

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

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Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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

Also in residence: Fr Joshy Philip (National chaplain to Knanayan community)

Safeguarding parish rep's: Claire Hay / Joy Ighade – hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Year C

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

7th APRIL 2019

GOSPEL: John 8: 1-11

The one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

ALREADY THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT is upon us, and we enter Passiontide, the most sombre time of the Church's year. You will see the Church interior more stark even than in the previous weeks of Lent, as the statues and crosses are veiled until Easter.

The Gospel passage for this Sunday is the powerful episode in which Our Lord shows His mercy to a sinner. He prevents those who would stone her for her sins from going ahead by one simple condition: "let the one who has not sinned be the first to throw a stone." And they depart, as we are told, one by one, beginning with the eldest. We each know that we are sinners, and we are each in such need of the Lord's protection and mercy, to free us from our sins, and to protect us from the ill effects that our sins can cause. There are countless occasions between now and Easter, when you can avail yourself of the healing and restorative Sacrament of Reconciliation.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING COMING UP:

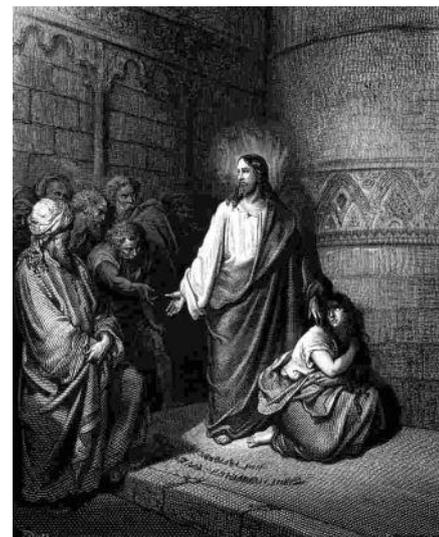
PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING COMING UP:

– **CONFESSION EVENINGS THIS WEEK:** Tuesday and Friday (times inside)

– **PALM SUNDAY 9.15AM MASS:** starts 15MINS earlier, 9am in Parish Garden for Palm blessing

WE WELCOME TO RESIDE IN OUR PARISH FR JOSHY PHILIP who is the replacement Knanayan chaplain for Catholics of the Syro-Malabar Rite. Fr Mathew Kattiyangal who has lived here for a couple of periods over the last 2 years, is returning to India shortly, and Fr Joshy has taken over this role. As Fr Mathew was, Fr Joshy will be coming and going a lot, in order to minister to various communities of his people, but we will see him here a bit more on weekdays.

May the Lord Jesus – showing us His mercy – guide us to forgiveness this Lent! Fr Philip



St Augustine teaches: Sermon for Catechumens on the Creed, 11:

"He ascended into heaven": believe! "He sits at the right hand of the Father": believe! By 'sitting,' understand 'dwelling.' ... In this way, then, believe an inhabiting of Christ on the right hand of God the Father: He is there. And let not your heart say to you, 'What is He doing?' Do not want to seek what is not permitted to find: He is there; it suffices you. He is blessed, and *from* blessedness which is called the right hand of the Father; *of* very blessedness the name is, 'right hand of the Father.'



PRAYER & LITURGY

ADORATION/MORNING PRAYER will not take place on Wednesday, but there will be Mass as usual at 9.15am.

ROSA LETO RIP of Brookside, Hoddesdon died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Monday 8th April at 1pm** with Don Antonio.

SUSAN HARWOOD RIP of Nightingale Nursing Home died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 17th April at 12 noon.**

May they rest in peace.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP: 3rd Friday of each month, 7.30–8.30pm: **next meeting Friday 12th April.** 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 14th April at 5pm** with a Scriptural reflection, Adoration, Evening Prayer and Benediction. A truly peaceful hour!

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 of Holy Week, please sign your name on the lists in the porch.

AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY will be on **Thursday 16th May.** More details will follow in due course. Please save the date!

LENT

'**REJOICE & BE GLAD**' is the diocesan booklet for Lent on what it means to be a joyful missionary disciple of Jesus Christ. Reflection group based on this booklet – **continues each Wednesday at 10.15am (after coffee).**

LENTEN ALMS are collected each year in support of charitable causes: this year we'll be supporting the **Cardinal Hume Centre** which works with homeless young people, badly housed families and others in need. It enables people to gain the skills they need to overcome poverty and homelessness. They. You will find the box throughout Lent in front of the lectern.

'**LENT EXTRA**' booklets with daily Lent meditations are now available to buy for £2.25 Please place your money in the newspaper box.

HOLY WEEK – advanced notice of times:

PALM SUNDAY 14th April : Blessing of Palms will take place at every Mass. **Note: the 9.15am Mass will begin at 9am** with the blessing of the Palms in the parish garden by the grotto, with procession from garden to church.

Tuesday 16th April: **CHRISM MASS** at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 18th April
8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer
8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
9.30pm–Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

GOOD FRIDAY: 19th April
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: 20th April
9.45am Morning Prayer
9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15am and 11.15am Mass

RECONCILIATION BEFORE EASTER

Fr Philip will be available to hear confessions on **Tues 9th April 7–8pm** and **Friday 12th April 6–7pm.**

Penitential Service for the parish on Tuesday 16th April 7.30pm. Several priests will be available on these occasions.

Also there are other Penitential Services locally:
CHESHUNT: Wed 10th April 7.30pm.
BISHOPS ST'FORD: Fri 12th April 7.30pm
WARE: Monday 15th April 7.30pm
WALTHAM CROSS: Monday 15th April 7pm
HERTFORD parish (tel. 582019) has many extra confessions during Holy Week.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: John Askew, Bridget Newson, 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

"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 8th April at 7pm.**

CONFIRMATION 2019: The next session will be the Reconciliation Service in church on **16th April at 7.30pm for candidates and parents.** The final meeting is on **23rd April 7-8.30pm** for candidates only. Please bring your copy of the St Mark's Gospel to each session, and please read ch. 16 in preparation for next time.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The fourth meeting for parents will be on **24th April 8pm** in the crypt. The sixth meeting for children will be on **Sat 11th May, 10am-3pm:** meet at the outside crypt door 10 mins before the class starts.

Any parent who hasn't yet paid the £40 for the 1st HC books, can you please post it through the presbytery letterbox as soon as possible.

SCHOOLS

WE WISH THE STUDENTS AND STAFF of our parish schools a blessed and restful Easter break.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will continue his house visits this week, **Monday** afternoon, in: Winterscroft Road, Cillocks Close, and environs. Fr Philip apologizes for not making these visits last week, but he was indisposed.

PARISH ACCOUNTS: The income and expenditure for 2018 is now available to view on the noticeboard at the back of church.

PLANNED GIVING: Boxes of envelopes for the new financial year of the church begin this weekend. If you normally have a box, but have not yet collected it, please contact the presbytery – also, if you wish to take out a Standing Order to the parish instead, and/or sign a gift-aid declaration to allow us to receive back the tax you have paid on your giving.

NATIONAL WEEKEND FOR MEN will be held on **19th-21st July** at High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon. This is a great opportunity to relax, hear truly inspirational speakers, and join with other men on a refreshing summer break with a difference. For further info and booking form go to www.harvesters.org.uk.

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: 14th April; 5th, 12th & 19th May.



