

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

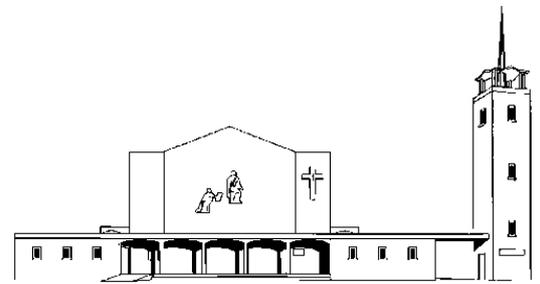
Tel: 01992-440986

Fax: 01992-440244

Web-site: www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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



E-mail: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

FaceBook: "CatholicHoddesdon"

Year B

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

28th JANUARY 2018

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 21-28

He taught them with authority.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

ALONG WITH HIS HEALING MIRACLES, JESUS was also known, early on, for His power over demons and "unclean spirits" – that is, He had the authority to cast out the evil possession that had taken over the lives of some afflicted people. On many occasions Our Lord brought peace and normality back to those whose lives had been blighted by possession.

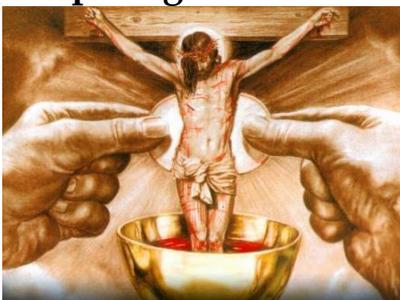
We are reminded by these powerful incidents that we must steer well clear of all those activities that are associated with the demonic. People today, in sadly increasing numbers, turn to all sorts of things that have a pagan or demonic basis, and can end up being seriously troubled by evil activity. As Christians we should be well aware that these are to be avoided categorically, and we should counsel our family members and friends to have nothing to do with them, either.

Obvious examples of things which have a demonic basis and which are forbidden to Christians are: Spiritualism (communings with the dead); consulting mediums or clairvoyants; the use of Tarot cards or Ouija boards; attendance at so-called 'Psychic Nights'; any involvement in Reiki or other New-Age 'healing' activities such as the use of crystals. Some exercise regimes such as Yoga or Tai Chi are also to be avoided, since they are based on manifestly pagan philosophy and uses poses that invoke pagan divinities (Hindu or Buddhist) – instead, go for straightforward exercise regimes such as Pilates that have no spiritualist basis.

May Christ protect us from all harm, and help us to hold firm to what is truly holy! Fr Philip



Preparing for the Eucharistic Congress 2018: John Paul II's *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 14:



Christ's passover includes not only his passion and death, but also his resurrection. This is recalled by the assembly's acclamation following the consecration: "*We proclaim your resurrection.*" The Eucharistic Sacrifice makes present not only the mystery of the Saviour's passion and death, but also the mystery of the resurrection which crowned his sacrifice. It is as the living and risen One that Christ can become in the Eucharist the "bread of life," the "living bread." Saint Ambrose reminded the newly-initiated that the Eucharist applies the event of the resurrection to their lives: "Today Christ is yours, yet each day he rises again for you." Saint Cyril of Alexandria also makes clear that sharing in the sacred mysteries "is a true confession and a remembrance that the Lord died and returned to life for us and on our behalf."

PRAYER & LITURGY

ROSE BEESON RIP of The Hollies, St Catherine's Road, has died. Her funeral will be on **Monday 29th January at 12.30pm.**

May she rest in peace.

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at 7.30pm on **Friday 2nd February.** This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, which is always prayed for the pro-life cause.

LATIN MASS: The monthly Latin Mass, with sung chants, will be at 5.00pm **Sunday 4th February.**

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting 16th Feb.** 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 18th February at 5pm** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

ROTA FOR READERS/MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION for the period February – May is due to be drawn up shortly. Please advise Pat Kavanagh tel: 449282 or by e-mail patandcarolkav@btinternet.com by **Wed 31st Jan** at the latest of any dates in this period that you are NOT available. Please also advise of any changes in personal contact details e.g. address, telephone number etc.

LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY is on **14th February** and Mass will be at 9.30am, 12 noon and 8pm. If you are a Eucharistic Minister, reader or altar server and can assist at the Masses, please sign your name on the lists at the back of the church. **Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting (for those aged 16–60) and abstinence (for those aged 14+).** This means that we consciously choose to eat less – one main meal only – and that (as on all Fridays) we eat no meat whatsoever.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: John Askew, Rosa Augello, Siobhan Fiorentini, Tallulah Scott & 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 07876-526935; Princess Alexandra, Fr Leszek Gamracy 01279-426017

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION 2018: The Retreat Day with Rise Theatre will take place on **Saturday 3rd February 11–4pm.** Please don't forget your packed lunch! The next session will be on **Tuesday 20th February 7.15pm** for candidates and parents. Candidates will need to have read chapter 11 & 12 of the Gospel of Mark. The Confirmation Mass will be on **Sunday 22nd April at 1.30pm.**

"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 continues on Mon 29th January 2018.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Next meeting for parents is on **Wed 21st Feb 8–9pm** in the crypt. The fourth session for children will be on **Mon 26th Feb 6–7.30pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Tuesday 13th and 20th March** from 7.30–9pm. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged.



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 £27k available for our parish project, which is to employ a part-time worker in the area of catechetics and evangelization.

Fr Philip is working with the diocese and seeking advice from other diocesan priests to draw up a job description to find the right person for this role.

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

SCHOOLS/UNDER-5s

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 2019, or if your child is looking to go into Reception year in a Catholic Primary school in autumn 2019, then you will need to apply **immediately** to go on the list for requesting a 'Certificate of Catholic Practice' towards the end of 2018. An information pack is **available now** from the presbytery. Once you have completed the form and returned it to the presbytery, your name will be added to the weekly sign-in-sheet which will be available in the church porch on the noticeboard (by the fire-exit door) for signing after the Saturday evening vigil Mass and the Masses of Sunday. On this basis Fr Philip will be able to judge whether he can issue the Certificate you ask for.

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL vacancy for a Learning Support Assistant: As we are having progression within school amongst our support staff, St. Augustine's Catholic Primary School is looking to appoint a KS2 and a EYFS trained Learning Support Assistant/Nursery Nurse to join our hardworking and dedicated staff. Applicants are required to have a Level-2 or above qualification or relevant experience, or a Level-3 and full PFA certificate if applying for EYFS. Please contact Mrs Gillian Napier, Headteacher, via her PA, Carol Branch on 463549 for further info application form.

ST AUGUSTINE'S NURSERY is holding an Open Day on the **20th February at 2pm**. For further information, please contact the school on 463549. All new parents are welcome!

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

TRAIDCRAFT stall will be at the back of the church **next weekend** after all Masses.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB is now held weekly in the crypt. Please note that there will be **no lunch club on the 13th & 20th February**, due to work being carried out in the crypt. All are welcome!

PARISH MAGAZINE still available to buy for £4 from the presbytery during the week.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will be making house visits on Wednesday afternoon in: Gladstone Road, River Avenue.

CRYPT FLOOR: Following on from last year's flood, we have now received the insurance money so will be having a new floor laid in the kitchen, hallway and toilets. The crypt will therefore be out of use from **Monday 12th February** for the whole week. From Monday 19th February, the crypt will only be available for use during the evenings.

SAFEGUARDING: free online modules are available for every member of the Catholic community until summer 2018. Would you like to help contribute in making the Parish community safer for all? Please register your interest at safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk. All the information needed about how to access and complete the modules of the *Educare* course will then be sent to you.

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: 4th & 18th February.

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK ST JOHN BOSCO

Saint John Bosco, popularly known as 'Don Bosco,' was an Italian priest, educator and writer of the 19th century. While working in Turin, where the population suffered many of the effects of industrialization and urbanization, he dedicated his life to the betterment and education of street children, juvenile delinquents, and other disadvantaged youth. He developed teaching methods based on love rather than punishment, a method that became known as the Salesian Preventive System.

Pray for us, and for our young people!

