

The Announcer

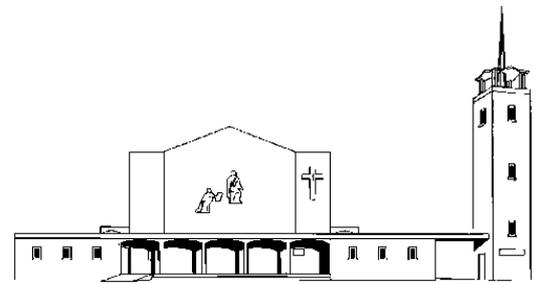
St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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 A

SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

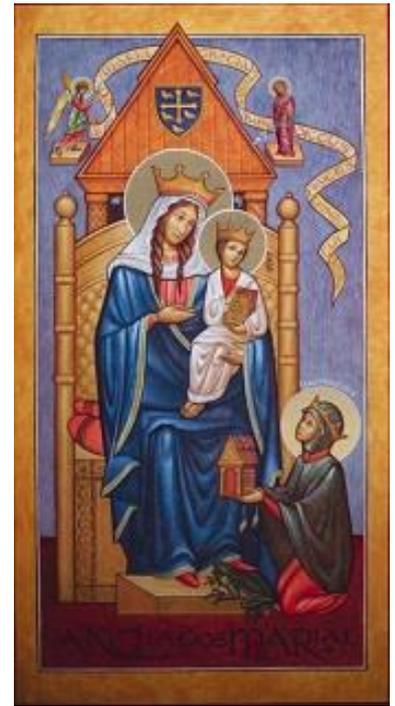
16th FEBRUARY 2020

GOSPEL: Matthew 5: 17-37

You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors; but I say this to you.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

CARDINAL VINCENT HAS WRITTEN A PASTORAL LETTER THIS WEEKEND drawing our attention to the forthcoming re-dedication of our land to Our Lady, under the devotion, 'the Dowry of Mary.' The day of re-dedication will be Sunday 29th March, and we will take time that weekend at Mass to do just that. Prior to that, there will be occasions to visit Westminster Cathedral, especially during the 'Dowry Tour' dates 19th to 21st March. Further information regarding a chance to go up together from the parish available soon. In the meantime you might like to read this fascinating article which gives the background and history to the strong devotion to Our Lady in England, much of which is tied up with the historic shrine of Walsingham: <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/england-is-marys-dowry-a-new-dedication-for-today/>



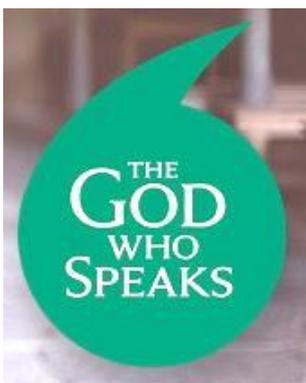
TODAY'S GOSPEL PASSAGE FROM THE 'SERMON ON THE MOUNT' is a substantial set of teachings from Christ in which He re-iterates, and deepens, the 10 Commandments which have come down to us from the Lord right back in the days of Moses. Jesus encourages us to reconsider, and reflect more deeply on, our keeping of the Commandments, so that we do not just keep them in a minimal way, but are drawn to keep them more broadly. Hence, for example, it is not just 'killing' that we are forbidden by God's Law to commit, but also acting violently, or angrily, or speaking harshly. Thus, Our Lord truly challenges us in this teaching for our day-to-day life.

Let us hear the words of Christ in His sacred teaching and be blessed in His name! Fr Philip

2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 14

The Church gives voice to her awareness that with Jesus Christ she stands before the definitive word of God: he is "the first and the last." He has given creation and history their definitive meaning; and hence we are called to live in time and in God's creation within this eschatological rhythm of the word; "thus the Christian dispensation, since it is the new and definitive covenant, will never pass away; and no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ." ...

The "uniqueness of Christianity is manifested in the event which is Jesus Christ, the culmination of revelation, the fulfilment of God's promises and the mediator of the encounter between man and God. He who 'has made God known' is the one, definitive word given to mankind."



PRAYER & LITURGY

ADORATION/MORNING PRAYER will not take place on Mon–Wed whilst Fr Philip is away. Daily Mass at 9.15am as usual.

ROSA AUGELLO RIP of Briscoe Road died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Mon 2nd March at 11am.**

SALVATORE DI MARIA RIP of River Avenue died recently. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral will be on **Tuesday 3rd March at 1pm** with Don Antonio.

HESTER COUNSELL RIP formerly of this parish died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family.

MOLLY ZWAGER RIP of Oxenden Drive has died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Details of the latter two funerals will follow in due course. *May they rest in peace.*

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

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: More leaders and helpers are needed at the 9.15am Mass. Training will be provided and DBS checks will be required. Please contact Claire Hay on 07971-063520 for further information.

MARRIAGE THANKSGIVING MASS: The Cardinal invites couples who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60+ wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2020 to Mass on **Sat 30th May** at 3pm at Westminster Cathedral. If you would like to attend, please contact the Presbytery with the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address & e-mail, or telephone number if no e-mail.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES of many hundreds from our diocese led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols **25th–31st July.** Fr Philip attends each year, and is involved with the care of the sick. The pilgrimage seeks those who are sick within our parish communities who might wish to join and be cared for at the *Accueil St Frai:*

there are 22 places available. For further information, speak to Fr Philip or e-mail Pilgrimage Administrator, Elizabeth Uwalaka elizabethuwalaka@rcdow.org.uk. Booking forms for general booking available here: <http://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/diocese-of-westminster-2020>

LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY is on **26th February** and Mass will be at 9.30am with both schools, 12 noon and 8pm. If you are a Eucharistic Minister, reader or altar server and can assist at the Masses, please sign your name on the lists at the back of church. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting (for those aged 16–60) and abstinence (for those aged 14+). This means that we consciously choose to eat less – one main meal only – and that (as on all Fridays too) we eat no meat whatsoever.

