

The Annoucer

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

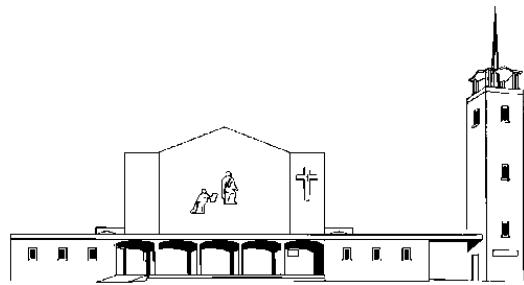
Parish Priest: Fr Philip Miller.

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

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk



E-mail: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

FaceBook: "CatholicHoddesdon"

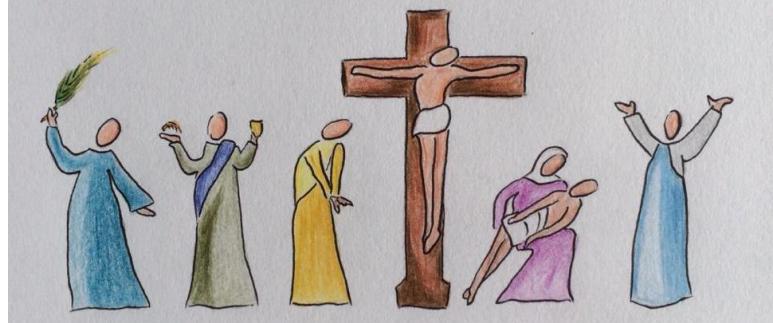
Year A

PALM SUNDAY

GOSPEL: *The Passion according to St Matthew*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

IT'S CERTAINLY A STRANGE PALM SUNDAY THIS YEAR AS WE ENTER HOLY WEEK! We all continue to undertake this period of unprecedented restrictions on our national and Catholic life, to keep as many people – not least the older and frailer members of society – free from the virus outbreak. Fr Joshy & I keep up our routine of prayer offered in our church – despite its being closed to you – and are including you in the daily Mass(es) and prayers. We have Adoration-time morning and evening, and when the Benediction is given at 10am and 7pm, it is given with the intention of Our Lord's blessing the whole of the parish. We pray He keep you safe and well at this time, and patient in the challenges of isolation and staying at home for much of the day. Please join your daily prayers to ours, from the safety of your home, including the **Pope's prayer to Our Lady** (see inside Newsletter).



St Joseph & English Martyrs in Bishops Stortford shows Mass streamed online, with Sunday Masses at <https://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford> at 6pm Sat; 9am, 11am & 6pm Sun. Starting recently, **Westminster Cathedral** is doing the same: <https://www.churchservices.tv/westminster> with Mass at 5.30pm Sat; and 10.30am & 5.30pm Sun. Both these churches have a 24-hr live feed, so that will include the Holy-Week ceremonies at the appropriate times, which may help you pray this Holy Week.

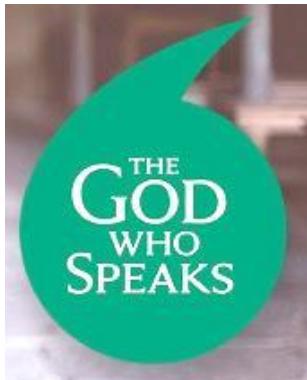
An excellent resource, shared to our parish FaceBook page every day, is www.lentinisolation.com which presents the daily Scripture readings, an excellent reflection from a priest, followed by the recitation of an '[Act of Spiritual Communion](#).' You don't have to be a FaceBook user to view our parish page, as it's open-access: www.facebook.com/CatholicHoddesdon – I also started last weekend to add a *video* of my homily to this page. Another wonderful resource, newly begun, is the '[Pause for Faith](#)' YouTube channel that Fr Stephen Wang of our diocese hosts daily: 30-min reflections, very accessible.

