

# The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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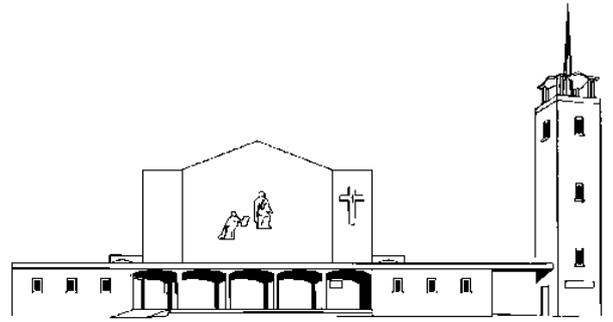
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[www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon)

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

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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



Year C

PENTECOST SUNDAY

15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016

GOSPEL: John 20: 19–23

*As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit.*

**My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,**

**THE FINAL FEAST OF THE EASTER SEASON, PENTECOST,** is our great liturgical celebration today, as we recall the powerful moment when the Holy Spirit came down upon Our Lady and the apostles in Jerusalem. Our Lord had promised, before His Ascension, that they should stay in the city until they were “clothed with power from on high.” That great event took place at the Jewish feast of Pentecost, seven weeks after Passover; and hence, for us, seven weeks after Easter. It brings to a close our seven weeks of Eastertide in a blaze of the Spirit's glory! Let us pray fervently on this feastday for the Holy Spirit to come to us anew.

**MY HOMILIES ON THE POPE'S APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION AMORIS LAETITIA** continue this week with a look at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of the document, ‘The Experiences and Challenges of Families.’ In this chapter the Pope explores many of the issues that face modern-day Catholic families in their trying to live out the faith. If you wish to read ahead then go to the Vatican's website (<http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html> — click on the tab marked ‘Amoris Laetitia’): next week I will be preaching on Chapter 3, ‘Looking to Jesus: The Vocation of the Family,’ a brilliant summary of the Catholic Church's teaching on marriage and family life.

**I WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THREE FORTHCOMING PILGRIMAGES** for our prayerful participation:

— Next Sunday afternoon (22<sup>nd</sup> May at 3pm): special **Holy Year of Mercy Deanery pilgrimage** to the local Door of Mercy at Waltham Cross. Our new auxiliary Bishop, Paul, will lead us in an afternoon of prayer at the Holy Door.

— Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July (all day): **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham** (the first for many years) with Cardinal Vincent and parishioners from across the whole diocese. We have a coach going from the parish (details inside Newsletter) and a sign-up sheet in the porch. Please sign up now!

— May 2017 (22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>): 4-night **Deanery Pilgrimage to Fatima for the Centenary Year** of the Apparitions. I would like to gauge interest from parishioners for a trip to Fatima (Portugal) next year. Price expected to be £575. Please phone up if you are interested in coming.

**May the joy of the Holy Spirit's coming fill our lives with a zeal for spiritual growth! Fr Philip**



**From Misericordiae Vultus, Pope Francis on the ‘Holy Year of Mercy,’ n. 14:**



*Merciful like the Father* is the ‘motto’ of this Holy Year. In mercy, we find proof of how God loves us. He gives his entire self, always, freely, asking nothing in return. He comes to our aid whenever we call upon him. What a beautiful thing that the Church begins her daily prayer with the words, “O God, come to my assistance. O Lord, make haste to help me!” The assistance we ask for is already the first step of God's mercy toward us. He comes to assist us in our weakness. And his help consists in helping us accept his presence and closeness to us.

Day after day, touched by his compassion, we also can become compassionate towards others.

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**FR ANTON COWAN RIP**, former parish priest of St Paul's, Cheshunt, died recently. Fr Anton's body will be brought to the church of St Paul, Cheshunt on **Tues 17<sup>th</sup> May** at 7pm. His funeral will be on **Wed 18<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon**.

**DAVID HALE RIP** formerly of Howfield Green died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral will take place on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 1.30pm**. *May they rest in peace.*

**NO ADORATION/MORNING PRAYER** on Wednesday morning as Fr Philip will be away attending a friend's funeral. Fr Peter Wilson will be saying the Mass.

**MONTH OF OUR LADY:** During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed before each Sunday Mass. The Rosary in Italian will be said on Thursday evenings at 7pm.

**THE DIOCESAN MASS OF THANKSGIVING** for the Sacrament of Matrimony is this weekend at Westminster Cathedral. We congratulate our parishioners attending: Kate & Paul Daynes (25 yrs); Michele & Pelle De Luca (40 yrs); Pat & Carol Kavanagh (40 yrs); Angelo & Alice Carruba (40 yrs) and Kevin & Connie Murphy (50 yrs).

**YEAR OF MERCY:** On **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 3pm** there will be a Deanery celebration at the Door of Mercy at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph at Waltham Cross with Bishop Paul McAleenan. All are welcome!

**"THE GIFT"** is a new experience of the Holy Spirit in our lives: the 6-week course continues on **Tues 17<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm**. The fifth meeting will be on "Encountering God's Spirit."

**SUNDAY HOLY HOUR** (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **this Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction.

**FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting May 20<sup>th</sup>**. 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!

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS:** The next rota for the period June - September 2016 is due to be drawn up shortly. Please advise Pat Kavanagh by **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May at the latest** of any dates in this period that you are not available. Please also advise of any changes in personal details e.g. address, telephone

number etc. Please contact Pat Kavanagh on 449282 [patandcarolkav@btinternet.com](mailto:patandcarolkav@btinternet.com).

