

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

Tel: 01992-440986

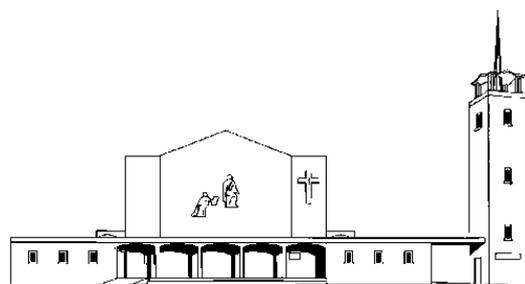
Fax: 01992-440244

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

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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

Also in residence: Fr Mathew Kattiyangal (National chaplain to Knanayan community)



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Year C

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

16th DECEMBER 2018

GOSPEL: Luke 3: 10-18

What must we do?

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE HEAR AGAIN, ON THIS 'GAUDETE' SUNDAY OF ADVENT the voice of St John the Baptist, as he calls the people to repentance and to a change of life. He makes it clear, too, that another – a greater! – is coming. He states that he himself is not the Christ, but that the Messiah is coming very soon, and that the people must prepare for His imminent arrival.

We can make no better preparation this Advent than with the celebration of the Sacrament of Forgiveness, Confession. So I urge you to make good use of one of the two communal celebrations of Reconciliation **this week, Monday:**

***** 17th December, 11.30am & 7.30pm – PENITENTIAL SERVICES with Confession. *****

At each of the services, both morning and evening, there will be a number of priests for the Confessions, A short service of Readings and Reflections prepares our hearts gently for the celebration of the Sacrament in private afterwards in the traditional manner.

MY CYCLE OF ADVENT-SUNDAY HOMILIES on the Liturgy of the Word at Mass now moves into consideration of the New Testament: I'll consider, this Sunday, **the 2nd Reading, taken typically from the 'epistles' in the New Testament.** These form the oldest of the NT writings – older than the Gospels – and are filled with the earliest testimonies to the life of the Church, living out its faith in Jesus; and contain too plenty of wise spiritual and pastoral advice.

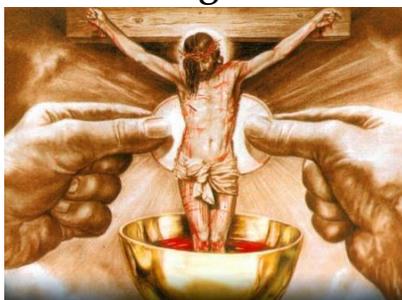
Please make sure that you have noted this other Advent date for next weekend:

***** 23rd December (Sunday) 5pm – PARISH CAROL SERVICE with Refreshments after. *****

May the Lord bring us joyful hope as we long for His coming anew in our hearts! Fr Philip



Celebrating the Eucharistic Congress 2018: John Paul II's *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 59:



For over a half century, every day, beginning on 2 November 1946, when I celebrated my first Mass in the Crypt of Saint Leonard in Wawel Cathedral in Krakow, my eyes have gazed in recollection upon the host and the chalice, where time and space in some way "merge" and the drama of Golgotha is re-presented in a living way, thus revealing its mysterious "contemporaneity." Each day my faith has been able to recognize in the consecrated bread and wine the divine Wayfarer who joined the two disciples on the road to Emmaus and opened their eyes to the light and their hearts to new hope.

PRAYER & LITURGY

TINA INFANTINO RIP of Highfield Road, Hertford died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 19th December at 10.30am.**

ADELINA CIRAOLO RIP of New River Close, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Monday 31st December at 11am.**

May they rest in peace.

ADVENT

RECONCILIATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS:

Our Parish Penitential Services will be on **Monday 17th December at 11.30am and 7.30pm.** Fr Philip will also hear confessions if possible after Sunday Masses in Advent.

Confessions in other local parishes are:

WALTHAM CROSS: Tuesday 18th Dec 8pm

WARE: Sat 22nd December 12-1pm & 5-5.30pm.

HERTFORD: extra Confessions in the run-up to Christmas (parish tel. 582109)

SCHOOL MASSES: On **Wednesday 19th December** there will be Mass at 2pm at St Augustine's School. On **Friday 21st December** Mass will be at St Cross at 9.30am. All are welcome.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE will be held on **Sunday 23rd December at 5pm.** Adult and young readers are needed, so if you are able to assist, please sign the lists at the back of the church. **Volunteers are needed to help make refreshments afterwards.** If you can help, please contact the presbytery.

MIDNIGHT MASS/CHRISTMAS DAY: If you are a Minister of Holy Communion, Reader, or Altar Server and can assist at the Christmas Masses, please sign your name a.s.a.p on the lists at the back of church.

EPIPHANY PARTY will be held on **Saturday 5th January 2019** after the 6.30pm Mass in the crypt. We will have a shared meal of finger food only, so if you can bring a sweet or savoury dish, please do sign your name on the list at the back of the church. Drinks will be provided by the parish.

