

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

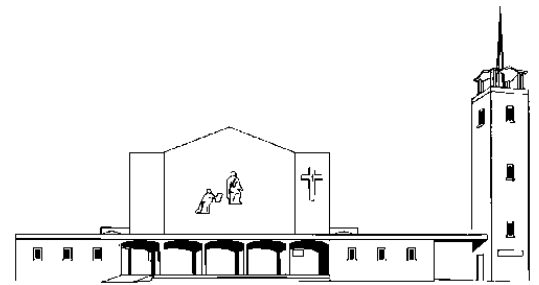
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Year A

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

2nd APRIL 2017

John 11: 1-45 – *I am the resurrection and the life.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

ON THIS FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, we hear the last of our three long Lenten Gospel chapters from St John: this week, ch. 11., recounting the raising of Jesus's friend Lazarus from the dead. This extraordinary miracle, performed at Bethany, only a few miles from Jerusalem, brought Jesus more to the attention of the authorities, and made them even more determined to have Him killed. For us, it shows the absolute power Jesus has over life & death, and points strongly towards His ultimate triumph over human mortality in the Resurrection.

WITH LENT NOW INTO ITS LAST TWO WEEKS, we should be asking ourselves how we have done so far in keeping our Lenten intentions. Our devotions and disciplines for Lent include: Fasting, Prayer & Almsgiving, along with a renewed Care for the Sick and an intention to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. May I offer some reminders in this regard, and to encourage you in this penultimate week of Lent to make special efforts to give generously to the Lord. **PRAYER:** there's the Stations of the Cross on Friday & Saturday this week; and the extra evening Mass on Friday (7.30pm). **FASTING:** how has your 'giving up' gone this year? – if not, then make a redoubled effort for these final two weeks. **ALMSGIVING:** why not consider giving generously to the 'East Africa Crisis Appeal' of the Disasters Emergency Committee, either online to our own Catholic Agency, CaFOD (<http://cafod.org.uk/>) or via the DEC itself (<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/east-africa-crisis-appeal>). **RECONCILIATION:** I will once again be offering to hear Confessions not only before the Sunday Masses, but also after ... and then there will be lots of others opportunities in Holy Week, most importantly the Penitential Services on Monday 10th April. Do take a look at the table in the porch which is full of good reading on preparing for Confession.

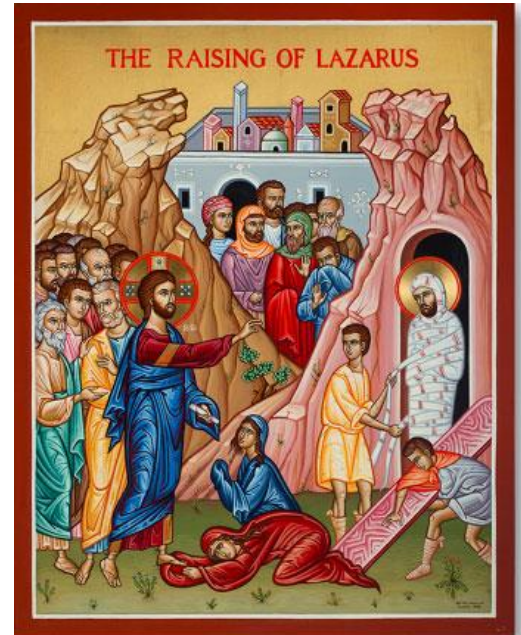
May the Lord bless our efforts in Lent to give this holy season to Him!

Fr Philip

Pope Francis, from *Misericordia et Misera*, closing the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 11:



I would like us all to meditate upon the words of the Apostle, written towards the end of his life, when he confesses to Timothy that he was the greatest of sinners, "but for this reason I received mercy" (1 Tim 1:16). Paul's words, powerful as they are, make us reflect on our lives and see God's mercy at work in changing, converting and reforming our hearts. "I thank him who has given me strength for this, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful by appointing me to his service, though I formerly blasphemed and persecuted and insulted him. But I received mercy" (1 Tim 1:12-13).



PRAYER & LITURGY

MAUREEN NORMAN RIP of Wallers Way, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. The funeral will be on **Monday 3rd April at 11am.**

May she rest in peace.

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at 7.30pm on **Friday 7th April.** This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, which is always prayed for the pro-life cause.

MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS: In keeping with the symbolism of the washing of feet of the 12 apostles, 12 men or boys are required for the washing of feet. If you can take part, please sign your name on the list at the back of the church. **During the Mass, there will also be a Rite of Re-commissioning for the Ministers of Holy Communion so, if you are a Minister, please attend the Mass at 8pm.**

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, READERS & ALTAR SERVERS: If you can assist at any of the services during Holy Week, please sign your name on the lists at the back of the church.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting April 21st.** A semi-formal hour in the Lady Chapel to reflect together on Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR will next take place on Sunday, **23rd April** at 5pm with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

ALTAR SERVERS: Children (any age) who have at least made their First Holy Communion and wish to become altar servers, please contact the presbytery. Training sessions will be held in the church on **Sat 13th and 20th May at 11am.**

LENT

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.

PARISH “PENANCE” FOR LENT: In Lent, we will as usual 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. Fr Philip will also go to the

Confessional at this time for anyone wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

LENTEN ALMS: This year the Cardinal has asked that the Lenten Alms be directed to the *Cardinal’s Appeal* fund. The funds raised will go to support parishes or groups in their work to further the mission of the Church: to serve the evangelisation of youth, to develop marriage and family life projects, and to provide service in society, especially to those on the margins. **You will find the box throughout Lent in front of the lectern.**

HOLY WEEK – advanced notice of times:

PALM SUNDAY 9th April: Blessing of Palms will take place at every Mass. **Please note: the 9.15am Mass will begin at 9am** with the blessing of the Palms in the parish garden by the grotto, with procession from garden to church.

