

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

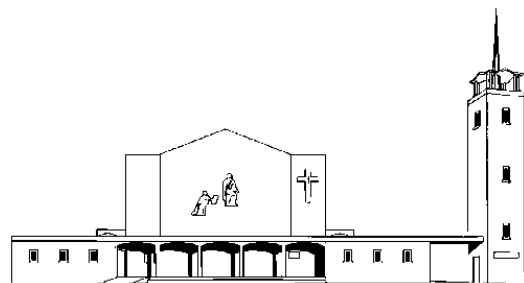
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Year A

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

23rd APRIL 2017

GOSPEL: John 20: 19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

OUR 7-WEEK SEASON OF EASTERTIDE began last Sunday with a wonderful celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection Day. Thanks for all your assistance and contributions, across the parish, to making it a very happy Easter!

Today we continue to hear of Resurrection appearances of Jesus, specifically the appearance to 'doubting Thomas.' When this apostle – incredulous when he first heard

from the other apostles the news of Jesus's rising – saw Our Lord showing him the wounds of the Crucifixion, he fell to his knees and proclaimed, "My Lord and my God." He is a model for our coming to believe: we too need to accept the evidence of the apostles; we too need to fall to our knees before Jesus and proclaim our total faith in Him: "My Lord and my God."



THIS SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER is also known as 'Divine Mercy' Sunday, after the devotion revealed to, and promoted by, Sr Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938) from her convent in Kraków, Poland. Pope St John Paul II determined that this Second Sunday of Eastertide be dedicated to our Lord's Divine Mercy. I have put out lots of the CTS booklets regarding the Divine Mercy in the porch, for you to buy if you wish, so as to keep the devotion. The motto of the Divine-Mercy devotion – "Jesus, I Trust in You" – connects strongly with St Thomas's words of faith.

May the Lord bless us as we celebrate these blessed weeks of Eastertide! Fr Philip

Pope Francis, from *Misericordia et Misera*, closing the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 12:



Given this need, lest any obstacle arise between the request for reconciliation and God's forgiveness, I henceforth grant to all priests, in virtue of their ministry, the faculty to absolve those who have committed the sin of procured abortion. The provision I had made in this regard, limited to the duration of the Extraordinary Holy Year, is hereby extended, notwithstanding anything to the contrary. I wish to restate as firmly as I can that abortion is a grave sin, since it puts an end to an innocent life. In the same way, however, I can and must state that there is no sin that God's mercy cannot reach and wipe away when it finds a repentant heart seeking to be reconciled with the Father. May every priest, therefore, be a guide, support and comfort to penitents on this journey of special reconciliation.

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Rocky Plakiqi , Julietta & Matteo De Muynck, Aurora Sigona & Elizabeth Goncalves who will be baptised this weekend.

GIUSEPPA PROVENZANO RIP died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Tuesday 25th April at 2pm.**
May she rest in peace.

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

THE BIG PICTURE, an inspirational Bible course, resumes on **Tuesday 25th April** at 7:30 in the Crypt with "Incarnation". Further dates are: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd May and 6th June. We are looking forward to seeing all those who took part in the first half, and it's not too late for anyone new. There are a few DVD/Book packs still available. Everyone is very welcome.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30-8.30pm: **next meeting May 19th.** A semi-formal hour in the Lady Chapel to reflect together on Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord.

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.**

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

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

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: last session **24th April at 7.15pm** in the crypt for candidates only. Please have ch. 16 of Mark's Gospel read by the time of this session. **The Confirmation Masses will be on Sunday 7th May at 1.15pm and 4.00pm.** If you are a Minister of Holy Communion or altar server and can assist at either Mass, please do sign your name on the lists at the back of church.

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 pledged 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

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S is holding a Table Top sale on **Sat 6th May 10am-1pm.** £10 a table & free entry for buyers. Refreshments available. To book a table call Lynn 460614 or 07752-664846

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S is holding a Quiz on **Saturday 13th May** in the crypt £5.00 per person (tables of up to 8) or just come and join a table. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. 7.30 for 8.00pm start Call 460614 or 07752-664846 to book.

