

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

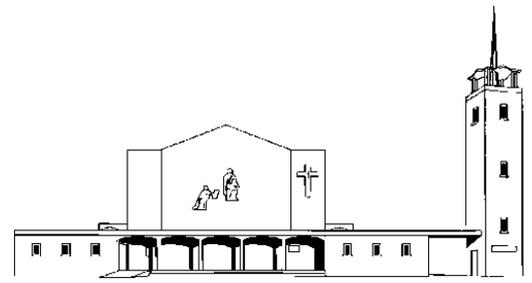
The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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

Also in residence: Fr Joseph Thayil Mathew (chaplain to Syro-Malabar-rite Catholics)

Year A

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

12TH JANUARY 2014

GOSPEL: Matthew 3: 13–17

As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THE LAST FEAST OF OUR CHRISTMAS SEASON IS TODAY, THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, as we 'leap forward' to the beginning of His public ministry. After all the 'hidden years' in Nazareth — perhaps as many as 30 years — Jesus now come into the open, and with this event at the River Jordan, He is proclaimed from on high by God as "My beloved Son." The Holy Spirit is poured out upon Him — the visible sign of that perpetual union between God the Father and God the Son. But Jesus truly comes to His Baptism for *our* sake, not for His.



After this sacred event, the waters of Baptism are no longer just John's 'baptism of water,' but now a Christian sacrament, giving the life of the Spirit to those baptized in Jesus: a 'baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire,' as John calls it.

Today, then, is a blessed day on which to recall our own Baptism, and to celebrate this saving event in our personal life. To remind us of our Baptism, we will begin each Mass this weekend with the traditional blessing of Holy Water and Sprinkling. Give thanks, in your prayers today, for those who led you to Baptism, perhaps your parents and sponsors — and for your life in closeness to Jesus which has resulted from that saving sacrament.

THIS SUNDAY AT MASS WE HAVE A LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP outlining the diocese's *Growing in Faith* vision, which all the parish's across our diocese of Westminster have been — or will be — partaking in. All the Catholics in Westminster are being invited to contribute to this scheme of support for the life of our diocesan parishes, especially in the urgent needs to bolster parish life, care for our priests in training, our sick & retired clergy, and the poor and vulnerable. Our parish will be contributing to this scheme between now and Easter, and gradually I will be sharing the objectives of *Growing in Faith* with more and more parishioners as the weeks go by. I started last week, and am grateful for your generosity of time, openness and giving that will ensure this is a success for our parish and for the diocese as a whole. The enclosed letters have more details.

May God bless us all in the living-out of our Baptism in the Lord!

Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 10:

**VATICAN II,
50 YEARS ON:
THE NEW
EVANGELIZATION**

The imbalances under which the modern world labours are linked with that more basic imbalance which is rooted in the heart of man. For in man himself many elements wrestle with one another. Thus, on the one hand, as a creature he experiences his limitations in a multitude of ways; on the other he feels himself to be boundless in his desires and summoned to a higher life. Pulled by manifold attractions he is constantly forced to choose among them and renounce some. Indeed, as a weak and sinful being, he often does what he would not, and fails to do what he would.

PRAYER & LITURGY

ANTONIETTA CACCIATORE RIP of Cranbourne Road Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. **The funeral will be on Tuesday 21st January at 12.30pm** with Don Antonio. *May she rest in peace.*

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday evening of each month, 7.30–8.30pm, **Friday 17th January.** A semi-formal quiet hour in the Lady Chapel once a month to reflect on the Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR: will next take place 5pm on **Sunday 19th Jan,** finishing early at 5.45pm to allow Fr Philip to get to the Christian Unity Service.

ANNUAL CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE will be held on **Sunday 19th January** at Hoddesdon Baptist Church at 6pm. This service is held on behalf of the Churches Together in Hoddesdon and all parishioners are welcome.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READER ROTA: The next rota for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for the period February 2014 - May 2014 is due to be drawn up shortly. Can you please let Pat Kavanagh know of any dates that you are **NOT** available during this period by **21st January** at the latest (final date). Please telephone 449282 or email patandcarolkav@btinternet.com. Thank you.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES: This year's Mass will take place at **2pm on Saturday 8th February.** Archbishop Vincent Nichols will preside, and as in previous years, the Mass will include the Sacrament of the Sick. All are welcome and there are no seat reservations or tickets. If you are bringing a wheelchair, please advise Fr Philip so that he can arrange a reserve space for those in wheelchairs and their carers.