Tuesday 11th April: CHRISM MASS at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 13th April
8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer
8pm Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper
9.30–Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

GOOD FRIDAY: 14th April
9.45am Morning Prayer
10am Stations of the Cross
c. 11am *Churches Together* Act of Witness –
Meet at Clock Tower in town.
3pm Celebration of the Lord’s Passion
7pm Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY: 15th April
9.45am Morning Prayer
9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15am and 11.15am Mass

RECONCILIATION BEFORE EASTER

In addition to the regular times for Confession, there will be the additional availability of the Sacrament: **Friday 31st March 6.30-8pm**
Penitential Services for the parish on Monday 10th April at 11.30am and 7.30pm. Several priests will be available on these occasions.

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:
BISHOPS STORTFORD: 3rd April 7.30pm
WARE: Thursday 6th April 7.30pm
WALTHAM CROSS: Mon 10th April at 8pm
HERTFORD parish (tel. 582019) has many extra confessions during Holy Week.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: John Askew, Rosa Augello, Helen & Michael Sherman, Annette Pinto, Siobhan Fiorentini, Toni Randazzo.

PLEASE TELL US IF ANYONE IS HOUSEBOUND, EVEN TEMPORARILY, SO THEY CAN BE VISITED & HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION.

Housebound parishioners may 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, Rev Anthony Curran 01438-285138 or 07884-187463; Princess Alexandra, Fr Leszek Gamracy 01279-426017

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION 2017: next session **24th April at 7.15pm** in the crypt for candidates.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The 7th meeting for parents will be on **Wed 3rd May 8-9pm** in the crypt. The 7th session for children will be on **Mon 8th May 6-7.30pm**.



Our fundraising began in 2014, and we have **pledges of c. £185k, to give our parish project, ultimately, a slice of c. £51k.** So far we already have £24k available for our parish project, which is to employ a part-time worker in the area of catechetics and evangelization.

Fr Philip is meeting a possible candidate for this role, who has been recommended to us by the diocesan youth-ministry team. Let's pray that this will come to fruition!

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

SCHOOLS/UNDER-5s

CRYPT ARTWORK: St Augustine's school children (Nursery to Yr 6) have replaced their art in the crypt with a brand new display on the 'Days of Creation,' so do go and admire it!

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 2018, or if your child is looking to go into Reception year in a Catholic Primary school in autumn 2018, then you need to apply **immediately** to go on the list for requesting a 'Certificate of Catholic Practice' towards the end of 2017. An information pack is available from the presbytery. Complete the form and return it to the presbytery, and your name will be added to the weekly sign-in-sheet in the church porch on the noticeboard (by the fire-exit door) for signing after Saturday evening vigil Mass and Sunday Masses. On this basis Fr Philip will be in a better position to judge whether he can issue the Certificate.

MISCELLANEOUS

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB held in the crypt on **4th April is now CANCELLED.** The new dates are 25th April; 9th & 23rd May; 6th & 20th June; and 4th & 18th July 12.30-2.30pm. Price £4. Anybody & everybody welcome!

PLANNED GIVING: For those who make regular donations through weekly envelopes, **there are still some boxes of envelopes for the new financial year to be collected.** These are available from the back of the church this weekend. If you would like to start donating through the envelopes/standing orders, forms are available for completion. **GIFT AID** forms also available. Many parishioners have already signed Gift-Aid declarations, enabling the parish to claim £1 for every £4 donated through envelopes or standing orders, at no further cost to the donor. You need to be a UK taxpayer to sign the declaration. If your circumstances change simply inform the Gift-Aid coordinator, Bill Pollard, to cancel the declaration.

THANK YOU: The Wilkes family would like to thank everyone who helped Christopher after he was taken ill after Mass last week.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his house visits this week, in: Hertford Road area.

CHURCH CLEANING: Mima Salvo, Josie Warren, Barbara Wright & Tanya McAteer.

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: 23rd, 30th April; 14th, 21st & 28th May.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 1st April 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Ken Parker RIP	PAGE 170 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Ezekiel 37: 12–14 <i>I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.</i>
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Terry McIntyre RIP Sun 2nd April FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** Aidan & Owen Doyle RIP 11.15am Kathleen Martin RIP 5.00pm Latin Mass For the Parish †	Psalm 129 — With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption. 2nd Reading: Romans 8: 8–11 <i>The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.</i>
Mon 3rd April 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Dennis Dempsey RIP Anniv 11am Funeral Maureen Norman RIP	Gospel Accl: <i>Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!</i> Gospel: John 11: 1–45 <i>I am the resurrection and the life.</i>
Tues 4th April 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass John Dunleavy RIP	PREFACE TODAY: Raising of Lazarus (p. 72) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)
Wed 5th April 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Maureen Norman RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS PALM SUNDAY 1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4–7 2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11 Gospel: Matthew's Passion, 26:14–27:66
Thurs 6th April NO Mass	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.
Fri 7th April <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12noon Mass Doreen Willis's intentions 12.30pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Mass Eileen Scallan's intentions 8.00pm Holy Hour	ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.
Sat 8th April 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass John Beato Pinto RIP	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* For the Parish Sun 9th April PALM SUNDAY 9.15am** Antonio & Teresa Mercurio RIP 11.15am Gaspere Giamalva 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.
<p style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</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)	Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699
REGULAR EVENTS	

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.*