

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

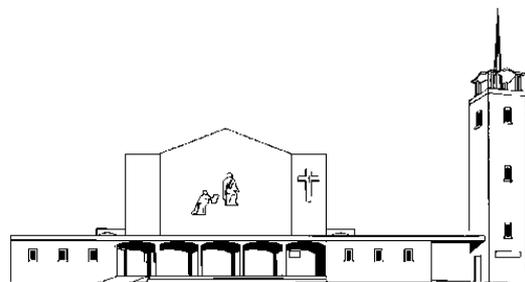
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Year A

PALM SUNDAY

9th APRIL 2017

GOSPEL: *The Passion according to St Matthew.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE ENTER TOGETHER THIS MOST SACRED OF WEEKS as we welcome Christ our Saviour into Jerusalem with the waving of our palms this Palm Sunday! Our Lord enters triumphantly into the Holy City amidst the joyous crowds, despite knowing that a different crowd, just a few days later, would be buying for His blood.

WE WILL KEEP HOLY WEEK BEST OF ALL by a closeness to Our Lord Jesus throughout the events of that last week in Jerusalem. We can do that best of all through our attendance at the Holy Week Ceremonies:

HOLY THURSDAY 8PM MASS – GOOD FRIDAY 3PM PASSION LITURGY – EASTER VIGIL 9PM SATURDAY

If you have never before been to the *whole* of these Sacred Triduum ceremonies, please decide this year that you are going to do so, because in this way you truly are able to accompany Christ into His life-giving Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Regarding Good Friday, I urge you with all my heart to keep this sacred day of the Lord's Crucifixion with appropriate penance and solemnity. Therefore: **we fast, and we eat no meat**; we avoid all distracting things such as shopping and 'days out' (*please* do not treat it as a 'bank holiday'); and **we come, every one of us, to the 3pm Liturgy** to celebrate the Lord's saving action in going to the Cross for us. There will be Children's Liturgy that day for the little ones.

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is a very important part of how each one of us keeps Lent, so I will once again be offering to hear Confessions not only before the Sunday Masses, but also after ... And then there are lots of other opportunities in Holy Week, most importantly the **Penitential Services on Monday 10th April** both at **11.30am** and **7.30pm**. Additionally, as Holy Week continues, there are many other times (listed inside). Do take a look at the table in the porch which is full of good reading on preparation for Confession.

May the Lord bless us as together we follow Jesus to His Cross and Resurrection! Fr Philip



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



Let us recall with renewed pastoral zeal another saying of the Apostle: "God has reconciled us to himself through Christ and has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation." We were the first to be forgiven in view of this ministry, made witnesses at first hand of the universality of God's forgiveness. No law or precept can prevent God from once more embracing the son who returns to him, admitting that he has done wrong but intending to start his life anew.

PRAYER & LITURGY

HOLY WEEK

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

Penitential Services for the parish on **Monday 10th April at 11.30am and 7.30pm.** Several priests will be available on these occasions.

Holy Thursday: 9.15am; 7-7.30pm
Good Fri: 10.45am; 2-2.30, 3.30-4pm; 6.30pm
Holy Saturday: 10-11am.

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:
WALTHAM CROSS: Mon 10th April at 8pm
HERTFORD parish (tel. 582019) has many extra confessions during Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS: In keeping with the symbolism of the washing of feet of the 12 apostles, **5 men or boys are still 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.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY ON GOOD FRIDAY: children should be taken straight to the crypt before 3pm. The children will be brought into the church to venerate the cross and have a blessing at Communion and should be collected from the crypt after the service.

GOOD FRIDAY ACT OF WITNESS: Please meet in the town at the clock tower at 11am.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, READERS & ALTAR SERVERS needed at 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!

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.

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

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.**

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.

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

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

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!

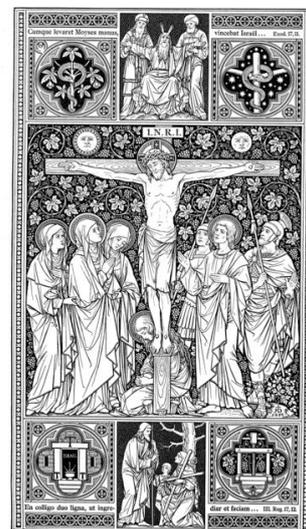
HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will continue house visits this week, Wednesday afternoon, in: Stockfield Ave, The Drive & Ditchfield Road.

CHURCH CLEANING: Michele & Pelle De Luca & Kathleen Connors.

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.

PRAYER BEFORE A CRUCIFIX

BEHOLD, O good and sweetest Jesus, I cast myself upon my knees in Thy sight, and with the most fervent desire of my soul I pray and beseech Thee to impress upon my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope and charity, with true repentance for my sins and a most firm desire of amendment: whilst with deep affection and grief of soul I consider within myself and mentally contemplate Thy five most precious Wounds, having before mine eyes that which David, the prophet, long ago spoke in Thine own person concerning Thee, my Jesus: "They have pierced my hands and my feet, they have numbered all my bones."



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 8th April 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass John Beato Pinto RIP	PAGE 176 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4–7 <i>I did not cover my face against insult, I know I shall not be shamed.</i>
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* For the Parish	Psalm 21 — My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Sun 9th April PALM SUNDAY 9.15am Antonio & Teresa Mercurio RIP 11.15am Gaspere Giamalva RIP ‡	2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11 <i>He humbled himself; but God raised him high.</i>
Mon 10th April MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Peter Tanner RIP	Gospel Accl: <i>Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!</i>
Tues 11th April TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Anna Sweeney RIP	Gospel: The Passion according to Matthew 26: 14–27:66
Wed 12th April WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass David Holgate RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt	PREFACE TODAY: Passion of the Lord (p. 73) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28)
Thurs 13th April MAUNDY THURSDAY 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 5.30pm Italian Mass 8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper For the Parish 9.30–Midnight Praying at the Altar of Repose	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS EASTER SUNDAY 1st Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37–43 2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 1–4 Gospel: John 20: 1–9
Fri 14th April GOOD FRIDAY <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+; fasting for those aged 16-60)</i> 9.45am Morning Prayer 10am Stations of the Cross 3.00pm** CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION 5.00pm Italian Liturgy 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	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.
Sat 15th April HOLY SATURDAY 9.45am Morning Prayer 4.00pm* Italian Easter Vigil 9.00pm* Mass of the Easter Vigil Priest's Ints	ROSARY Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.
Sun 16th April EASTER SUNDAY 9.15am Dave Greenall RIP 11.15am 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.
<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)	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	
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: <i>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.</i>	