ARCHBISHOP'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE: The Archbishop invites all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th+ wedding anniversary to a Mass on **Saturday 7th June at 3pm.** If you qualify, please contact the presbytery with the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) by the 28th February.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our parishioners and friends who are sick: Sue Porto, Christopher Browne, John Askew, Alan Dolan, Rosa Augello, Roberto Piacentini, Mark Reason, Hilda Andrews, Joanne Sheridan, Helen Sherman, Annette Pinto, Bohita Fanor, Jill Logsdail, Joe Barr, Jenny Miller, and Joseph Penheiro.

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

IF YOU GO IN TO HOSPITAL: Catholics in hospital are unlikely to receive an automatic visit from the Catholic Chaplain, as this information is now systematically withheld from Chaplains. If someone is sick in hospital, **please let us know here at the presbytery, 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.

The Chaplains are: QEII, Jacqueline Humphreys and John Paul Lyttle 01438-285518 or 07884-187463; Princess Alexandra, Fr Slawek Jedrych 01279-426017

'YEAR OF FAITH'

www.annusfidei.va (click on 'EN' for English)

CYCLE OF HOMILIES: if you have missed any of Fr Philip's homilies on the *Catechism*, you can catch up with them at <http://yofhomilies.wordpress.com>.

FR PHILIP'S TALKS: If anyone missed any of the autumn talks on Vatican II, handouts are still available from the presbytery.

CATECHETICS

FIRST-HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The fifth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 5th February** from 8–9pm in the crypt. The fifth meeting for the children will be on **Saturday 8th February at 10am.**

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: The Retreat day will be held in the crypt on **Saturday 18th January from 11-5pm.** **Please don't forget to bring your packed lunch with you. If you haven't returned the consent form and £17, could you please arrange to do so as soon as possible.** If you haven't already paid the £10 for the "YouCat" youth catechism, could you please drop it off to the presbytery as soon as possible. Thank you.

"RCIA" – The '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 continues on Tuesday 14th January at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Monday 13th and Friday 24th January from 7.30-9pm** in the crypt. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

CHOOSE LIFE, CHOOSE LOVE is a weekend conference on beauty, freedom & the family from

Friday 28th February to Sunday 2nd March at St Patrick's Church, Soho Square. Cost is £50 for the weekend and £30 for one day. For further information contact Edmund Adamus on 020 7798 9363 edmundadamus@rcdow.org.uk.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

TRAIDCRAFT: The stall will be at the back of the church on the **25th/26th January** after all Masses.

MISCELLANEOUS

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION: Thank you to everyone who came and brought food to share for the Epiphany party last Saturday. It was a really lovely evening to celebrate the Christmas season.

THANK YOU: Alison Hale would like to thank everyone in the parish for their prayers and support throughout her years of "nerve pain" and disablement. She is not cured, but thanks to RNOH and Basildon hospitals and the magnificent support of doctors and NHS, she is now able to "move on" with the help of a Spinal cord stimulator, which has been implanted on her spine along with a battery (for life.) This gives her the control to manage 50% of her pain, allowing her to walk sometimes and not fully rely on her wheelchair, giving her a better quality of life. Thank you again.

LADIES' GUILD: A new Treasurer and Secretary are needed to help run the Ladies' Guild. If you can help or would like more information, please contact Mary Briggs on 01992-534891.

TAKE A LOOK AT THE NEW PARISH WEBSITE (www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon, same address as before), if you have not yet done so. It is much more flexible than the old, with greater ease of adding information. Please think of *signing up for e-alerts* on the parish website, then you will get notified whenever there is some new information/event added to it.

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER in on **7th March** A new rep. is urgently required to join the committee which organises the services for the day. If you can help, please contact Janet Lampard on 428490.

