

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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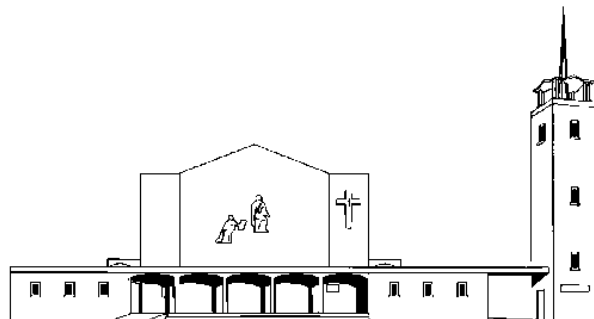
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7TH FEB 2016

GOSPEL: Luke 5: 1–11

They left everything and followed him.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

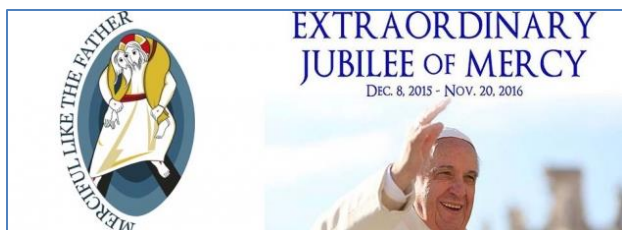
WE HEAR OF OUR LORD PREACHING TODAY BY LAKE GALILEE, His customary locale for those early days of ministry, and it's combined with an account of the call of St Peter after the miraculous draught of fish. Peter is overwhelmed by the miracle he has just witnessed, and knows that he is in the presence of God Almighty, and flinches at this encounter, but Jesus encourages him, and calls him to apostolic service despite his sinfulness. None of us is perfect, and yet God continues to call us and use us in His Church, forgiving us time and time again, and urging us to do His work in the world. St Peter would go from cowering, here, at the prospect of accompanying Jesus, to giving his whole life — and shedding his blood — for the Gospel of the Lord.



THE 'HOLY YEAR OF MERCY' 2015–16 encourages us to think deeply about our own attitudes and actions. Last week we contemplated the 'corporal works of mercy' — those physical actions that we should take to assist others in their bodily needs. This weekend I would like to focus instead on the 'spiritual works of mercy,' which are acts of compassion by which we help our neighbours with their emotional and spiritual needs: to counsel the doubtful; to instruct the ignorant; to admonish sinners; to comfort the afflicted; to forgive offences; to bear wrongs patiently; and to pray for the living and the dead. As we reflect on Our Lord's own earthly life and ministry, we see that He lived these abundantly; and He gives us the graces to do the same. Think, here, how Jesus "counsels the doubtful" in His first encounter with Simon Peter — and how Peter is brought to faith in so dramatic a way. We also must live out these beautiful works of mercy.

May Christ's gifts of grace work in us that we may bring others to holiness and faith! Fr Philip

From *Misericordiae Vultus*, Pope Francis on the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 7:



"For his mercy endures forever." This is the refrain that is repeated after each verse in Psalm 136 as it narrates the history of God's revelation. By virtue of mercy, all the events of the Old Testament are replete with profound salvific import. Mercy renders God's history with Israel a history of salvation. To repeat continually "for his mercy endures forever," as the psalm does, seems to break through the dimensions of space and

time, inserting everything into the eternal mystery of love. It is as if to say that not only in history, but for all eternity man will always be under the merciful gaze of the Father. It is no accident that the people of Israel wanted to include this psalm — the "Great *Hallel*," as it is called — in its most important liturgical feast days. Before his Passion, Jesus prayed with this psalm of mercy. Matthew attests to this in his Gospel when he says that, "when they had sung a hymn," Jesus and his disciples went out to the Mount of Olives.

PRAYER & LITURGY

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS to Giovanni Castronovo and Katie-Jane Lenney married here in the church this weekend. May God bless them in their married life.

