

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 Joshy Philip (National chaplain to Knanayan community)

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

Year A

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

1ST MARCH 2020

GOSPEL: Matthew 4: 1-11

Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THE SEASON OF LENT HAS NOW BEGUN, and we have 6 precious weeks in which to make a spiritual renewal of our lives as we move towards the highpoint and centre of the Christian year, which is Holy Week and Easter. We hear in the Gospel today, the First Sunday of Lent, of the trials and temptations of Jesus in the Wilderness – that original '40 Days' which sets the scene for our own 40 days' fast. Please give thought to what you might be attempting to offer up to God in this holy season: by way of fasting ('giving up'); by way of praying ('giving to the Lord'); and by way of almsgiving ('giving to others'). There are countless ways, and we owe it to the Lord to love Him more dearly through these actions of Lent. I hope that you will really enter into Lent deeply and prayerfully, in the first instance through the sacred liturgy – perhaps try harder to attend weekday Mass more often at this time – and through the other lovely devotions such as the 'Stations of the Cross.'



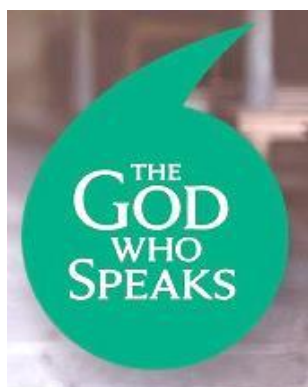
ANOTHER IMPORTANT PART OF THIS FIRST HALF OF LENT will be a reflection we need to make on our financial support of the Parish. Every few years or so we need to make this appeal to you, to place before you the status of parish funds, incomings and outgoings. We will give more specifics next weekend, when the Chair of the Finance Committee addresses us at the end of Mass. In the meantime, I urge you simply to read the leaflet enclosed with the Newsletter, and to reflect on the level of your 'giving' to the parish. Above all, I thank you for the ways in which you already contribute of your time, your prayers, and your financial offerings to our parish, but I urge you to consider over the next few weeks if you could do that little bit more, to make sure that our parish is well-funded and able to fulfil its spiritual mission in our area.

Let us hear the words of Christ in His sacred teaching and live out His Gospel!

Fr Philip

2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 16

The great writers of the Christian tradition speak unanimously of the place of the Holy Spirit in the relationship which believers are to have with the Scriptures. Saint John Chrysostom states that Scripture "needs the revelation of the Spirit, so that by discovering the true meaning of the things enclosed therein, we can reap abundant benefits." Saint Jerome is likewise firmly convinced that "we cannot come to an understanding of Scripture without the assistance of the Holy Spirit who inspired it." Saint Gregory the Great nicely emphasizes the work of the Spirit in the formation and interpretation of the Bible: "He himself created the words of the holy Testaments, he himself revealed their meaning." Richard of Saint Victor points out that we need [to be] enlightened and taught by the Spirit, in order to understand the sacred text.



PRAYER & LITURGY

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 **Tues 3rd March at 1pm** with Don Antonio.

MOLLY ZWAGER RIP of Oxenden Drive died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Fri 6th March at 12 noon.**

HESTER COUNSELL RIP formerly of this parish died recently. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral will be on **Friday 20th March at 12 noon.** *May they rest in peace.*

FIRST FRIDAY: The first Friday Mass will be at **7.30pm on Friday 6th March.** This will be followed by the Holy Hour at 8pm, which is always prayed for the pro-life cause.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR will take place **Sunday 15th March 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 Fri 27th (NOT 20th) March** A semi-formal hour in the Lady Chapel to reflect together on Sunday Scriptures and bring our needs and prayers to the Lord.

DOWRY OF MARY TOUR at Westminster Cathedral, 19th to 21st March. Timetable of all the Cathedral devotions over 3 days available on blue sheets by Newsletters, or at <https://www.behold2020.com/westminster>. Fr Philip will attend Thursday and Friday evenings. **On Friday 20th he will leave from Broxbourne station 3pm** in order to attend the devotions at the Cathedral c. 4pm–8pm. If you would like to attend, then just assemble at Broxbourne station at 3pm in the foyer.

RE-DEDICATION OF ENGLAND TO OUR LADY: this will take place across the country in parishes and homes on Sunday 29th March. See also: <https://www.behold2020.com/>

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. Additionally, the pilgrimage takes some who are sick in our parish communities who are cared for at the *Accueil St Frai*: there are 22 such 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>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER service will be held on **Friday 6th March** at St Augustine's CofE, Churchfields, Broxbourne. The service will be at 11am, with lunch at 12.15. There will also be a service at 8pm at the Baptist Church, Burford Street with refreshments at 7.30pm.

LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: the "Way of the Cross" prayed in church each Friday (c. 12.30pm after Mass) & Saturday (9.30am, before Mass) and in Italian at 4.30pm each Friday.

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

PARISH "PENANCE" FOR LENT: In Lent, we will have no final hymn at Sunday Mass, and then we will **keep silence** in the body of the church, so as to allow a period of prayer for those who wish to remain after Mass in Thanksgiving. Please abide by this!

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

LENTEN ALMS BOX will be in front of the lectern throughout Lent in support of charitable causes: this year we'll be supporting **the Cardinal's Lenten charity.**

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY is on **Friday 6th March**. The envelopes will be attached to next week's newsletter and **will be collected after Mass next weekend**. Through CAFOD's global Church network, your support can reach to the ends of the earth.

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 2nd March, 7.30pm in the Presbytery**.

CONFIRMATION 2020: next class for the candidates will be **Tuesday 10th March**, 7-8.30pm in the crypt and will cover **chs. 14 & 15** of their workbook. Bishop Paul McAleenan, the bishop who will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 26th April, will come for this session. Do keep signing up for your **slots to volunteer for the Night Shelter set-up** each Sunday (12.15pm) till the 29th March.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE: the **children's 1st Confessions will be on the 2nd/3rd March as already indicated, at the times they have received**. 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 SCHOOL: applications for Nursery for Sept 2020: Application forms are available from the School Office or to download from the school website by following the link: <https://www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/ofsted/admissions>. Please complete the form as soon as possible. and return to school office or to: admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk. **Places need to be accepted by Friday 6th March 2020.**

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his house visits to parish homes **on Wednesday afternoon** in Monson Road, Trafalgar Ave, Graham Ave.

200 CLUB RENEWALS this weekend will be after the 9.15am Mass only. **On the 7th/8th March** it will be after all Masses.

QUIZ NIGHT in aid of The Daniela Ruggiero Scholarship Fund will be held on **Fri 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 – cash, or a bottle of something for a raffle prize – then please drop that in to the presbytery.

CHURCH CLEANING: Mima Salvo, Francesca Comparetto, Pat Kavanagh, Sue Alvey & Tanya McAteer. 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: 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 29th Feb 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Giorgio Schia RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 151 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Genesis 2: 7–9, 3:1–7 <i>The creation and sin of our first parents.</i></p> <p>Psalm 50 — Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Romans 5: 12–19 <i>However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!</p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 4: 1–11 <i>Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Lent I (p. 70) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</p> <p>1st Reading: Genesis 12: 1–4 2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1: 8–10 Gospel: Matthew 17: 1–9</p>				
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* William Phelan & Denis O'Donovan RIP Sun 1st March FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** Beanie Souch RIP 11.15am Angela Smith RIP 5pm Latin Mass For the Parish ‡	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>				
Mon 2nd March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Paddy Conway RIP 11am Funeral Rosa Augello RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR EVENTS</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Mon 2nd 7.30pm RCIA, presbytery</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Tues 3rd 7.30pm Baptism course, presb</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tues 3rd 12.30pm Lunch club, crypt</td> <td>Wed 4th 6pm Brownies, crypt</td> </tr> </table>	Mon 2nd 7.30pm RCIA, presbytery	Tues 3rd 7.30pm Baptism course, presb	Tues 3rd 12.30pm Lunch club, crypt	Wed 4th 6pm Brownies, crypt
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Tues 3rd March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Geraldine Ryan's intentions 1pm Funeral Salvatore Di Maria RIP					
Wed 4th March 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass Antonino & Franco Martorana RIP – followed by coffee in the 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 ciascuna 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.</p>				
Thurs 5th March 9.15am Mass Deceased members of Mezzullo & Mercurio families					
Fri 6th March LENT FAST DAY (Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Funeral Molly Zwager RIP 1.00pm Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Mass Salvatrice Castronovo RIP 8pm Holy Hr					
Sat 7th March 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Marina Rocchi					
4.00pm* Italian Mass 6.30pm* For the Parish Sun 8th March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am** Pasquale Ricotta RIP 11.15am Antonia Damian RIP ‡					
<p style="text-align: center;">* 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>					