

The Announcer

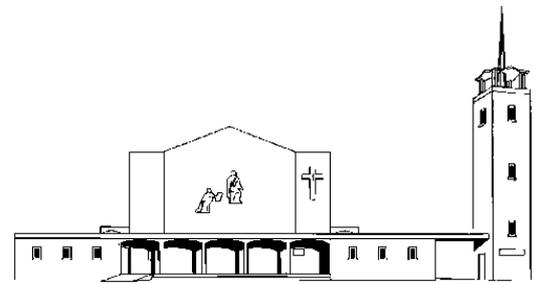
St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

Secretary: Dawn Bates (Mon & Wed-Fri, 9am-3pm)

Also in residence: Fr Mathew Kattiyangal (National chaplain to Knanayan community)

Year A

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

30th JULY 2017

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

Thank you for the warm welcome.

There is one treasure that brings happiness and that treasure is the Kingdom of God, as proclaimed by Jesus Christ. The men in the parable in the Gospel of this seventeenth Sunday found the treasure, the Kingdom of God and went off happy (Mt 13:44).

If we are not happy, we have not yet found Jesus and the Kingdom He came to proclaim. Let us turn to Jesus and then we will find happiness. Do we have to set out on a journey to find this treasure and do we need a map? Yes we do. The journey, is the journey into our hearts, the map has been given to us by Jesus Himself. In the first two parables in the Gospel, the men sold everything they had so as to acquire the treasure of the pearl. Searching for Jesus and the Kingdom of God means we make choices and have to make decisions, sometimes hard decisions that we would prefer not to have made. But, for the sake of Jesus and His Kingdom we choose between other many choices. There will be passing treasures that are short term and tempting, but don't offer happiness we really need. If we want to get genuine happiness, we must leave everything else and choose Jesus the treasure and pearl of our lives.

Like King Solomon, let us ask for the gift of wisdom to make the right choices that will lead us to that treasure which will never be taken away from us.

Fr John Baptist Kisembo

Pope Francis, from *Misericordia et Misera*, closing the 'Holy Year of Mercy,' n. 19:



Being unemployed or not receiving a sufficient salary; not being able to have a home or a land in which to live; experiencing discrimination on account of one's faith, race or social status: these are just a few of the many examples of situations that attack the dignity of the person. In the face of such attacks, Christian mercy responds above all with vigilance and solidarity. How many situations exist today where we can restore dignity to individuals and make possible a truly humane life! Let us think only about the many children who suffer from forms of violence that rob them of the joy of life. I keep thinking of their sorrowful and bewildered faces. They are pleading for our help to be set free from the slavery of the contemporary world. These children are the young adults of tomorrow. How are we preparing them to live with dignity and responsibility? With what hope can they face their present or their future?

The *social character* of mercy demands that we not simply stand by and do nothing. It requires us to banish indifference and hypocrisy, lest our plans and projects remain a dead letter. May the Holy Spirit help us to contribute actively and selflessly to making justice and a dignified life not simply clichés but a concrete commitment of those who seek to bear witness to the presence of the Kingdom of God.

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Isabelle Fitzgerald, Morgan Cadogan & Corey Cadogan who will be baptised this weekend.

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at **7.30pm on Friday 4th August**. This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, which is always prayed for the pro-life cause.

COLOMBA FERRAZZANO RIP of Crossfield Road, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. The funeral will be on **Tuesday 1st August at 1pm** with Don Antonio.

PETER ZWAGER RIP of Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. The funeral will be at Wollensbrook Crematorium on **Monday 7th August at 11am**.

MICHAEL SHERMAN RIP of Winterscroft, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. The funeral will be on **Tuesday 8th August at 11am**.

May they rest in peace.

DAY OUT TO STONOR PARK: Fr Philip will lead a group to Stonor Park near Henley-on-Thames on **Thursday 10th August**. Stonor is synonymous with the Catholic struggle throughout the Reformation and is closely associated with St Edmund Campion. He hid at Stonor during the reign of Queen Elizabeth and printed his famous '10 Reasons' from a secret printing press in the roof. The coach will depart from church at 8.30am and there will be Mass at 11am in the Chapel followed by lunch in The Pantry. We will leave Stonor Park at 2.30pm to travel to Henley on Thames for a one hour river cruise at 3.45pm and then return to Hoddesdon. Families and children are most welcome. The price will be around £35 (slight reduction for children and seniors) but this will be confirmed later, once we know numbers. Lunch is **not** included in this price. If you would like to attend, please sign the list in the church porch.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting 15th Sept**. 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 **Sunday, 17th Sept** at 5pm with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: John Askew, Rosa Augello, Helen Sherman, Annette Pinto, Siobhan Fiorentini, Toni Randazzo, Doreen Willis & 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 2018: applications have now closed for next year's Confirmation group. We need to receive the yellow forms back in from those who have applied. We look forward to welcoming you to the next session on the **5th September at 7.15pm** in the crypt.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Tues 12th & Fri 22nd Sept 7.30-9.00pm** in the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To book onto the course, please contact the presbytery.