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** (England's major shrine to Our Lady) will be on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July** with Cardinal Vincent Nichols. There will be a 57-seater coach leaving the church at 8am and departing from Walsingham at 4.30pm. The day includes Mass, Procession with the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and Benediction. The cost of the coach will be £14 and you will need to bring a packed lunch. If you would like to attend, please sign your name on the sheet at the back of the church.

### HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

*Pray for sick parishioners & friends: John Askew, Rosa Augello, Roberto Piacentini, Helen & Michael Sherman, Annette Pinto, Anne Smith, Siobhan Fiorentini & Michael Foley.*

**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**

### CATECHETICS

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** The final meeting for parents will be on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 8pm**. The final session for children will be on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June**.

**BAPTISM COURSE:** The second part of the course will be held on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May** from 7.30–9.00pm in the church.

**CONFIRMATION 2017:** Fr Philip wishes to see each candidate (in next year's year 9 or above) and a parent for a short chat (20–30 minutes) before the summer. **Applications will close for this programme on 8<sup>th</sup> July**. Please contact the presbytery for an appointment. In general, these will be between 3.30–6.00pm on the following days: 24<sup>th</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June.



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](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/growing-in-faith)

### SCHOOLS/UNDER-5s

**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 hopes to visit parish homes in these streets this **Friday** afternoon: Cedar Green, Yewlands, Meadway.

**MAY PROCESSION:** A big thank you to all who helped to make the procession such a success; thanks to the sacristan Ellen Bartlett, Gemma Castle for the beautiful floral arrangements, and all who helped with the refreshments.

**GIFT AID:** We will soon be putting in a Gift Aid claim for the tax paid by parishioners on donations to the church in the year ending 5 April 2016. If you have signed a Gift-Aid form previously and are still paying UK tax, you do not need to take any action. If you are paying

enough UK tax and have not yet signed a Gift-Aid form you can still do so and it will apply to the previous year as well as future years. Provided you give by envelope or standing order this will enable the parish to reclaim 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to yourself. Gift-Aid forms are available beside the newsletters at the back of church. However, **if you have previously signed a Gift Aid form and have now stopped paying tax you will need to let the parish know.** If you have any queries or concerns about Gift Aid, please contact Bill Pollard, 461315.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** gifts and cards are now available to buy from the church shop. Please do pop in and have a browse around.

**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: 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> June.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Pina Johnson, Marina Manzo, Pam McCarthy, Charmaine Collins and Sara. Thank you!

### Pentecost Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of light, from the clear celestial height, Thy pure beaming radiance give.  
Come, Thou Father of the poor, come with treasures which endure, come, Thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best, Thou, the soul's delightful guest, such refreshing peace bestow.  
Thou in toil art comfort sweet; pleasant coolness in the heat; solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine, visit now these hearts of Thine and our inmost being fill.  
If Thou take Thy grace away, nothing pure in us will stay, all our good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew; on our dryness pour Thy dew; wash the stains of sin away:

Bend the stubborn heart and will; melt the frozen; warm the chill; guide the steps that go astray.

We pray Thee, we who evermore Thee confess and Thee adore, with Thy sevenfold gifts descend: Give us comfort when we die; give us life with Thee on high; give us joys that never end.

Masses this week		Today's Liturgy	
<b>Sat 14<sup>th</sup> May ST MATTHIAS, Apostle</b> 10am Mass <i>Patsy Murphy RIP</i>		<b>PAGE 294 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 2: 1–11 <i>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak.</i>  <b>Psalm 103 — Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.</b>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Corinthians 12: 3–7, 12–13 <i>In the one Spirit we were all baptised.</i>  Gospel Accl: <b>Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.' Alleluia.</b>  <b>Gospel:</b> John 20: 19–23 <i>As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit.</i>  <b>PREFACE TODAY:</b> Pentecost (p. 76) <b>EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:</b> no. 1 (p. 18)  <b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b> THE MOST HOLY TRINITY  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Proverbs 8: 22–31 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Romans 5: 1–5 <b>Gospel:</b> John 16: 12–15	
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <b>Enrico &amp; Maria Rega RIP</b>			
<b>Sun 15<sup>th</sup> May PENTECOST SUNDAY</b> 9.15am** <i>Patrick &amp; Thomas Lawlor</i> 11.15am <b>For the Parish</b> 5.00pm Holy Hour ‡			
<b>Mon 16<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Lulu Ward RIP</i>			
<b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <b>Attilio &amp; Cettina Castaldi RIP</b>			
<b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.15am Mass <b>Barbara Murphy RIP</b> — followed by coffee in crypt			
<b>Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> May</b> NO Mass			
<b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup> May</b> (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <b>Giorgio &amp; Teresa Ermini RIP</b>			
<b>Sat 21<sup>st</sup> May</b> 10am Mass <b>Patrick Carolan RIP Anniv</b>		<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.  <b>ROSARY</b> Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.  <b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b> 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.  <b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.  <b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b> <b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b>	
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* <b>For the Parish</b>			
<b>Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> May THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</b> 9.15am** <i>Nadia Miragliotta RIP</i> 11.15am <b>Girolamo Ferraro RIP</b> ‡			
* 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)			
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>			
<b>Mon 16<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup></b>	7.30pm Baptism course, church 6.00pm Brownies, crypt	<b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup></b> <b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup></b>	7.30pm Prayer group, church 8pm Justice & Peace group

**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.*