HOLY-WEEK SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT: 8pm **Holy Thursday** Mass (with prayer till midnight); 3pm **Good Friday***; 9pm **Holy Saturday** (Easter Vigil). I ask you to join with Fr Joshy & me spiritually at those times. It's a struggle for us all; let's pray for one another. (* *Good Friday remains a penitential day of Fasting & Abstinence from meat.*)

Let us live this Holy Week with faith, sacrifice & love for Jesus! Fr Philip

2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 18

The Church lives in the certainty that her Lord, who spoke in the past, continues today to communicate his word in her living Tradition and in sacred Scripture. Indeed, the word of God is given to us in sacred Scripture as an inspired testimony to revelation; together with the Church's living Tradition, it constitutes the supreme rule of faith.



PRAYER & LITURGY

PUBLIC SUSPENSION OF MASS: all the public ceremonies have had to be suspended. Mass is celebrated by Fr Joshy & Fr Philip in private, and they pray for the needs of the parish in their twice-daily Holy Hours with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

- The suspension of public Mass by the bishop means that the *obligation to attend Sunday Mass is removed* for the duration of the suspension.
- All the parish Masses, for the intentions requested, will be offered without fail, even though in private. Please continue to ask for Masses to be offered, and these will be published in the Newsletter as usual.
- *Sunday Mass can be followed online* at St Joseph & English Martyrs, Bishops Stortford (<http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford>) at: Sat 6pm; Sun 9am, 11am, 6pm; & weekdays 9.30am; or Westminster Cathedral Sat 5.30pm, Sun 10.30am/5.30pm: <https://www.churchservices.tv/westminster>. This is not an obligation, but would be a pious practice in order to stay in touch with the rhythm of the Church's seasons and her devotional life.
- The readings for Mass can be found every day on the 'Universalis' website <http://www.universalis.com/mass.htm>

ROBERTA COPUROGLU, of Riverside Avenue, Broxbourne, died recently. Her funeral will take place privately at the crematorium.

ESTHER BLAKE, of Cheffins Road, Hoddesdon, died recently. Her funeral will be held in private at the crematorium.

BRIDGET NEWSON, formerly of Dorchester Ave, Hoddesdon, died recently. Her funeral will be held in private at the cemetery.

Our sympathies go out to their families.
May they rest in peace.

RE-DEDICATION OF ENGLAND TO OUR LADY took place across the country in parishes and homes last Sunday 29th March at around noon, for Our Lady's protection and blessing of England, the Church in our country, and for the re-conversion of England. Under the present time of churches' closure, 530,000 people logged on to participate online in the prayers direct from Walsingham! This is a great blessing, and we pray for it to bear fruit!

AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY will be on **Thursday 14th May**. Please save the date, though its going ahead is under review.

LENT

DESPITE the suspension of public Mass, we can still exercise fervent Lenten disciplines.

Prayer: e.g. Following **Mass online** (see front page of Newsletter); reading our pocket copies of **St Matthew's Gospel** 'day by day'; **Stations of the Cross** (privately, at home); **Rosary**.

Fasting: e.g. refraining from meat on extra day(s) in the week, not just Friday; 'giving up' some of the classic treats such as sugar, cakes, chocolate, alcohol; fasting from the use of TV, social media, internet, etc.

Almsgiving: e.g. **Broxbourne FoodBank** (collection box in PRESBYTERY – ring the doorbell); establishing a '**Charity account**' with C.A.F. for regular charitable giving.

Reconciliation: in case of real necessity, contact Fr Philip for an appointment which would probably have to take place in the parish garden, exercising due distance.

FINANCE

APPEAL FOR YOUR GENEROUS HELP: the Finance Committee thanks all those who have already participated in the Planned-Giving campaign. Please could all other parishioners whose income is not threatened by this virus outbreak consider their regular support for the parish, and maybe increase their giving, doing so by *Standing Order* if at all possible. Please print the relevant inside pages from the [Financial-support form](#) on our parish website, and return the completed form to the Presbytery. The parish continues to rely solely on the parishioners' donations. THANK YOU!

