

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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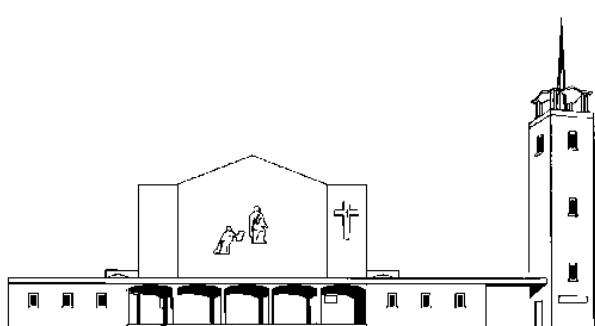
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

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 IN ORDINARY TIME

24TH JAN 2016

GOSPEL: Luke 1: 1–4; 4:14–21

This text is being fulfilled today.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

As we continue these first weeks of 'ORDINARY TIME' we hear today that beautiful Gospel account of Jesus's return to Nazareth and His preaching in the synagogue that follows on from a reading from the prophet Isaiah. Jesus is, quite clearly, associating Himself with Isaiah's image of the Messiah, and tells His fellow countrymen, "This text is being fulfilled today, even as you listen!" Jesus is setting out, here, at the start of His public ministry, the fact of His being the Christ — not in some warrior mould, but after the pattern indicated by Isaiah, "to bring the Good News to the poor, ... to proclaim the Lord's year of favour."

THIS WEEK (18TH–25TH JANUARY) IS THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY and so we have the chance to join our Christian brothers and sisters this Sunday evening in a joint service expressing our common Baptism. This year, our Unity Service is being held at the parish church in Hoddesdon, St Catherine & St Paul's at the top end of Hoddesdon High Street. The service will begin at 6pm, and Fr Philip will, as usual, be present and participating, so do come along and join in this common act of worship with fellow Christians in the local area.

THE ORDINATION OF OUR TWO NEW AUXILIARY BISHOPS — Canon Paul McAleenan of our diocese, and Mgr John Wilson of Leeds diocese — takes place tomorrow, Monday 25th January, at midday Mass in Westminster Cathedral; doors open at 11am. The Cathedral should rightly be full to overflowing for this marvellous occasion. Parishioners are warmly welcome to attend the ordination Mass — if you have never experienced the beauty of the Sacrament of Ordination, this would be a marvellous opportunity! Fr Philip will be attending and will be catching the 10.17 train from Broxbourne. If you would like to go and do not know the way to the Cathedral, then meet him on the platform at 10.15am that morning.



May Christ's proclamation of the Kingdom fill our hearts joy today!

Fr Philip

From Misericordiae Vultus, Pope Francis on the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 6:



"It is proper to God to exercise mercy, and He manifests His omnipotence particularly in this way." Saint Thomas Aquinas's words show that God's mercy, rather than a sign of weakness, is the mark of His omnipotence. For this reason the liturgy, in one of its most ancient collects, has us pray: "O God, who reveal Your power above all in Your mercy and forgiveness ..." Throughout the history of humanity, God will always be the One who is present, close, provident, holy, and merciful.

PRAYER & LITURGY

KITTY O'ROURKE RIP of Old Highway died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Wed 27th Jan 2.30pm**.

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 they rest in peace.*

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: the Cardinal has written 'A Pilgrimage Companion for the Year of Mercy,' so please take a copy from the table in the porch by the choir-loft stairs (£1 or donation). It's a beautiful introduction to this 'Holy Year of Mercy.' 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.

ANNUAL CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE will be held **this Sunday 24th January** at St Catherine's and St Pauls at 6pm. This service is held on behalf of the Churches Together in Hoddesdon and all parishioners are welcome.

EUCARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS ROTA: The next rota for the period Feb-May is due to be drawn up shortly. Please advise Pat Kavanagh by **Wednesday 27th January at the latest** of any weekends that you are NOT available and also of any changes in your personal details (telephone number, address). You can contact Pat Kavanagh by telephone 449282 or by email patandcarolkav@btinternet.com.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES: This year's Mass will take place at **2pm on Saturday 6th February.** Cardinal Vincent Nichols will preside, and the Mass will include the Sacrament of the Sick. All are welcome and there are no seat reservations or tickets. If you are taking a wheelchair, please advise us **this weekend** so that we can arrange a reserved space.