"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 will begin on 11th September at 7pm**. If anyone is considering becoming a Catholic (or is an adult Catholic wishing to be confirmed,) please contact Fr Philip as soon as possible. There are **green leaflets** outlining RCIA by the

newsletters.



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 5s HOLIDAY TIMES: free play and themed activity days on Mondays & Wednesdays 9.30am-11.30am from the **24th July**. Donation of £3 per child and £1 per sibling with under-1s free. This includes a drink and snack. Parents must be responsible for their children and must supervise them at all times.

ST CROSS SCHOOL is looking for a new Site Manager to start on the 1st September. The position is fulltime, 37 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Closing date is 4th August, 5pm. Please e-mail the Head, Mrs Kathryn Hall at head@stcross.herts.sch.uk.

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 201+8, or if your child is looking to go into Reception year in a Catholic Primary school in autumn 2018, then you need to continue signing the weekly sign-in-sheet in the church porch on the noticeboard. **Please note that the system for applying for a Certificate of Catholic Practice is now closed.**

JUSTICE & PEACE / PRO-LIFE

TRAIDCRAFT stall will be at the back of the church after Mass **this weekend**.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his house visits on **Tuesday 1st August** to Foxton Rd, Langton Rd & Winterscroft.

PARISH BOOK-KEEPER & ACCOUNTANT:

The Parish Finance Committee would like to know if there is a parishioner with book-keeping/accounting experience to volunteer for a specific role on the committee. There are two elements to the work, which could be separated. The first involves essential book-keeping, mainly involving totalling and banking the moneys received, usually on a Monday morning. This would take 2 to 3 hours per week. If anyone would like to take on this particular role the committee would be happy to discuss. The second element mainly involves keeping the parish financial records on a web-based system, carrying out monthly bank reconciliations and producing annual accounts. This would take up to 3 or 4 hours per month, and there would be some flexibility on where and when it was carried out. Training and support is available for both elements. For a job description and to receive more information, please contact the Presbytery.

PARISH BBQ will be held on Sunday 10th Sept at 1pm. The forms to request your tickets are now available at the back of church. We do need final numbers by Monday 4th September 12 noon so that we can order the food and we cannot accept people after 12 noon. There won't be a bar, so please do bring your own drink and glasses. Adults are £5, children £1 and under 5's free. Please hand your completed form and money into the presbytery. The lists for volunteers will be available soon.

KYIV CLASSIC ACCORDIAN DUO are giving a concert of Classical and Ukrainian music in St Catherine's & St Paul's Church on **3rd August at 7.30pm**. For more info, please contact Margaret Byrne on 443351.

MISSION APPEAL: Thank you to everyone who gave to the Mission appeal given by Brother Andrew. The total raised was £580.81.

CHURCH CLEANING: Michele & Pelle De Luca & Kathleen Connors. Thank you for your help.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 29th July ST MARTHA 10am Mass <i>All departed souls RIP</i>	PAGE 108 in the Mass books
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Giuseppe Re RIP Sun 30th July 17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9.15am** <i>Deceased members of Ferraro Family</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> ‡	1st Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 <i>You have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself.</i> Psalm 118 — Lord, how I love your law! 2nd Reading: Romans 8: 28-30 <i>God intended us to become true images of his Son.</i>
Mon 31st July ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, Priest 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Deceased embers of Stickland Family & Vincent Byrne RIP</i> Tues 1st August ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, Bishop & Dr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Laura Davey</i> 1.00pm Funeral <i>Colomba Ferrazzano RIP</i>	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Matthew 13: 44-52 <i>He sells everything he owns and buys the field.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 1 (p. 66) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)
Wed 2nd August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Giuseppe Distefano RIP</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt Thurs 3rd August NO Mass	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD 1st Reading: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14 2nd Reading: 2 Peter 1: 16-19 Gospel: Matthew 17: 1-9
Fri 4th August ST JOHN VIANNEY, Priest <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Peter Zwager RIP</i> 7.30pm Mass <i>For the sick of the parish</i> 8.00pm Holy Hour Sat 5th August 10am Mass <i>Larry O'Neill's Intentions</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. ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Michael Sherman RIP Sun 6th Aug TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD 9.15am** <i>Carmel & Vito Graffato 25th Wedding Anniv</i> 11.15am <i>Deceased members of Ferraro Family</i> 5.00pm Latin Mass <i>For the Parish</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. 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
<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>	

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.*