

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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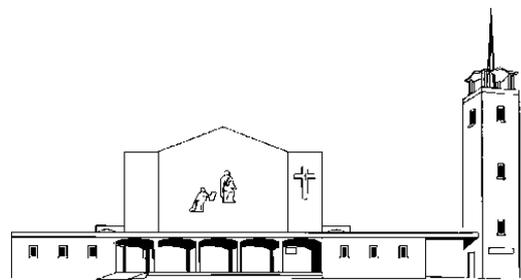
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www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

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

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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



Year B

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

22nd FEB 2015

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 12–15

Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THE SEASON OF LENT BEGAN LAST WEDNESDAY, the sun shining beautifully and offsetting, perhaps, the rigour of our fasting and abstinence. We have these six weeks ahead of Lenten preparation, and we must use them well. If you didn't get a **purple sheet 'Ideas for Lent 2015'** on Ash Wednesday, then please take one today from alongside the Newsletters — I have written it as a guide, or, rather, a *starting point*, for you to think about your Lenten discipline and devotions. We each need to make a good Lent!

ON THIS FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, as usual, we hear of Jesus's own testing time in the wilderness for 40 days — the very reason that Lent is forty days long. In this year's account, from St Mark, we only have the short account of this 'retreat' that Jesus underwent, but we know from other Gospels that in those days He showed the devil that He would not be swayed from His divine plan of humility and service. The devil's provocations — tempting Jesus to expressions of power, of greed, and despair — are overcome by Jesus, with the encouragement to us, by **almsgiving, fasting, and prayer**, to do the same. Let's make sure that at least by *today* — before Lent is too far gone — that we have made decisions as to how we will keep Lent well. Please, be innovative in the ways you decide! Be ambitious in your intentions; be generous with the Lord and He will be generous to you! Let's not be wishy-washy in our approach to Lent this year, but make sure that we make concrete expressions of our love for God and our love for neighbour.



THANK YOU, ONCE AGAIN, FOR THE 'VOLUNTEERING' EXERCISE that we undertook recently. And thank you for those extra cards that have come in to me in the past week. I have started to analyse the responses and will now communicate in various ways with you regarding the groups which you have offered to support.

May God bless with joy our Lenten weeks of fasting, prayer and almsgiving!

Fr Philip

From *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II on 'The Church in the Modern World,' n. 43:



This council exhorts Christians, as citizens of two cities, to strive to discharge their earthly duties conscientiously and in response to the Gospel spirit. They are mistaken who, knowing that we have here no abiding city but seek one which is to come, think that they may therefore shirk their earthly responsibilities. For they are forgetting that by the faith itself they are more obliged than ever to measure up to these duties, each according to his proper vocation. Nor, on the contrary, are they any less wide of the mark who think that religion consists in acts of worship alone and in the discharge of certain moral obligations, and who imagine they can plunge themselves into earthly affairs in such a way as to imply that these are altogether divorced from the religious life. This split between the faith which many profess and their daily lives deserves to be counted among the more serious errors of our age.

PRAYER & LITURGY

CHRISTOPHER REID RIP of The Hollies, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. **The funeral will be on Friday 27th February at 12 noon.** *May he rest in peace.*

LATIN MASS: The monthly Latin Mass, with sung chants, will be held next **Sun 1st March 5.00pm.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS, the "Way of the Cross" is followed in church each Fri (12.30pm, after Mass) & Sat (9.30am, before Mass.) Also in Italian at 4.30pm each Friday.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR (3rd Sunday of each month) takes place at 5pm **Sunday 15th March** Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction, with a Scriptural reflection.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting March 13th.** A semi-formal hour in the Lady Chapel to reflect together on Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord. All welcome!

CARDINAL'S MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE: The Cardinal invites all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2015 to a Mass on **Sat 23rd May at 3pm** at Westminster Cathedral. If you wish to attend, please communicate to the Presbytery the following details: husband's and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and e-mail (or telephone number, if no e-mail) by **8th March.**

LENT

PARISH "PENANCE" FOR LENT: in Lent, we will 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. Please abide by this!

