

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

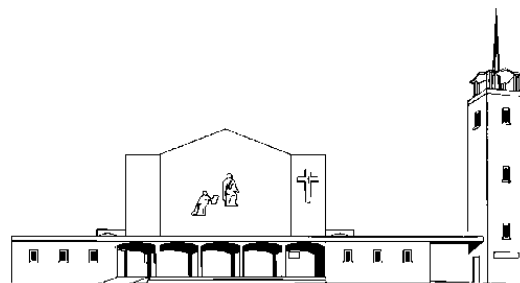
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Year B

PALM SUNDAY

25th MARCH 2018

GOSPEL: *The Passion according to St Mark*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE HAVE ENTERED, NOW THIS MOST SACRED OF WEEKS. Palm Sunday today marks the start of a week that we will want to give wholly to the Lord, as we commemorate His sacrificial death for us, and His rising to life for us. So, please, I urge you, to put aside other concerns, and to enter as fully as possible into the parish's prayers and services of Holy Week.

Parish Penitential Service for Lent on Tuesday (7.15pm) when about **6 priests** will be here for you for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All our other Lenten disciplines point us towards Confession and the forgiveness of our sins by the merciful Lord. Let's make sure that we complete a good Lent with a grace-filled Confession.

SACRED TRIDUUM: This is the *high-point* of every Christian's year, so we should do our best to attend each and every part of the celebration, which has a continuity to it as we accompany Our Lord through the days of His Last Supper, His glorious Passion, and His Resurrection:

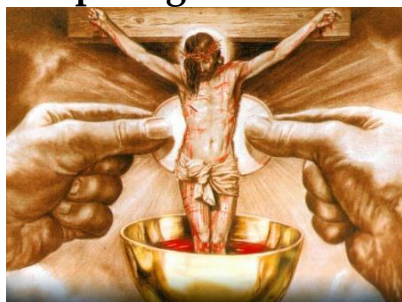
***** HOLY THURSDAY 8PM – GOOD FRIDAY 3PM – EASTER VIGIL 9PM *****

In particular we should keep Good Friday as a day of **penance and prayer** through fasting (one main meal only) and abstinence (eating no meat). PLEASE fast also from any shopping etc. that day; and make sure to keep free the 3-4.30pm time for the liturgy (Children's Liturgy also available on Good Friday). **Every Catholic should be at the 3pm Service of the Lord's Passion and Crucifixion** unless absolutely prevented by work in essential services.

May Christ draw us to Himself as He offers His life in atonement for our sins!

Fr Philip

Preparing for the Eucharistic Congress 2018: John Paul II's *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 22:



Incorporation into Christ, which is brought about by Baptism, is constantly renewed and consolidated by sharing in the Eucharistic Sacrifice, especially by that full sharing which takes place in sacramental communion. We can say not only that *each of us receives Christ*, but also that *Christ receives each of us*. He enters into friendship with us: "You are my friends." Indeed, it is because of him that we have life: "He who eats me will live because of me." Eucharistic communion brings about in a sublime way the mutual "abiding" of Christ and each of his followers: "Abide in me, and I in you."

PRAYER & LITURGY

HOLY WEEK

Tuesday 27th March: CHRISM MASS at
Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 29th March
8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer
8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
9.30pm-Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

GOOD FRIDAY: 30th March
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: 31st March
9.45am Morning Prayer
9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15am and 11.15am Mass

RECONCILIATION BEFORE EASTER

**Penitential Service for the parish on Tuesday
27th March 7.15pm. Several (5-6) priests will
be available on this occasion.**

**Maundy Thursday: 9.15am and 7pm.
Good Friday: 10.45am; 2pm; 4.30pm; 6.30pm.
Holy Saturday: 10-11am.**

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:
WALTHAM CROSS: Monday 26th March 7pm
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, 12 men or boys are 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:** if you can
assist at any of the services during Holy Week,
please sign your name on the lists in the porch.

EASTER PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: 3
teenage parishioners will be travelling to
Lourdes as helpers with HCPT. If any
parishioner would like to have a Mass offered
at the Grotto, please put your request in an
envelope marked "Lourdes Intention" and post
it into the presbytery **before 27th March.**

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR will next take place
this Sunday 15th April at 5pm with a Scriptural
reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and
Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each
month, 7.30-8.30pm: **next meeting 20th April.**
A semi-formal hour in the Lady Chapel to
reflect together on Sunday Scriptures and bring
our needs and prayers to the Lord.