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

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE MEETING for all those already booked on the May pilgrimage. Reminder of the gathering with Adrian from Northern Travel at **11am in the crypt next Saturday, 29th April.**

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

LENTEN COLLECTION: For the Holy Places' collection after the Passion Liturgy of Good Friday, we raised £540. Thank you also to all those who contributed towards the Easter flowers. The total raised was £140.00

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will continue his house visits in the week after the coming one.

200 CLUB WINNER for April was number 93, Mr Ian Livingstone. Congratulations!

PRIEST TRAINING FUND: The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place on the **6th/7th May**. The Fund helps pay for training seminarians (there are currently 39), further studies of our priests for specialised ministries, and for ongoing enrichment to strengthen priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. The **Donation envelopes will be attached to the newsletter next week** and collected on the 6th/7th May. You can donate online anytime at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

LENT HUNGER LUNCHESES: The total raised for Christian Aid was £600 which included £29.00 for the sale of Easter cards. A huge

thank you to the speakers and the catering teams and to all who attended.

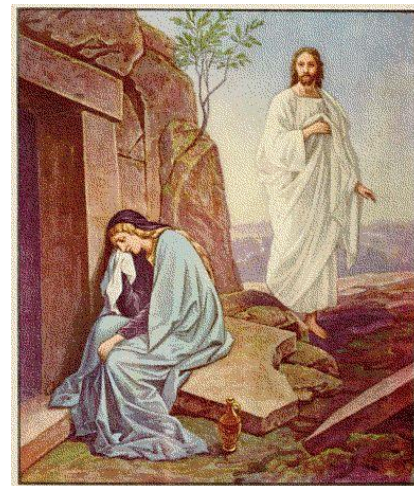
CHURCH CLEANING: Filomena Mezzullo, Elizabeth Nsonwah, Laura Harwood, Tony & Linda Barrell. Thank you for your help.

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

EASTER PRAYER

taken from the
Easter Vigil
Exsultet



Rejoice,
heavenly
powers!
Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the trumpet of salvation.

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,
radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes for ever.

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in
glory!
The risen Saviour shines upon you.
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's
people.

Father, how wonderful your care for us!
How boundless your merciful love!
To ransom a slave You gave away your
Son.

O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam,
which gained for us so great a Redeemer

Masses this week		Today's Liturgy	
Sat 22nd April SAT WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER 10am Mass <i>Antonio & Elvira Beschizza RIP</i>		PAGE 255 in the Mass books	
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* For the Parish		1st Reading: Acts 2: 42–47 <i>The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common.</i>	
Sun 23rd April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am** <i>Deceased members of Silenti Family</i> 11.15am <i>Enrico & Maria Rega RIP</i> 5.00pm Holy Hour †		Psalm 117 — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.	
Mon 24th April ST GEORGE, Patron of England 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Peter Fisher RIP</i>		2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1: 3–9 <i>In his great mercy he has given us a new birth as his sons by raising Jesus from the dead.</i>	
Tues 25th April ST MARK, Evangelist 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Elizabeth & Martin O'Connor's intentions</i> 2.00pm Funeral <i>Giuseppa Provenzano RIP</i>		Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Alleluia</i>	
Wed 26th April 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Private Intention</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt		Gospel: John 20: 19–31 <i>Eight days later, Jesus came.</i>	
Thurs 27th April NO Mass		PREFACE TODAY: Easter I (p. 74) EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)	
Fri 28th April <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Giorgio & Teresa Ermini RIP</i>		NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 1st Reading: Acts 2: 14, 22–23 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1: 17–21 Gospel: Luke 24: 13–35	
Sat 29th April ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, Virgin & Dr 10am Mass <i>For the parish from Frances Rose</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 any other time.	
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Henryk & Assunta Nolewajka RIP anniv.		ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.	
Sun 30th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am** <i>For the parish</i> 11.15am <i>Ida D'Onofrio RIP</i> †		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.	
<p style="text-align: center;">* 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)</p>		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			
Mon 24th	7.15pm Confirmation, crypt	Tues 25th	7.30pm The Big Picture, crypt
Tues 25th	12.30pm lunch club, crypt	Wed 26th	6.00pm Brownies, crypt

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 parrocciani 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.*