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.**

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our sick parishioners and friends: Moyra O'Neill, Peter Tanner, John Askew, Rosa Augello, Roberto Piacentini, Helen 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.

CATECHETICS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The fifth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 3rd Feb 8–9pm** in the crypt. The fifth session for the children will be **Sat 6th Feb 10am–12noon**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: MASS BOOKS for children are available from the Presbytery (price £1) — a colourful simple Missal, with all the Mass responses, very suitable for children of First-Holy-Communion age.

CONFIRMATION 2016: next session held on **Monday 1st February at 7.15pm** for candidates and parents. Candidates will need to have read **chapter 11** 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 26th January at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The second part of the course will be held on **Friday 29th Jan 7.30pm–9pm** in the church.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: The amount collected was £379.68. Thank you!

TRAIDCRAFT stall will be at the back of church after all Masses **this weekend**.

REFUGEE VOLUNTEER EVENING will be held on **Tues 26th Jan (6–8.30pm)** in the Centre for Youth Ministry, 20 Phoenix Road, Euston, London NW1 1TA. The evening will show you how you might help refugees in London and Hertfordshire. Speakers will include: Louise Zanre from JRS UK, Sister Christine Frost from Neighbours in Poplar, Cathy Corcoran CEO of the Cardinal Hume Centre and Michaela Costello from Guardian Angels parish. To attend, RSVP as places are limited! E-mail caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk to book your place.

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.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL requires an experienced teacher to be the Head of RE. Please contact Debbie Hourihan on 01279-654901 or e-mail HR@stmarys.net or download an application form from the website. Further details are on the poster on notice board. Closing date 26th Jan.

MISCELLANEOUS

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT weekend will be held on the **5–6th March** at High Leigh Christian Conference Centre, Hoddesdon. For 2 days it is £110 per couple and registration is essential. Registration forms are available from the back of church or from the presbytery. The weekend is for all ages and stages of marriage and offers refreshing insights and powerful strategies to help you turn your good marriage into a great marriage. Fr Philip highly recommends this programme! www.smartloving.org/marriage/

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip intends to visit parish homes this Wednesday **morning** in: Howfield Green, High Wood Road, Ware Road odd nos.

ACTORS WANTED: For the third year running members of the Churches Together Group in Hoddesdon, Broxbourne and Wormley are enacting scenes from the Passion of Christ as part of the Good Friday Witness service in the town centre. Volunteers are needed to take part in the drama. If you are of secondary school age or above and are interested in taking part, please contact Kathryn Edmonds by email at the.edmonds@ntlworld.com.

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: 31st January, 7th 21st & 28th February.

CHURCH CLEANING: Joanne Dawes, Lena Tona Carmela Tona & Giuseppina Tuzzeo. Thank you!

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 23rd January 10am Mass Justina Ogbodu RIP & Ighade & Ogbodu Families 4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Calogero Amico RIP & Franco Martorana RIP	PAGE 129 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Nehemiah 8: 2–6, 8–10 <i>Ezra read from the law of God and the people understood what was read.</i> Psalm 18 — Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life. 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 12–30 <i>You together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Luke 1: 1–4; 4: 14–21 <i>This text is being fulfilled today.</i>
Sun 24th Jan 3RD SUN IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** Carlo & Maria Silenti 11.15am For the Parish ‡	PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 3 (p. 69) EUCARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28)
Mon 25th January THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Tracey & Andy Delaney's Intentions	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1st Reading: Jeremiah 1: 4–5, 17–19 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 31–13:13 Gospel: Luke 4: 21–30
Tues 26th January SS TIMOTHY & TITUS, Bishops 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Caroline & Patrick Delaney's Intentions	
Wed 27th January 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Maria-Teresa DiStefano RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt. 2.30pm Funeral Kitty O'Rourke RIP	
Thurs 28th January ST THOMAS AQUINAS, Priest 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Margaret Doran's Intentions	
Fri 29th January (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Caroline Robb's birthday intentions	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESION) Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.
Sat 30th January 10am Mass Mary Miniter RIP	ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* For the Parish	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 31st Jan 4TH SUN IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** Dec'd members of Ferraro Family 11.15am Ian & John Laydon RIP ‡	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	
Tues 26th 7pm RCIA, presbytery	Wed 27th 6pm Brownies, crypt Fri 29th 7.30pm Baptism course, 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.*