

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-12 noon)

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

Year A

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

12th JULY 2020

Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23

A sower went out to sow.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

I INVITE BACK TO SUNDAY MASS THIS WEEKEND ALL THOSE WITH **SURNAMES BEGINNING L-Z**. This alternating system with the alphabet will be our pattern for July, after which I will assess the situation. So, for clarity:

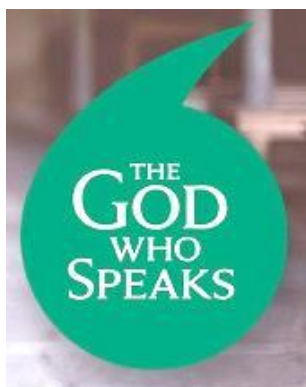
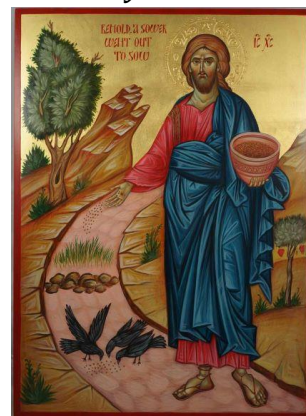
Surnames L-Z: 11th/12th July and 25th/26th July. Surnames A-K: 18th/19th July.

This is, for the time being, to ensure sufficient space in the church between parishioners. However, there was **plenty of space** last weekend, so I do urge as many as are not frail, elderly, or 'shielding' because of health conditions, to be confident to come to Mass: Sat 6.30pm, Sun 9.15am, 11.15am, 5pm. (Please note the **extra Sunday 5pm Mass**.) We have volunteer stewards on hand at each Sunday Mass to assist you, to guide you to seating, and to space the procession to Holy Communion. I am grateful to those parishioners volunteering in 2-hr shifts to provide church supervision through the week; also those assisting as 'stewards' at Mass – these are essential duties at present, and a pre-condition for having our church open for prayer and for Mass.

THE GOSPEL PASSAGE FOR THIS SUNDAY continues our cycle from Matthew for 'Year A' which we have picked up again after the Lent & Easter seasons (and lockdown!). In ch. 13 Our Lord gives his 'Parable of the Sower.' Let's ask Him to make of our hearts a good and fruitful soil' in which His Word finds its home, and produces an abundant harvest of faith, virtues, and charity.

THE PARISH IS GRATEFUL FOR THE 40+ NEW STANDING ORDERS (set up since March) that have helped the parish finances during the pandemic crisis and the suspension of public Mass. I do ask as many others of you whose finances are stable at present to consider doing the same, to help the parish out at a difficult time: please see <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon/donate/> for all the details. Thank you!

May the Lord guide us unfailingly back to His Sacred Presence at the Holy Mass! Fr Philip



2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 29

The intrinsic link between the word and faith makes clear that authentic biblical hermeneutics can only be had within the faith of the Church, which has its paradigm in Mary's *fiat*. Saint Bonaventure states that without faith there is no key to throw open the sacred text: "This is the knowledge of Jesus Christ, from whom, as from a fountain, flow forth the certainty and the understanding of all sacred Scripture.

Therefore it is impossible for anyone to attain to knowledge of that truth unless he first have infused faith in Christ, which is the lamp, the gate and the foundation of all Scripture". ... Here we can point to a fundamental criterion of biblical hermeneutics: *the primary setting for scriptural interpretation is the life of the Church.*

PRAYER & LITURGY

MARIA SANTANIELLO of Middlefield Rd died on 25th June aged 82. Her funeral will be held in private at the Hoddesdon Cemetery. Our sympathies go out to her family. *May she rest in peace.*

FRIDAY MASS THIS WEEK will be at **11.45am**, not noon, to allow Fr Philip to attend St Cross School at the end of the school year. As a parish we send say a fond farewell to **Mrs Kathryn Hall as she retires as Head of St Cross** this week. With the virus outbreak, it has been a difficult moment at which to come to the end of her 14-yr tenure as Head, but we wish her all the very best in this next phase of her life. We thank her for all her years of teaching and Headship at St Cross, for touching the lives of hundreds of our parish children through her work.

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASS:

- The Archbishops of England have released a [letter](#), and the Cardinal has released a [video](#) regarding the cautious, but welcome, resumption of public Masses.
- *The obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues to be suspended*, so no-one is expected to be at Sunday Mass if they feel it is not yet right for them in terms of their age or health.
- **SURNAMES FOR THIS Sat 4th (eve) & Sun 5th Masses: A-K only.** Surnames L-Z the w/e of 11th/12th July. *Please adhere to this* to help give safe space to those attending Mass.
- **Extra Sunday Mass: 5pm Sunday afternoon** for the time being, as long as it is needed.
- The priests and the parish volunteer stewards will have to ensure that those arriving at Mass adhere to the protocols regarding hygiene and distancing. This means that *parishioners will have to be patient with any delays* in entering or departing Mass.
- *Please note that the toilets will remain CLOSED.*
- *Sunday Mass will be shortened*, to compensate for the other delays and also to give time for sanitizing the church between Masses. There will be no congregational singing, no Bidding Prayers, no Offertory Procession and no Sign of Peace. Holy Communion will have to be distributed carefully and slowly. You will be invited to give your usual weekly donation as you *exit* the church, rather than in the middle of Mass.
- *Confessions* – available again in the usual confessional, but only *kneeling at the grille/curtain*, not face to face. Alternatively,

ring Fr Philip for an appointment for confession in the open in the parish garden.