BOXES OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: those of you who give via Offertory envelopes weekly, or who have just requested them, can continue to deliver your offering through the Presbytery letter-box – but ONLY if you are passing. Please make NO special outing. We still rely on your giving! **NEW BOXES FOR APRIL ONWARDS** available for collection from the Presbytery in the week, if you are passing.

HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

It is vitally important that we 'look out for one another' in this present crisis. We have a

number of parishioners offering to assist with shopping or running errands for anyone who is self-isolating, or elderly and choosing to remain safely at home. PLEASE, if you, or anyone you know, is in need of such help, then phone the Presbytery and we will co-ordinate it.

**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" / FIRST HOLY COMMUNION / CONFIRMATION: classes all suspended for now. Sadly, the celebration of Confirmation is unable to take place on 26th April, and will be rescheduled by Bp McAleenan in the autumn.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

FR PHILIP WISHES TO THANK profoundly those who assisted in the 2½ months of the Winter Night Shelter on Sunday evenings in the crypt. Particular thanks to Martin Coleston & Ann Hussein, with Claire Hay & Mary Briggs, who co-ordinated our parish's contribution to the Night Shelter. Thanks to all the volunteers over the 9 Sundays, including those who cooked the evening meals and the Confirmation candidates who set up the beds after Sunday Mass each week. Thank you, one and all!

CORONAVIRUS - FOODBANK: In light of the uncertainty over the Coronavirus, it is understandable that we want to ensure our kitchen cupboards are well stocked. However, we must not forget that this can leave foodbanks struggling. Hundreds of people rely on generous donations from our parishioners. This includes the need for hygiene items, toilet

paper, sanitary products etc., as well as sealed packages of dry food, tins, and long-life milk etc. PLEASE BRING ANY ITEMS FOR THE FOODBANK TO THE PRESBYTERY FRONT DOOR – as long as Fr Philip is in, he will add them to the FoodBank box which is now moved to the Presbytery entrance hall.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume make house visits when it is safe to do so.

MISSIO: Our total parish giving to the Church's charity (for the work of the missions) for 2019 was £2384.10, which is a great amount. Thank you to our parish's Red Box collectors, and all parishioners! Ellen Bartlett.

CHURCH CLEANING is suspended whilst the church is closed.

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



**POPE FRANCIS'S
PRAYER
TO OUR LADY
at this time of the
virus outbreak**

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus's pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of us who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 4th April Private Mass <i>Justina Ogbodu RIP</i>	PAGE 176 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4–7 <i>I did not cover my face against insult, I know I shall not be shamed.</i>
Private Mass Connie Murphy RIP	Psalm 21 — My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Sun 5th April PALM SUNDAY Private Mass <i>William Anthony RIP anniv.</i> Private Mass Benedetto & Vincenza Provenzano RIP Private Mass For the Parish	2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6–11 <i>He humbled himself; but God raised him high.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!</i>
Mon 6th April MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK Private Mass <i>Teresa & Antonio Mercurio RIP</i>	Gospel: Passion according to Matthew 26:14–27:66
Tues 7th April TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK Private Mass <i>Dave Greenall RIP</i> Private Mass <i>Jean, Tony, Angela, Michael O'Reilly ints</i>	PREFACE TODAY: Passion (p. 73) EUCARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)
Wed 8th April WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK Private Mass <i>Marion Corrigan RIP</i>	
Thurs 9th April MAUNDY THURSDAY 8pm (in private) Mass of the Lord's Supper For the Parish Prayers at the Altar of Repose till midnight (in private)	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS EASTER SUNDAY
Fri 10th April GOOD FRIDAY (Day of <i>Fasting</i> for those aged 18–60; <i>abstinence from meat</i> today for those aged 14+) 10am (in private) Stations of the Cross 3pm (in private) Celebration of the Lord's Passion	1st Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37–43 2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 1–4 Gospel: John 20: 1–9
Sat 11th April HOLY SATURDAY 9pm (in private) Mass of the Easter Vigil Priest's intentions	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.
Sun 12th April EASTER SUNDAY Private Mass <i>Maureen O'Neill RIP</i> Private Mass For the Parish	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>	
REGULAR EVENTS	

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.