

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

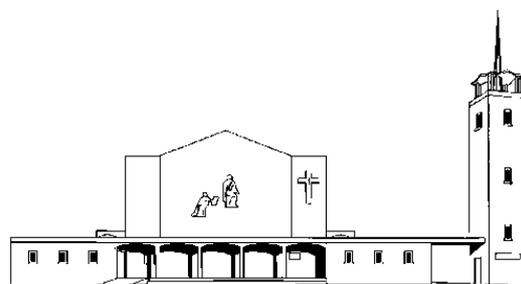
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Year B

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

8th APRIL 2018

GOSPEL: *John 20: 19-31*

Eight days later, Jesus came.

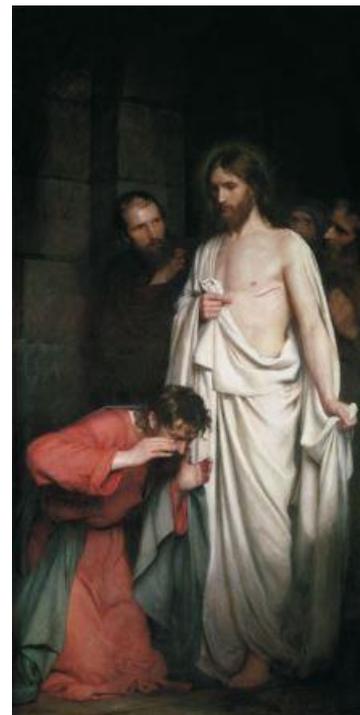
My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THIS SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER — END OF THE EASTER OCTAVE — we hear the powerful encounters between Our Lord and His apostles. Most poignant is the exchange between Jesus and St Thomas, who was absent when Our Lord first appeared and initially doubted that He could be risen. St Thomas is a patron saint for all those who, at some point, struggle with doubts. He could not at first accept the wonder of the Resurrection, but then in Jesus's risen presence, falls to his knees and offers that beautiful expression of faith: **"My Lord and my God."**

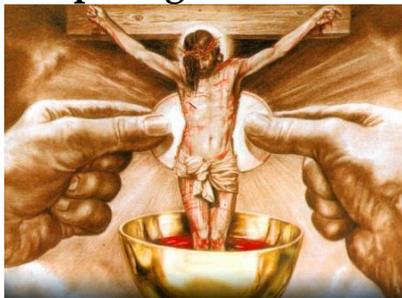
Many Catholics rightly use these words of St Thomas at the central moment of the consecration at Mass, when the Sacred Host and then the chalice of Jesus's Precious Blood are lifted up for all to adore. "My Lord and my God" has become for us a lovely expression of faith at that moment when Our Lord becomes present at the altar. We echo the humbling words of St Thomas as he became aware of the awesome mystery of God's love for us: Jesus's abiding presence for us as the Son of God at the heart of His Church. If you don't already use those words as a fervent act of devotion at the consecration, then it would be really good to start doing so, to express your Eucharistic faith.

I AM GRATEFUL TO FR MICHAEL STEWART for coming to celebrate Mass this week (Mon-Wed) as I take a few days' break in Rome at my old seminary, the *Venerabile Collegio Inglese*. If you would like to view online a little bit more about the life of the English College and the training of the seminarians there for parishes of England and Wales, go to: <http://www.vecrome.org/>

May the joy of the Risen Lord fill you and your families this Easter with grace! Fr Philip



Preparing for the Eucharistic Congress 2018: John Paul II's *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 23:



Eucharistic communion also confirms the Church in her unity as the body of Christ. Saint Paul refers to this *unifying power* of participation in the banquet of the Eucharist when he writes to the Corinthians: "The bread which we break, is it not a communion in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread." Saint John Chrysostom's commentary on these words is profound and perceptive: "For what is the bread? It is the body of Christ. And what do those who receive it become? The Body of Christ — not many bodies but one body. For as bread is completely one, though made of up many grains of wheat, and these, albeit unseen, remain nonetheless present, in such a way that their difference is not apparent since they have been made a perfect whole, so too are we mutually joined to one another and together united with Christ."

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Robbie Luton & Emilia Bondi, baptised this Sunday.

NO ADORATION/MORNING PRAYER on Mon, Tues & Wed, but 9.15am Mass as usual.

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.

AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY: Fr Philip will lead a group to the Marian Carmelite Shrine at Aylesford (Kent) for a day out on **Thurs 3rd May leaving the church at 9am.** We'll arrive for midday Mass in cloister chapel; lunch in pilgrims' Hall; follow the rosary way and have Benediction, departing after tea at about 4pm. The total cost (incl. the coach) is £35.00, and we are given a hot 3-course lunch in the mediaeval Pilgrims' Hall. If you have any special dietary requirements, please contact the presbytery. **Please sign the sheet in the porch if you would like to come and hand your money into the presbytery.**

FR PHILIP'S HOMILIES are available to view online: link from the front page of our website.

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/bishopstortford>

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 17th April 7.15pm** for candidates only. Please read chapters 15 & 16 of Mark's Gospel before the session. **The Confirmation Mass will be on Sunday 22nd April at 1.30pm.** If you are a Minister of Holy Communion or altar server and can assist at the Mass, please do sign your name on the list at the back of church. (Candidates please note, that you should limit your guests to a maximum of 10 in the church to prevent overcrowding.)

"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 Monday 16th April.**

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 pledges 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 NURSERY still has some places available for autumn 2018. Please contact the school on 463549 for further information.

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. It is specifically looking for applicants from a Human Resources; Finance; or Health & Safety background to complement their existing skillsets, although other backgrounds are also welcome. Training is provided to help governors fulfil their very important role. If you would like to know more, visit the diocesan website which can be found at www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/serving-as-a-governor

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S is holding a quiz on **Sat 19th May** in the crypt: 7.30pm for 8pm start. £5 per person and 8 per table. Please bring your own drink and nibbles. Contact the playgroup on 460614 to book your table.

JUSTICE & PEACE / PRO-LIFE

WINTER NIGHT-SHELTER 2019: in next week's newsletter will be an initial information sheet and call for volunteers for the proposed Winter Night Shelter for the Borough of Broxbourne's homeless people.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his visits in the week after the coming one.

LENTEN COLLECTIONS: For the Holy Places' collection after the Passion Liturgy of Good Friday, we raised £566.98. Thank you also to all those who contributed towards the Easter flowers. The total raised was £103.52.

PLANNED GIVING: Boxes of envelopes for the new financial year available from the back of the church. 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.**

CRYPT: apologies for ongoing disruption to the crypt kitchen. Unfortunately, damp was found, preventing an immediate kitchen re-fit. The damp-prevention work and re-plastering has now been done. Thank you for your patience.

CHURCH CLEANERS are **urgently** needed to help on Wed mornings as there are now only 2 cleaners. This will involve one hour per month. If you can help, please contact the presbytery.

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: 8th & 15th April.

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

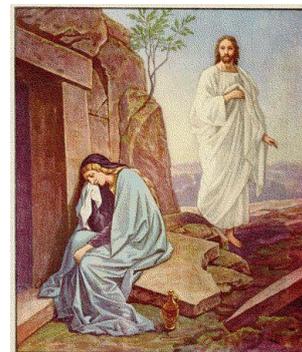
taken from the Easter Vigil *Exsultet*

Rejoice, heavenly powers!
Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around
God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the trumpet of salvation.

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,
radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes for ever.

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour shines upon you.
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people.

Father, how wonderful your care for us!
How boundless your merciful love!
To ransom a slave You gave away your Son.
O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam,
which gained for us so great a Redeemer



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 7th April SATURDAY OF EASTER OCTAVE 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Antonio Sidoli RIP	PAGE 255 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Acts 4: 32–35 <i>United, heart and soul.</i>
4.00pm* Italian Easter Vigil 6.30pm* Mass Rizalina Gonzales RIP Sun 8th April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Aidan & Owen Doyle RIP Anniv 11.15am Paolo Conti RIP Anniv 5.00pm Latin Mass For the Parish †	Psalm 117 — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. 2nd Reading: 1 John 5: 1–6 <i>Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.</i>
Mon 9th April THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD 9.15am Mass Rosemarie Burt's int's & Peter Burt RIP	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe. Alleluia.</i>
Tues 10th April 9.15am Mass Doris Hudson RIP	Gospel: John 20: 19–31 <i>Eight days later, Jesus came.</i>
Wed 11th April ST STANISLAUS, Bishop & Martyr 9.15am Mass Angelo Cattini RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt	PREFACE TODAY: Easter I (p. 60) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p.18)
Thurs 12th April NO MASS	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
Fri 13th April <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Barry Bruce's intentions	1st Reading: Acts 3: 13–15, 17–19 2nd Reading: 1 John 2: 1–5 Gospel: Luke 24: 35–48
Sat 14th April 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Ken Parker RIP	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.
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Mass For the Parish	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sun 15th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Deceased members of Mezzullo Family 11.15am Enrico & Maria Rega RIP † 5pm Holy Hour	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.
<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>	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 10th	12.30pm Lunch club, crypt

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.*