

# The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2019

GOSPEL: Luke 4: 21-30

*Like Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is not sent to the Jews only.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD (SAT 2<sup>ND</sup>) is the last of the celebrations connected with Christmas, and as it's an important feast we also keep it this Saturday evening at the 6.30pm Mass in place of the 4<sup>th</sup>-Sunday liturgy/readings. (For Saturday evening Mass, then, refer to the Mass books, p. 303 ff., and we'll start with the Blessing of Candles and Procession). It's a



beautiful occasion, as we recall the moment that Our Lord enters as a baby 'His Father's house' and is greeted by the saintly Simeon and Anna, both of whom have longed for the day of the Messiah's appearing. The aged Simeon utters his lovely canticle, the *Nunc Dimittis*, "Now Lord you can let Your servant depart in peace ... for my eyes have seen Your salvation ... The Light to enlighten the Gentiles, ..." We carry candles on Candlemas to represent this Light of Christ.

WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS ARE AVAILABLE in good numbers at this time for the coming weeks, so do consider having Mass offered for the intentions nearest to your heart. Mass can be offered for the living, or for the dead, for thanksgiving, for the sick, for the anniversaries of death, for the recently deceased, and for any holy intention (and if wished can be recorded as a 'private intention' if you wish not to make the intention public). Weekday Mass is a blessed way to spend a half hr each day in the company of Our Blessed Lord in His holy Sacrament.

THE WINTER NIGHT SHELTER continues smoothly across the seven host venues. May the patron saint of homeless people, St Joseph Benedict Labre, pray for our guests and our volunteers in this important project and expression of our Christian charity each Sunday evening here.

May the Lord Jesus – the Light of the World – bring light to our daily lives!

Fr Philip

### St Augustine teaches: *Sermon for Catechumens on the Creed, 4:*

We do not bring in two Gods as some do, who say, God the Father and God the Son, but greater God the Father and lesser God the Son. They both are what? Two Gods? You blush to speak it, blush to believe it. Lord God the Father, you say, and Lord God the Son: and the Son Himself says, 'No man can serve two Lords.' In His family shall we be in such wise, that, like as in a great house where there is the father of a family and he has a son, so we should say, the greater Lord, the lesser Lord? Shrink from such a thought. If you make to yourselves such like in your heart, you set up idols in the one soul. Utterly repel it. First believe, then understand. Now to whom God gives that when he has believed he soon understands; that is God's gift, not human frailness. Still, if you do not yet understand, believe: One God the Father, God Christ the Son of God. Both are what? One God.



## PRAYER & LITURGY

**WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH** Raffaele Castronovo who will be baptised this weekend.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Please note that there are currently plenty of spaces to have Masses said on weekdays. Please complete a brown envelope and hand it into the presbytery to request a Mass to be offered for an intention.

**FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

**AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY** will be on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**. More details will follow in due course. Please put the date in your diary.

**DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND, 26<sup>th</sup> May–1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**MARRIAGE THANKSGIVING MASS:** The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese who are celebrating 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2018 to Mass on **Sat 8<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm** at Westminster Cathedral. If you would like to attend, please communicate to the presbytery these details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email or telephone number by 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** In readiness for the World Day of Prayer service, you are invited to join in and help make carnations, sing hymns, pray and enjoy a cuppa at 18 Roslyn Close, Broxbourne 1.30pm on the **8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> February**. All are welcome. The World Day of Prayer service will be held in our church at **1.30pm on 1st March**. Lunch will be served at 12.30pm in the crypt.

## 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 meeting is **5<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7–8.30pm** for candidates only. Please do not forget to bring your copy of the St Mark's Gospel to each session, and please read ch. 11 in preparation for next time.

**NOTE DATE FOR RETREAT:** Sat 9<sup>th</sup> March, 11am–4pm. (Letters will go out on Tuesday.)  
Thanks to those candidates who have already signed up to assist with Night-Shelter set-up on Sundays at 12.30pm. **We still need more candidates for the Sundays 10<sup>th</sup> Feb – 3<sup>rd</sup> March, please. A sign-up list is beside the register.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** The second meeting for children will be on **Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 12.30–2pm or Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 6–7.30pm**: meet at the outside crypt door 10 mins before the class starts. The second meeting for parents will be on **6<sup>th</sup> February 8pm** in the crypt. **Could parents please return their slips requesting their preferred date for the 1st HC as soon as possible to the presbytery please.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 'PRAYER PARTNERS'** are needed for all the children on the First Holy Communion programme. A prayer partner prays for a child whilst they are preparing to make their Communion. If you would like to become a prayer partner, please

print your name in capital letters on the blue list at the back of the church. **Could parents please ensure that the children do not sign the blue prayer partner list instead of the register.**

**"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 4<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm.**

**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next course will be held on **Tuesdays 12<sup>th</sup> March and 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

### JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

**BROXBOURNE BOROUGH WINTER NIGHT SHELTER** has been running now for 4 weeks, and we host the Night Shelter here at St Augustine's for a further 5 Sunday nights. Thank you to all the volunteers who are involved, and let us all pray for the success of this venture by local churches, as we care for the homeless people of the borough.

**TRAIDCRAFT STALL** will be at the back of the church after all Masses this weekend.

**CAFOD:** The struggle for social and environmental justice in the Brazilian Amazon – talk and Q&A will be held on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2.30pm** at CAFOD's Volunteer Centre at Catholic Church of Christ the King, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood, London N14 4HE. This volunteer meeting from 2.30-4pm will include an opportunity to hear a first-hand account of our work to defend indigenous rights and the Amazon in Brazil. Please contact Tony Sheen [tsheen@cafod.org.uk](mailto:tsheen@cafod.org.uk) for further details or to book a place.

### SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**HOUSE VISITS:** Fr Philip will make his house visits on **Wed afternoon** this week to parish homes in Manor Rd, College Rd.

**PARISH MAGAZINE** is still available to buy for £5 from the back of church or from the presbytery.

**GIFT AID:** Many parishioners have already signed Gift-Aid forms which enables the parish to collect the tax on the donations they have made through envelopes or 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. During 2017/2018 we were able to claim over £11,800, and then received a further £2,000 through the 'gift aid small donation scheme.' If you are able to sign a Gift-Aid form, there are some on the notice board at the back of church, or you can contact the presbytery. You do need to be a UK taxpayer to sign a form.

**MISSIO (RED BOX) MEMBERS:** Fr Cosmas Ondari, a *Missio* priest aged 33, was shot and killed in the doorway of his church in Cameroon on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Please do remember him in your prayers. Ellen Bartlett.

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

**CATHOLIC SINGLES** is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit [www.catholicingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicingles.org.uk) or tel. 0161-941-3498.

**LOST PROPERTY** from the church is taken into the presbytery and kept for a month. If it has not been claimed, it will be donated to charity. Please claim missed items now!

**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: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Feb.

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK

*Prayer to Saint Agatha*

O Heavenly Father, who raised Agatha to the dignity of Sainthood, we implore Your Divine Majesty by her intercession to give us health of mind, body and soul. Free us from all those things which hold us bound to this earth, and let our spirit, like hers, rise to your heavenly courts. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