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY is this coming **Friday 27th February** and the envelopes are attached to the newsletter and will be collected next weekend. If you are a tax payer, please don't forget to gift-aid your donations.

'**LENT EXTRA**' booklets with daily Lent meditations are now available to buy for £1.50. '**ANOINTED**' is the diocesan faith-sharing booklet for Lent, and explores what it means for all baptised to share in Christ's mission. The booklet is now available from the back of the church for £2.00. Please place your money for these booklets in the newspaper box.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER in on **Friday 6th March.** The services will be at St Augustine's, Broxbourne 11am and 7.30pm for 8pm at the Baptist Church, Essex Road. You are invited to go dresses in brightly coloured clothes and worship under Bahamian palm trees.

LENTEN ALMS are collected each year in support of charitable causes. The Archbishop has decided that this year's charity will be *Caritas*. *Caritas* has been created to help parishes set up and run projects designed to give practical help to the poor, the hungry, the lonely and the vulnerable in our diocese. But its work is only possible if it receives donations. To find out more about *Caritas*, please do take a leaflet which are beside the newsletters. **You will find the box throughout Lent in front of the lectern.**

'**SAINTS HELPING US TODAY**': Fr Philip will be showing a six-session DVD series exploring Saints Thérèse of Lisieux, Benedict, Francis of Assisi, Patrick, Ignatius of Loyola and Catherine of Siena, during Lent. The talks will be on **Lent Wednesdays at 10.15am** after coffee in the crypt. Dates are: 25th Feb, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March & 1st April.

LENT LUNCHESES will be held every Tuesday during Lent at Barclay Hall (St Catherine & St Paul's Anglican church hall) at 12.15pm for £3. **Fr Philip will be the speaker on 24th Feb so our team of helpers need to arrive at 10.45am.**

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for our sick parishioners and friends: Sue Porto, Christopher Browne, John Askew, Alan Dolan, Rosa Augello, Roberto Piacentini, Mark Reason, Hilda Andrews, Joanne Sheridan, Helen Sherman, Annette Pinto, Bohita Fanor, Jenny Miller, Peter Tanner, John Lumley, Anne Smith and Sylvia Mullick.

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. 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, Jacqueline Humphreys 01438-285518 or 07884-187463; Princess Alexandra, Fr Leszek Gamracy 01279-426017



Fr Philip thanks those who have recently donated to our 'Growing in Faith' initiative, to benefit both the diocese, and our own parish's project of employing a part-time catechetical co-ordinator. With some very large new donations, **we have raised now pledges of c. £190k, to give our parish project, ultimately, a slice of c. £55k.** An update on 'Growing in Faith' can be seen on the noticeboard above the newspapers, though it doesn't yet include the most recent pledges. Fr Philip continues exploratory discussions with various contacts about filling the post of a catechetical co-ordinator.

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

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION: The next session will be held on **Mon 2nd March 7pm** for Candidates and parents. Chapter 13 of St Mark's Gospel is to be read in preparation for this session. Candidates also need to have filled in 'page 4' with their choice of Confirmation saint's name.

FIRST-HOLY-COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The sixth meeting for parents will be on **Wed 11th March 8-9pm** in the crypt and the children's meeting is on **Saturday 14th March 10-12 noon.**

"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. **The course continues on 24th February at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Wednesday 18th and Friday 27th March** from **7.30pm-9pm** in the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol, please ring the presbytery.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT is 23rd Feb-8th March. As a Fairtrade Parish, we endeavour to serve Fairtrade tea & coffee at events, set up a stall of Traidcraft products on a regular basis and promote Fairtrade goods during this fortnight.