- *Sunday Mass online:* Bishops Stortford <http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford> or Westminster Cathedral <https://www.churchservices.tv/westminster>.
- *A resource for daily spiritual nourishment* is the '[Pause for Faith](#)' YouTube channel hosted by Westminster priest Fr Stephen Wang: 30-min reflections, very accessible.

PARISH TIMETABLE: the church is open daily (c. 8am – 7pm) with Mass times restored and Adoration at the usual times. Additionally, **Adoration at the end of the day (6-7pm) will continue, Monday-Friday.** Low-level supervision operates throughout each day, to ensure that all is safe: Fr Philip or Fr Joshy, or volunteer parishioners, will be available in church/porch. There are hygienic facilities in place, and distancing (2m from any person other than from one's own household) is to be maintained.

BAPTISMS which were missed in the last 3 months can now be re-scheduled. Please feel free to contact the Presbytery regarding this. Baptisms will be celebrated in single-family groups – maximum attendance to be 30.

FINANCE

APPEAL FOR YOUR GENEROUS HELP: the Finance Committee thanks all who participated in the March '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 possible. Print the relevant inside pages from the [Financial-support form](#) on our parish website, and return the completed form to the Presbytery. The parish relies solely on parishioners' donations. **THANK YOU!**

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 suspended for now. The celebration of Confirmation will be rescheduled in the autumn. First Communion: it is not yet clear when the children's classes can resume for their preparation.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

CAFOD. We are one global family. Please will you sign the CAFOD petition to ask the government to work with other world leaders to help the most vulnerable people in our world cope with this crisis? To sign the petition visit www.cafod.org.uk/coronaviruscampaign

CORONAVIRUS - FOODBANK: Hundreds of people rely on generous donations to the local FoodBank from our parishioners and other local people. The need is for hygiene items, toilet paper, sanitary products etc., as well as sealed packages of NON-PERISHABLE foods: dry food, tins, and long-life milk etc. The FoodBank collection boxes are in the church porch.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY APPLICATIONS 2020/21: We are still accepting applications for places in our Nursery commencing September 2020. Application forms available from the School Office or to download from the school website. Visits to the Nursery are – in due course – warmly welcomed and can be arranged by contacting the School Office on 463549 or by e-mailing admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

STEVEN & MARIE DALE completed their house move to Stevenage during the time when there were no public Masses. They are sorry to have missed everyone, and not to have had a chance to say 'farewell.' The parish is truly grateful for all that Steven & Marie have given to St Augustine's in countless ways over 30+ years, especially as Ministers of Holy Communion; and to Steven both as a Reader at Mass and for some years as the Safeguarding Rep. for the parish. May the Lord bless them in their new home!

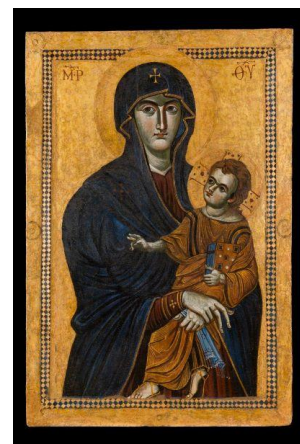
HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume making house visits when it is safe to do so.

200 CLUB: the July draw for the 200 Club has produced the following winner: no. 2, Pat DiMaggio-Hunt. Congratulations to her!

CHURCH CLEANING – a special rota will be devised now that the church is open again.

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 11th July ST BENEDICT, Abbot 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Tony O'Reilly	PAGE 102 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 10–11 <i>The rain makes the earth give growth.</i>
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* For the Parish Sun 12th July FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YR 9.15am Mass Pamela Newell RIP 11.15am Mass Girolamo Ferraro RIP 5pm Mass Michael & Helen Sherman RIP	Ps 64 — Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop. 2nd Reading: Romans 8: 18–23 <i>The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons.</i>
Mon 13^h July 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Christine Jones's intentions 6pm Adoration	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Matthew 13: 1–9 <i>A sower went out to sow.</i>
Tues 14th July 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Lee Holmes RIP rec. dec. 6pm Adoration	PREFACE TODAY: Sunday no. 7 (p. 67) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 27)
Wed 15th July ST BONAVENTURE, Bishop & Dr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Intentions of the Pope & all Clergy 6pm Adoration	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> 1st Reading: Wisdom 12: 13, 16–19 2nd Reading: Romans 8: 26–27 Gospel: Matthew 13: 24–43
Thurs 16th July OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass John Walsh's intentions 6pm Adoration	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.
Fri 17th July <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.35am Benediction 11.45am Mass Bernie Edmonds RIP 6pm Adoration	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sat 18th July OUR LADY ON SATURDAY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Luciano & Rosalia Dilena RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> 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.
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* For the Parish	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.
Sun 19th July SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YR 9.15am Mass Amie-Ellen McGrath 11.15am Mass Nicola Barone RIP 5pm Mass Tony Clayton's intentions	<p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday ** With Children's Liturgy (nursery-age to year 2 only)	
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 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.*