

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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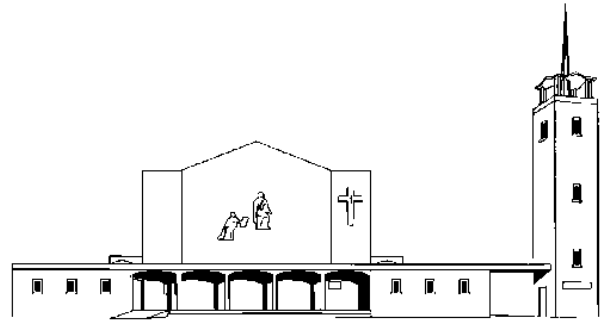
Email: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

31ST JAN 2016

GOSPEL: Luke 4: 21–30

Like Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is not sent to the Jews only.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE HEAR THE CONTINUATION THIS WEEK OF THE GOSPEL PASSAGE from last Sunday, Jesus's visit to the Nazareth synagogue. At first, His hearers are in awe at His "gracious words," but as they hear further, they turn against Him, unprepared for this their countryman to declare Himself the Messiah, or to accept His agenda. He speaks of salvation reaching out beyond the Jews, to all peoples, and this also they will not countenance. Almost reflecting His whole life in miniature, this episode ends with the attempt on His life, so strongly is their reaction against the Lord's teaching. Right at the very outset of His public ministry, then, our Lord divides opinion: there is adulation, and there is rejection too. The message of the Gospel is not some easy word; it demands faith, and it demands change, charity, and action. The Son of God was prepared to endure the challenges of the way He was treated, so as to teach us the truth about God and about life.

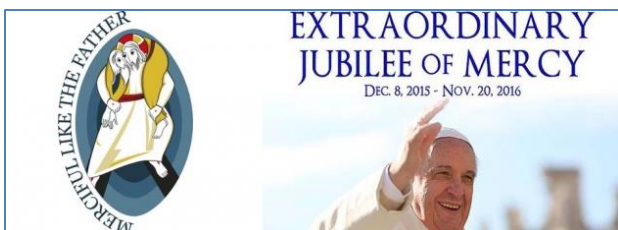


THE 'HOLY YEAR OF MERCY' encourages us to think deeply about our own attitudes and actions. I would like us this weekend to think about the '**corporal works of mercy**' as the Church calls them. These works of mercy are the kind acts by which we help our neighbours with their material and physical needs: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and to bury the dead. In one of His parables, about the Last Judgment (Matthew 25), Our Lord reminds us very strongly that we shall be judged in particular on the love for our neighbour as expressed in these works of mercy.

May Christ's endurance of rejection and opposition encourage us to be faithful!

Fr Philip

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



"Patient and merciful." These words often go together in the Old Testament to describe God's nature. His being merciful is concretely demonstrated in his many actions throughout the history of salvation where his goodness prevails over punishment and destruction. In a special way the Psalms bring to the fore the grandeur of his merciful action: "He forgives all your iniquity, he heals all your diseases, he redeems your life from the pit, he crowns you with steadfast love and mercy." ... Here are some other expressions of the Psalmist: "He heals

the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds ... The Lord lifts up the downtrodden, he casts the wicked to the ground." In short, the mercy of God is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality with which he reveals his love as of that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for their child. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that this is a "visceral" love. It gushes forth from the depths naturally, full of tenderness and compassion, indulgence and mercy.

PRAYER & LITURGY

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.*

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Coby Brown who will be baptised this weekend.

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at **7.30pm on Friday 5th February.** 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 7th February.**

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.

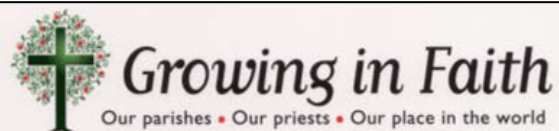
HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

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.

www.rcdow.org.uk/growing-in-faith

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**.

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 2nd 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 committee meeting will be held in the crypt on **Friday 12th February at 8.00 pm**. In the Agenda that evening, will be the subject of the refugee crisis. All are welcome to attend.

BROXBORNE FOODBANK: Our parish donated 910.91 kg of food during 2015. Thank you to everyone who did donate as the donations make a big difference to local people who are in crisis.

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

WESTMINSTER PILGRIMAGE to Lourdes under the leadership of Cardinal Vincent Nichols will

be from **24th–30th July**. There are some booking forms at the back of church or you can contact Tangney Tours on 01732-886666.

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 **Tuesday** afternoon in: Ware Road (odd nos.), Amwell Street, Taverners Way.

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.

BBC ‘THE VOICE’: We congratulate our parishioner, Irene Alano-Rhodes on appearing on the BBC in *The Voice*. We wish her every success in the competition and promise her our best wishes for a big moment in her career!

ACTORS WANTED: The Churches Together Group 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 please contact Kathryn Edmonds by email at the.edmonds@ntlworld.com.

CHURCH CLEANERS: At least **three 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: 31st January, 21st & 28th February.

CHURCH CLEANING: Filomena Mezzullo, Theresa Casbard and Laura Harwood. Thank you!

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 30th January 10am Mass <i>Mary Miniter RiP</i>	PAGE 132 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19 <i>I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.</i> Psalm 70 — My lips will tell of your help. 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 31-13:13 <i>There are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.</i>
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 31st Jan 4TH SUN IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am** <i>Deceased members of Ferraro Family</i> 11.15am <i>Ian & John Laydon RIP</i> ‡	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Luke 4: 21-30 <i>Like Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is not sent to the Jews only.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 4 (p. 69) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)
Mon 1st February 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Peter Tanner's Intentions</i>	Next Week's Readings FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1st Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-8 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11
Tues 2nd February THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Terry McIntyre 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>
Wed 3rd February SS LAURENCE, DUNSTAN & THEODORE, Archbishops of Canterbury 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Pamela Taylor RIP</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt.	ROSAARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.
Thurs 4th February NO 9.15am 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.
Fri 5th February ST AGATHA, Virgin & Martyr (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Delaney Family intentions</i> 7.30pm Mass <i>Terry McIntyre RIP</i> 8.00pm Holy Hour	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
Sat 6th Feb ST PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS, Martyrs 10am Mass <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</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> ‡	
<p style="text-align: center;">* 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	
Mon 1st 7.15pm Confirmation, crypt	Wed 3rd 6pm Brownies, crypt
Tues 2nd 7pm RCIA, presbytery	Wed 3rd 8pm 1 st HC meeting, crypt
	Sat 6th 10am 1 st HC children

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 ciascuna 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.*