CENSUS CARDS: If you have still not completed a census card, please do fill one in and hand it in to the presbytery. The cards are at the back of the church alongside the newsletters. Thank you.

PROPERTY SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR: An Administrator is needed to provide administrative and secretarial support to the Property Manager (and the team as a whole) in Hendon. Salary range: £23.5k-24.5k per annum (neg.) Hours of work: 35 hours per week (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, including a 1 hour unpaid lunch break on each day) Closing date: 24 January 2014 Interview date: w/c 3 February 2014 Please visit the jobs section of the

website for further information, located under 'Job vacancies' on the home page www.rcdow.org.uk

PASTORAL BOUNDARIES & CONFLICT MANAGEMENT: There will be a study day for readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion and volunteers and anyone who would like to learn more about healthy pastoral boundaries on **Saturday 25th January from 10-3pm** at Vaughan House, SW1P 1QN. Places are limited and booking is required. For further info and registration contact livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk or call 02079316078.

LOST PROPERTY: There are several glasses, gloves and hats in lost property which will be kept for a couple of weeks and if they are not collected, they will be disposed of.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip thanks all the parish households to which he has been invited, and would continue to like to meet further parishioners/families in their homes, as much as possible. Sunday lunch 1.30pm is a good (but by no means only) time. Free dates: 2nd and 9th February.

CHURCH CLEANING: Judy Livingstone, Elena Sachaj and Eddie & Eileen Linford. Thank you!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Catholic Baptism Prayer

Father in Heaven,
When the Spirit came down
upon Jesus at His Baptism in
the Jordan,
You revealed Him
as Your own Beloved Son.

Keep me, Your child,
born of water and the Spirit,
faithful to my calling.

May I, who share in Your Life
as Your child through Baptism,
follow in Christ's path of service to people.
Let me become one in His Sacrifice
and hear His Word with faith.

May I live as Your child,
following the example of Jesus. Amen



Masses this week

Sat 11th January

10am Mass *Elisabetta & Francesco Soldano RIP*

6.30pm* *John & Frances Woolsgrove RIP*

Sun 12th January BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9.15am** *For the Parish*

11.15am ** *Ian Laydon RIP*

3.30pm Italian Mass †

Mon 13th January

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Paddy Connors RIP & Mag Coffey*

Tues 14th January

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Leo & David Lee-Lozone RIP*

Wed 15th January

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Vera Brown from the Padre Pio group*

followed by coffee in the crypt

Thurs 16th January

9.15am Mass *Pat Gudgin Int's.*

Fri 17th January ST ANTHONY, ABBOT

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)

11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction

12 noon Mass *Mary Heraughty RIP Anniv*

Sat 18th January

10am Mass *Mrs Dileto, Pietro Dileto RIP & Pasquale & Saraverio Scirba*

6.30pm* *Rosalia & Giuseppe Dinoto RIP*

Sun 19th Jan 2ND SUN IN ORDINARY TIME

9.15am** *Baby William O'Bryan*

11.15am** *For the Parish*

5.00pm Holy hour

3.30pm Italian Mass †

*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)

Today's Liturgy

PAGE 118 in the Mass books

1st Reading: Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7

Here is my servant in whom my soul delights.

Psalm 28 — The Lord will bless his people with peace.

2nd Reading: Acts 10: 34-38

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Accl: Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 3: 13-17

As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.

PREFACE TODAY: Baptism of the Lord (p. 68)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 1-3

Gospel: John 1: 29-34

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

Rosary is said in the Walsingham Chapel after each weekday Mass and after Saturday 10am Mass.

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.

REGULAR EVENTS

Mon 13th 7.30pm Baptism course, crypt

Tues 14th 2-3.30pm Ascent, crypt

Tues 14th 7pm RCIA, presbytery

Wed 15th 6pm Brownies, crypt

Wed 15th 7.30pm All Saints, crypt

Fri 17th 7.30pm Prayer group, church

NEWSLETTER ITEMS TO PRESBYTERY IN WRITING, BY FAX, OR E-MAIL BY 9AM THURS WITH YOUR NAME & PHONE NO. — THANK YOU. **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.*