LENT

**'WE ADORE YOU, O CHRIST, AND WE
PRAISE YOU,'** the diocesan booklet for Lent,
focuses on our love of Christ in the Blessed
Sacrament, the Mass, and our Mission. **Final
Reflection-group session – Wednesday
10.15am (after coffee).**

LENTEN ALMS are collected each year in
support of charitable causes: this year for the
Cardinal's Lenten Appeal which was set up in
2015 to fund innovative work of Catholic
parishes, schools and charities working within
the Diocese. It contributes to 3 fundamental
mission areas of the Church: Marriage & Family
Life, Evangelisation and the Church's Social
Outreach. **You will find the box throughout
Lent in front of the lectern.**

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

*Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: Bill
Pollard, John Askew, Rosa Augello & Siobhan
Fiorentini, Tallulah Scott.*

**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 next session will be on **Tuesday 27th March 7.15pm** for candidates and parents for the Penitential Service.

"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 26th March.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The next meeting for parents is on **Wed 25th April 8-9pm** in the crypt. The next session for children will be on **Mon 30th April, 6pm.**



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.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PILGRIMAGE DAY TO AYLESFORD PRIORY will now be on **Thursday 3rd May**, not 17th May. More details to follow in due course.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip continues his house visits this week (**Wednesday** afternoon) to parish homes in: Copthorn Ave, Christie Cl., Bassingbourne Cl., Mandeville Cl.

CRYPT: apologies for ongoing disruption to the crypt kitchen. Unfortunately, damp has been found, preventing an immediate kitchen re-fit, and we are awaiting the damp-prevention work to be done. Thank you for your patience.

CAKE SALE will take place at the back of church after Masses on Easter Sunday.

PLANNED GIVING: Boxes of envelopes for the new financial year available from the back of the church. If you would like to start donating through the envelopes/standing orders, forms are available and members of the Finance Committee will be available to help.
GIFT AID Many parishioners sign Gift-Aid forms, which enables the parish to collect the tax on the donations made through envelopes/standing orders. There is no further cost to the donor but the parish is able to claim another £1 for every £4 donated under Gift Aid. You will need to be a UK taxpayer to sign a Gift-Aid form. **If your circumstances have changed and you pay less or no tax, please inform a.s.a.p. the Gift-Aid Coordinator, Bill Pollard, c/o The Presbytery, and your Gift-Aid declaration will be cancelled.**

SUNDAY LUNCH: Fr Philip is aware that even after 10yrs there are many parishioners he has never visited. Sunday lunch (c. 1.30-3pm) is a good (but by no means only) time. Free dates: 25th March; 8th & 15th April.

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

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 24th March 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Deceased members of Soldano family	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 176 in the Mass books</p> 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 25th March PALM SUNDAY 9.15am** Deceased members of Mercurio Family 11.15am Jim O'Neill RIP ‡	2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11 <i>He humbled himself; but God raised him high.</i>
Mon 26th March MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Salvatore Russo RIP	Gospel Accl: 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.
Tues 27th March TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Frederick Reeves RIP	Gospel: Passion according to Mark, 14:1–15:47
Wed 28th March WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Maria-Teresa Distefano RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt	PREFACE TODAY: Passion of the Lord (p. 59) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)
Thurs 29th March 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	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS EASTER SUNDAY</p> 1st Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37–43 2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 1–4 Gospel: John 20: 1–9
Fri 30th March GOOD FRIDAY <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</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	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.
Sat 31st March HOLY SATURDAY 9.45am Morning Prayer 4.00pm* Italian Easter Vigil 9.00pm* Mass of the Easter Vigil Priest's int's	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sun 1st April EASTER SUNDAY 9.15am For the Parish 11.15am Irechukwu Ugochukwu RIP ‡	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> 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: 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>	
<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR EVENTS</p>	
Mon 26th 7.00pm RCIA, presbytery Tues 27th 12 noon lunch club, crypt	Tues 27th 7.15pm Confirmation, church

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.*