

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



E-mail: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

FaceBook: "CatholicHoddesdon"

Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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

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

Year C

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9th DECEMBER 2018

GOSPEL: Luke 3: 1-6

All mankind shall see the salvation of God.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

TODAY OUR SEASON OF ADVENT MOVES INTO ITS MIDDLE PHASE. The middle Sundays of Advent are a time to listen to the message of St

John the Baptist, appealing from the banks of the River Jordan, for his hearers to repent and return to the Lord. In connection with the Advent theme of the fulfilment of prophecy, the Gospel also makes it clear that John is the "voice crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the Way for the Lord!'" that Isaiah spoke of. St John the Baptist should really make us 'listen up' at this point of Advent, and to examine our lives and confess our sins in readiness for Christmas.

IN MY SERIES OF ADVENT-SUNDAY HOMILIES on the form of Scripture and the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, I'll make this Sunday a **reflection on the Book of Psalms in the Old Testament**. The Church uses the Psalms every day, not only at Mass but also in the Liturgy of the Divine Office (Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer etc.). These beautiful Jewish hymns, which Our Lord Jesus would Himself have prayed, are sung or recited continuously by the Christian faithful.

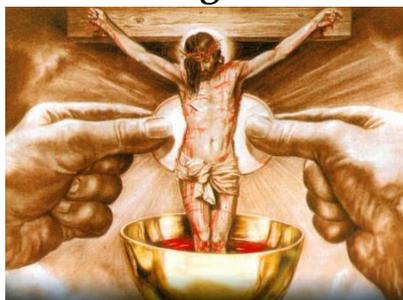
Please make sure that you have noted these dates for late Advent, in the days before Christmas:

* **17th December** (Monday) 11.30am & 7.30pm – **PENITENTIAL SERVICES** with Confession.

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

May the Lord bring us new 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*, 58:



In the Eucharist the Church is completely united to Christ and his sacrifice, and makes her own the spirit of Mary. This truth can be understood more deeply by *re-reading the Magnificat* in a Eucharistic key. The Eucharist, like the Cantic of Mary, is first and foremost praise and thanksgiving. When Mary exclaims: "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour", she already bears Jesus in her womb. She praises God "through" Jesus, but she also praises him "in" Jesus and "with" Jesus. This is itself the true "Eucharistic attitude." At the same time Mary recalls the wonders worked by God in salvation history in fulfilment of the promise once made to the fathers, and proclaims the wonder that surpasses them all, the redemptive incarnation. Lastly, the *Magnificat* reflects the eschatological tension of the Eucharist. Every time the Son of God comes again to us in the "poverty" of the sacramental signs of bread and wine, the seeds of that new history wherein the mighty are "put down from their thrones" and "those of low degree are exalted," take root in the world. ... The *Magnificat* expresses Mary's spirituality, and there is nothing greater than this spirituality for helping us to experience the mystery of the Eucharist. The Eucharist has been given to us so that our life, like that of Mary, may become completely a *Magnificat!*

PRAYER & LITURGY

METT CURTIS RIP formerly a resident of Hoddesdon, died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral will be on **Friday 14th December at 12 noon.**

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.**

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)

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 **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/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, 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 candidates only. Please do not

forget to bring your copy of the Gospel of St Mark to each session, and please read ch. 9 in preparation for next time. **Letters for Confirmation families are available to pick 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 10th December at 7pm.**

SCHOOLS/UNDER-5s

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL: Open Day for new parents to Nursery 2019/20 on **Wed 12th Dec 10-11am** and **Mon 17th Dec 2-3pm**. To book a place, please contact the school on 463549.

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 applications received.

VACANCIES FOUNDATION GOVERNORS: St. Augustine's School is looking for practising Catholics who are willing to join the board of Governors. Training is provided. If you are interested, please let Father Philip know. More information can be found at www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/ser-ving-as-a-governor. Please contact the School Office or the Chair of Governors, Mr. Tackley



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

JUSTICE & PEACE AND PRO-LIFE

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS are a meaningful way to give gifts and make a difference to some of the poorest communities around the world. Catalogues are available at the back of the church.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will be making house visits this week on **Wednesday afternoon** in: Plomer Avenue, Christian Close, Ellis Close.

MILLY'S CHARITY WEEKEND: A big thank you to everyone who helped make the weekend a success: Maria & Maurice Cattini & Clare Wheatcroft. A special thank you to Mary Briggs & Maria Scott for organising the event. These amounts were raised: Save the Children £241, UK Aid Felsted £80, Traidcraft £58, sweet tombola £40.50, toy tombola £72, kitchen £131.61, Under 5's £119, Santa's grotto £53, Wreaths £139 and buy a square £143. **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported the event.

200 CLUB WINNERS for December are £125 Steven Dale; £75 Mel Taylor; and £50 Anne Walker. Congratulations to you all!

POPPY APPEAL: The total raised was £38.31. Thank you for supporting the British Legion.

APF RED BOXES need to be returned with donations by **Sunday 16th Dec** please. New boxes will be available to collect from the back of church on 9th and 16th Dec. Ellen B.

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: Mima Salvo, Francesca Comparetto, Sue Alvey & Pat Kavanagh. 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: 9th & 16th December.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 8th December IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Patrick Walsh RIP</i></p>	<p>PAGE 84 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Baruch 5: 1–9 <i>God means to show your splendour to every nation.</i></p>
<p>4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Mass <i>For the Parish</i></p>	<p>Psalm 125— <i>What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.</i></p>
<p>Sun 9th Dec 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am** <i>Larry O'Neill RIP</i> 11.15am <i>Margherita Barone RIP</i> †</p>	<p>2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 4–6, 8–11 <i>Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.</i></p>
<p>Mon 10th December 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15 Mass <i>Libia Stella Corroppoli RIP</i></p>	<p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for he Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.. Alleluia.</i></p>
<p>Tues 11th December 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Chris Ayerst RIP</i></p>	<p>Gospel: Luke 3: 1–6 <i>All mankind shall see the salvation of God.</i></p>
<p>Wed 12th December 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Richard Pyper RIP</i>— followed by coffee in the crypt</p>	<p>PREFACE TODAY: Advent I (p. 65) EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28)</p>
<p>Thurs 13th December ST LUCY, Virgin & Martyr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Mett Curtis RIP</i></p>	<p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 1st Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14–18 2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 4–7 Gospel: Luke 3: 10–18</p>
<p>Fri 14th December ST JOHN OF THE CROSS, Priest <i>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.35 Benediction 12 noon Funeral <i>Mett Curtis RIP</i></p>	
<p>Sat 15th December 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Joy Ighade's intentions</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>4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Mass <i>Peggy Hogan RIP</i></p>	<p>ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
<p>Sun 16th December 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am** <i>Baby James Ingram</i> 11.15am <i>For the Parish</i> 5pm Holy Hour †</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>* 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>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</p>
REGULAR EVENTS	
<p>Mon 10th 7pm RCIA, presbytery Tues 11th 12.30pm Lunch club, crypt</p>	<p>Wed 12th 6pm Brownies, 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.*