LENT SCRIPTURE PRAYER MEETINGS: using the lovely booklets *A Word For Lent* developed for spending time with the Lent-Sunday Gospels (£3 each, available in the porch) we will meet for **6 Wednesdays after morning coffee (c. 10.15–11.15am) beginning 4th March.**

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

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

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

"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. The **next meeting is Monday 24th Feb, 7.30pm in the Presbytery.**

CONFIRMATION 2020: next class for the candidates will be **Tuesday 25th Feb, 7-8.30pm** in the crypt and will cover **chs. 14 & 15** of their workbook. Do keep signing up for your **slots to volunteer for the Night Shelter set-up** each Sunday (12.15pm) till the 29th March.

Bishop Paul McAleenan, the bishop who will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 26th April, will come for the candidates' session on Tuesday 10th March.

Parents – please remember that part of the commitment agreed to for the Confirmation programme is to accompany your youngsters to Sunday Mass on a weekly basis.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE: the third class for the children will be held on **Sat 16th May 10-3pm.** The fourth meeting for parents will be on **Wednesday 18th March at 8pm** in the crypt.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Tuesday 3rd March & Friday 13th 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.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL is still accepting applications for a place in the Nursery commencing in September 2020. Application forms are available from the School Office or to download from the school website. Visits to the Nursery are warmly welcome and can be arranged by contacting the School Office on 463549.

JUSTICE & PEACE AND PRO-LIFE

CAFOD writes: In March last year, Cyclone Idai devastated towns and villages across S. Africa 'Thanks to our Church family and your donations we have reached thousands of people with life-saving aid' - 1.3m people in Mozambique with clean water; 150,000 people in Mozambique with hygiene kits and health advice; 90,000 families in Mozambique with seed kits; 32,000 people in Zimbabwe with tarpaulins, shelter, toilets, soap, towels and sanitary pads. **THANK YOU!**

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his house visits after half term.

CHARITY BALL: Tickets for the ball on the 29th February in aid of the Alzheimer's Society have now sold out. Please note the new venue; The Cheshunt Club, Albury Ride, Cheshunt EN8 8XG. Many parishioners have asked about making donations and these would be gratefully received! If you would like to donate, please place your donation in an envelope marked "Charity Ball" and post through the presbytery letterbox. Thank you. Dawn Bates.

QUIZ NIGHT in aid of The Daniela Ruggiero Scholarship Fund will be held on **Friday 13th March** in the crypt. £5 per head – payable on the night – bring your own refreshments & nibbles. Start time 7.30pm. Please call Vicky Lee-Lozone on 07747-485023 to reserve a table. If you are unable to make it but would like to make a donation – either cash, or a bottle of something for a raffle prize – then please drop that in to the presbytery.

200 CLUB WINNER for February is no. 104, Mrs Joanne Clark. Congratulations!

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 CLEANERS: One more cleaner is needed for the Wednesday afternoon team at 1pm. This involves one hour per month. If you can help, please contact the presbytery.

CHURCH CLEANING: Elizabeth Nsonwah, Toni Iamarino & Penny Benge. Thank you!

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: 23rd Feb, 1st & 15th March.

COLD WEATHER: with winter approaching, the car park may become snowy, with potential icy conditions. Parishioners are reminded that when that is so they should take extra care. The car park is used at their own risk.

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

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 15th February SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Antonio Sidoli RIP	PAGE 136 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15: 15–20 <i>He never commanded anyone to be godless.</i>
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* Enrico & Maria Rega RIP Sun 16th Feb 6TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9.15am** For the Parish 11.15am Michael & Phyllis Dolan RIP anniv. † 5pm Holy Hour	Psalm 118 — They are happy to follow God's law! 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2: 6–10 <i>God predestined wisdom to be for our glory before the ages began.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!</i>
Mon 17th Feb 9.15 Mass Bridget McMahon RIP Tues 18th February 9.15 Mass Wilfried Maciel & Stanley Almeida RIP Wed 19th February 9.15 Mass Angelo & Carmela De Luca RIP — followed by coffee in the crypt Thurs 20th February NO Mass Fri 21st Feb (Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Geraldine Liddell RIP Sat 22nd Feb THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Patrick & Jean Walsh RIP	Gospel: Matthew 5: 17–37 <i>You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors; but I say this to you.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 6 (p. 69) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28) NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 7TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 1st Reading: Leviticus 19: 1–2, 17–18 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 16–23 Gospel: Matthew 5: 38–48
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* For the Parish Sun 23rd Feb 7TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9.15am** Bill Pollard RIP 11.15am Alberto & Maria Beschizza 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. ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
<p style="text-align: center;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p> <p>** With Children's Liturgy (nursery-age to year 2 only)</p> <p>† There are also Sunday evening Masses in English in Hertford (6pm) and Waltham Cross (6.30pm)</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. 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 18th 12.30pm Lunch club, crypt	Fri 21st 7.30pm Prayer group, church

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.*