ADVENT EXTRA magazine is now available to buy for £2.25 from the back of church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR will next take place **this Sunday 16th December at 5pm** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

HOLY FAMILIES, the diocesan faith-sharing resource is **now available to buy from the back of the church for £3.** The booklet explores themes from the Holy Father's teaching on marriage and the family in *Amoris Laetitia*.

ALTAR SERVERS: Children (any age) who have at least made their First Holy Communion and wish to become altar servers, please contact the presbytery so that training can be arranged.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30-8.30pm: **next meeting Friday 21st December.** A semi-formal hour in the Lady Chapel to reflect together on Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord.

DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND, 26th May-1st June 2019 with Fr Philip. Price £700- and further info is available with booking forms. The pilgrimage will follow in the footsteps of John Paul II and will visit Kraków, Wadowice, Częstochowa and Auschwitz. **Space still available**, so take a booking form and submit it as soon as possible. Please ring Presbytery to let us know that you are booking.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: 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 AT HOME.

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, John O'Neill 01438-285138 or 07876-526935; Princess Alexandra, Fr Leszek Gamracy 01279-426017

CATECHETICS

CONFIRMATION 2019: The next three meetings are **8th & 22nd January & 5th Feb 7-8.30pm** for **parents & candidates**. Please do not forget to bring your copy of the St Mark's Gospel to each session, and please read ch. 9 in preparation for next time. **Remaining letters for Confirmation families to be picked up from the register sign-in table this weekend.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The first meeting for parents will be on **Friday 11th January 2019** at 8pm in the crypt.

"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. **Course continues Mon 7th January at 7pm.**

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Tues 15th Jan and Fri 25th Jan, 7.30-9pm** in the presbytery. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged.



Growing in Faith
Our parishes • Our priests • Our place in the world

We have pledges of c. £185k, to give our parish project, ultimately, a slice of c. £51k. So far we already have £29k 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

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL: Open Day for new parents to Nursery 2019/20 on **Mon 17th Dec 2-3pm**. To book a place, please contact the school on 463549.

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS: Please note that the deadline to apply to St Augustine's and St Cross schools is the **15th Jan 2019**. Catholic parents will need to submit a paper application form ("supplementary information form") to each school office. The best practice would be to apply to both schools: each school has 30 places in Reception year.

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL NURSERY APPLICATIONS: Nursery applications are open and places will be given on a 'first come, first served' basis. Application forms can be picked up at the School Office, by following the link on the home page of the school website or under the 'Admissions' tab. An offer letter will be sent within a week of application received.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will be making house visits this week on **Tuesday afternoon** in: Christian Close, Ellis Close, Ware Rd (even nos.)

CRIB APPEAL: This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work with disadvantaged children and families. This will help provide mental health services, family support and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our Diocese.

GRAVE WREATHS are on sale at the back of church this weekend. Please place your money in the envelopes provided and post through the presbytery door. All funds raised are for the Brownies.

ISABEL HOSPICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL: total collected at Brookfield and Sainsbury's was £913.04. My sincere thanks to Kathy G, Mary K, Claire H, Diana, Dawn, Cathy & Michele for their support over the 3 days.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOKS 2019 are now available to buy for £4.50 from the back of church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Please do not leave Christmas cards for parishioners at the back of the church. We have found from past years that they are not collected. Thank you.

DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES can be viewed online <https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs>

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

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: 16th December.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 15th December 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Joy Ighade's intentions</i></p> <hr/> <p>4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Mass <i>Peggy Hogan RIP</i></p> <p>Sun 16th Dec 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am** <i>Baby James Ingram</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> 5pm Holy Hour ‡</p>	<p>PAGE 87 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14–18 <i>The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.</i></p> <p>Psalm 12— Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 4–7 <i>The Lord is very near.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia.</i></p> <p>Gospel: Luke 3: 10–18 <i>What must we do?</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Advent I (p. 65) EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: no.1 (p. 18)</p> <p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p> <p>1st Reading: Micah 5: 1–4 2nd Reading: Hebrews 10: 5–10 Gospel: Luke 1: 39–45</p>
<p>Mon 17th December 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15 Mass <i>Richard Pyper RIP</i></p> <p>Tues 18th December 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Chris Ayerst RIP</i></p> <p>Wed 19th December 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Maria-Teresa Distefano</i> — followed by coffee in the crypt 10.30am Funeral <i>Tina Infantino RIP</i></p> <p>Thurs 20th December 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Thanksgiving to St Anthony & Padre Pio</i></p> <p>Fri 21st December <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Deceased members of the Pinto family</i></p> <p>Sat 22nd December 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Deceased members of Meaney & O'Hehir families</i></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p>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> <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.</p> <p>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
<p>4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Mass <i>Luciano Dilena RIP</i></p> <p>Sun 23rd Dec 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am** <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> 5pm Carol Service ‡</p> <p style="text-align: right;">* 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> <p>Tues 18th 12.30pm Lunch club, crypt</p>

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.*