo RIP 8.00pm Holy Hour	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>
Sat 5th March 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Byrne Family Intentions	ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Thanksgiving to St Anthony	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.
Sun 6th March FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** Iolanda Fattore RIP Anniv 11.15am Frances Woolsgrove RIP 5.00pm Latin Mass For the Parish †	SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.
<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	
Tues 1st 7pm RCIA, presbytery	Wed 2nd 7.30pm All Saints, crypt
Wed 2nd 6pm Brownies, crypt	Wed 2nd 7.30pm Baptism course

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.*