CORNELIUS VAN HAGE RIP of Cautherly Lane, Great Amwell, died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral will be on **Mon 8th Feb at 11am.** *May he rest in peace.*

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Luca Ingrao and Ruby-Leigh West who will be baptised this weekend.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting February 12th.** 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 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. More information about the year, Holy Doors and the Indulgence available: <http://rcdow.org.uk/year-of-mercy/>.

ALTAR SERVERS: Children (any age) who have at least made their First Holy Communion and wish to become altar servers, please contact the presbytery so that training can be arranged.

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

ASH WEDNESDAY is on **10th February** and Mass will be at 9.30am (with both schools), 12 noon and 8pm. If you are a Eucharistic Minister, reader or altar server and can assist at the Masses, please sign your name on the lists at the back of the church. **Ash Wednesday is a day of**

fasting (for those aged 16–60) and abstinence (for those aged 14+). This means that we consciously choose to eat less — one main meal only — and that (as on all Fridays) we eat no meat whatsoever.

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 marginalised, 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. Please place your money in the newspaper box

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY is on **Friday 19th February.** After all Masses **next weekend** there will be a CAFOD speaker.

LENT LUNCHESES will be held every Tuesday from **16th Feb** during Lent at Barclay Hall (St Catherine & St Paul's Anglican church hall) at 12.15pm for £3 — profits to Christian Aid.

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/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 retreat day will be on **Sat 13th Feb 11–4pm** in the crypt. Please don't forget your packed lunch!

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.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

JUSTICE & PEACE: The next Justice and Peace meeting will be held in the crypt on **Friday 12th February at 8.00 pm**. All are welcome.

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 intends to visit parish homes this Wednesday afternoon in: Taverners Way, Foxton Road, Winterscroft Road.

PARISH ACCOUNTS: A summary of the parish accounts for 2014 & 2015, alongside a schedule of our parish's charitable giving is available for inspection on the notice board in the porch.

TEXT GIVING: Our parish is now making available a new way to 'top up' your offerings or to make special gifts. 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 & 28th February.

CHURCH CLEANING: Cheryl Holbourn, Mima Salvo, Mirella DiChiara, Josie Warren & Barbara Wright. Thank you!

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 6th Feb ST PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS, Martyrs 10am Mass <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</i>	PAGE 135 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 6: 1–8 <i>Here I am, send me.</i>
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>Thomas Munroe RIP</i> Sun 7th Feb 5TH SUN IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** <i>Gaetana Lomanto RIP</i> 11.15am <i>Maria & Onofrio Panepinto RIP</i> 5.00pm Latin Mass <i>For the Parish</i> †	Psalm 137 — Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord. 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 1–11 <i>I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.</i>
Mon 8th February 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Deceased members of McIntyre & Griffin Families</i> 11am Funeral <i>Cornelius Van Hage RIP</i> Tues 9th February 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Frank & Teresa Pyper RIP</i> Wed 10th February ASH WEDNESDAY (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14 +; fasting for those aged 16–60) 8.15am Adoration NO Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass <i>Family of Rose Simmonds</i> 12 noon Mass <i>Peter Cattini RIP</i> 8.00pm Mass <i>Jan Manners RIP</i>	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Luke 5: 1–11 <i>They left everything and followed him.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 5 (p. 69) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25) NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10 2nd Reading: Romans 10: 8-13 Gospel: Luke 4: 1-13
Thurs 11th February OUR LADY OF LOURDES 8.30am Mass <i>Catherine Hudson RIP</i> Fri 12th February (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Terry McIntyre RIP</i> Sat 13th Feb 10am Mass <i>Onofria Maniscalco RIP</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> ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass. 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.
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 14th Feb FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** <i>Peter Yee RIP</i> 11.15am <i>Santa Soldano RIP</i> †	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 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>	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Wed 10th 6pm Brownies, crypt	Fri 12th 7.30pm Prayer group, church

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.*