EASTER EGGS: Maria Hunt is taking orders for milk chocolate Easter eggs that are £3.99 and tell the Easter story. Orders can only be taken up to the **2nd March**, so please contact Maria at maria.hunt2@ntlworld.com.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S NURSERY: Applications for September 2015 must be made via www.hertsdirect.org/nurseryadmissions, Herts County Council. The school application form must also be filled in, and can be downloaded from www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/schoolinformation/admissions. **Closing date Friday 20th March.**

UNDER-5's: (i) **200 CLUB RENEWALS** take place after Masses on **28th Feb/1st March** and **7th/8th March**. If you would like join, you can speak to one of the St Augustine's Under 5's committee or contact Theresa Casbard on 01992-301551 or t.casbard@ntlworld.com.

(ii) **PAMPER NIGHT:** Playgroup is holding a fundraising Ladies' Pamper Night on **Thurs 12th March from 6.30pm**. There will be a number of different therapists available offering manicures, facials, massages and more. Tickets £3 in advance/£3.50 on the door. Please call in at playgroup or call Irayna on 07805-542576.

MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will visit parishioners this week (Wed afternoon) in Walton Rd, Whittingstall Rd, Gladstone Rd, River Ave.

OVER 70s 'SAN GIUSEPPE' MEAL: Broxbourne & Sutura Town Twinning Association are offering a free meal to parishioners aged over 70. It will be on **Sunday 22nd March 12.30-4.30pm** at the Borough Offices, Broxbourne. If you are interested, please contact the presbytery soon.

PARISH ACCOUNTANT: The Parish Finance Committee would like to know if there is a parishioner with computer accounting experience who would like to volunteer for a specific role on the committee. It involves keeping the parish financial records on a web-based system, administering the parish finances and would require no more than an average of 3-4 hours each week. A short attendance at the presbytery on a Monday would be a requirement but a significant amount of the work could be carried out offsite to suit individual needs. Training and support is readily available. For a job description and to receive more information, please contact the presbytery.

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip would like to meet parishioners/families in their homes, as much as possible. Sunday lunch 1.30pm is a good (but by no means only) time. Free date: 15th March.

CHURCH CLEANING: Joanne Dawes, Lena & Carmela Tona & Giuseppina Tuzzeo. Thank you!

Masses this week

Sat 21st Feb

10am Mass *Edward Flood RIP*

4.00pm Italian Mass

6.30pm* *For the Parish*

Sun 22nd February FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9.15am** *Carmella De Luca RIP Anniv*

11.15am *Antonio Martorana* ‡

Mon 23rd February

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Sr Mary Jo's intentions*

Tues 24th February

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am *Mary Burke's intentions*

Wed 25th February

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

9.15am Mass *Josephine Murphy RIP anniv.* — followed by coffee in the crypt

Thurs 26th February

9.15am Mass *Joseph Penheiro RIP*

Fri 27th February (CAFOD LENT FAST DAY)

(Abstinance from meat for those aged 14+)

11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction

12 noon **Funeral** *Christopher Reid RIP*

12.30pm Stations of the Cross

Sat 28th February

9.30am Stations of the Cross

10am Mass *Jack, Margaret & Paddy Connors*

4.00pm Italian Mass

6.30pm* *Mario & Giuseppina Vaccaro RIP*

Sun 1st March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9.15am** *Lulu Pauline Ward*

11.15am *Gina Gullo RIP*

5.00pm Latin Mass *For the Parish* ‡

* **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 148 in the Mass books

1st Reading: Genesis 9: 8–15

God's covenant with Noah after he had saved him from the waters of the flood.

Psalms 24 — Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3: 18–22

That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Gospel Accl: *Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

Gospel: Mark 1: 12–15

Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

PREFACE TODAY: Jesus's Temptations (p. 57)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

1st Reading: Genesis 22: 1–2, 9–13, 15–18

2nd Reading: Romans 8: 31–34

Gospel: Mark 9: 2–10

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.

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

Tues 24th 1.30pm Guild tea & chat crypt

Tues 24th 7pm RCIA, presbytery

Wed 25th 6pm Brownies, crypt

Thurs 26th 1.30pm Padre Pio

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.*