

# 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](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon)



E-mail: [hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk)

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 – [hoddesdong@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdong@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – [italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Year A**

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

**19<sup>th</sup> JULY 2020**

Gospel: Matthew 13: 24-30

*Let them both grow till the harvest.*

**My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,**

I INVITE BACK TO SUNDAY MASS THIS WEEKEND ALL THOSE WITH **SURNAMES BEGINNING A-K**. This alternating system with the alphabet will be our pattern for July:

**Surnames A-K: 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> July. Surnames L-Z: 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> July.**

This is, for the time being, to ensure sufficient space in the church between parishioners. However, there was still **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 Mass.

**AFTER LAST SUNDAY'S 'PARABLE OF THE SOWER,'** we hear a further parable from the cycle of Jesus's teaching in this Sunday's Gospel, the 'parable of the wheat and the darnel.' The key to this parable is the similarity of the darnel and the wheat, both as seeds and as young plants: very hard to tell apart! The Sower of the good seed is the Lord Jesus, as last week – in this further parable, He says that the 'weed' should not be ripped up too soon, as it's all too easy to rush in to a sudden judgment about good and bad people. In saying this, Jesus expresses His divine patience and His loving desire not to condemn too rashly those whose lives are not (yet) so good: He wishes to give them time, time to convert, time to be penitent, time to come back to Him. The Lord desires our conversion – thank God, He gives us time!

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

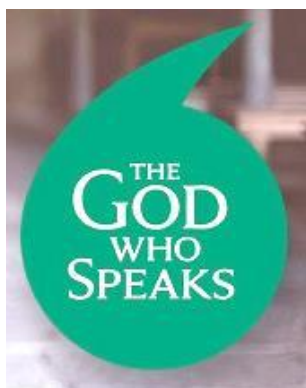
### THE PARABLE OF THE



**Wheat and Tares**

### 2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 30

Saint Jerome recalls that we can never read Scripture simply on our own. We come up against too many closed doors and we slip too easily into error. The Bible was written by the People of God for the People of God, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Only in this communion with the People of God can we truly enter as a "we" into the heart of the truth that God himself wishes to convey to us. Jerome, for whom "ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ", states that the ecclesial dimension of biblical interpretation is not a requirement imposed from without: the Book is the very voice of the pilgrim People of God, and only within the faith of this People are we, so to speak, attuned to understand sacred Scripture. An authentic interpretation of the Bible must always be in harmony with the faith of the Catholic Church.



## PRAYER & LITURGY

**PATRICIA CONNELL** of Lammasmead, Broxbourne died on 5<sup>th</sup> July aged 69.

**PATRICIA GRANT** of Ware Road, Hoddesdon died on the 14<sup>th</sup> July aged 66

Their funerals will be held in private with Mass in church. Our sympathies go out to their families. *May they rest in peace.*

### 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 18<sup>th</sup> (eve) & Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Masses: A-K only.** Surnames L-Z the w/e of 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> 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 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

**PARISH FINANCE.** The parish is very 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.

Outgoings were cut enormously during the past 4 months, but many costs are ongoing, such as the upkeep of our buildings and grounds, to keep them safe. For example, we recently had the costly job of having the trees on Esdaile Lane pollarded, as was essential for their safety and because of their proximity to our neighbours. I do ask as many of you whose finances are stable at present to consider your parish giving, to help the parish out at a difficult time. Please see <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon/donate/> for the details, or fill in [this form](#). 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](http://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.

### SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**FR JOHN BAPTIST** of Hoima diocese, Uganda, who has been our regular summer-supply priest for the past 8 summers, is unable to come this year because of the restrictions arising from the virus outbreak. He sends to parishioners his warmest greetings. Do pray for him and his Catholic community in Uganda – they too have closed churches & schools, and Mass suspended.

**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.*



### **SAINT OF THE WEEK July 22<sup>nd</sup> — ST MARY MAGDALENE**

St. Mary Magdalene is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels. The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. There is debate over whether Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed woman, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus's feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are sceptical this is the same person. During Jesus's ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semi-permanent entourage who served Jesus and his disciples. Mary watched the crucifixion from a distance along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. She was visiting his tomb to anoint his body when she found the stone rolled away and Christ very much alive: the first witness to His resurrection.

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Sat 18<sup>th</sup> July OUR LADY ON SATURDAY</b> 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Luciano &amp; Rosalia Dilena RIP</i>	<b>PAGE 105 in the Mass books</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Wisdom 12: 13, 16–19 <i>After sin you will grant repentance.</i>
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i> <b>Sun 19<sup>th</sup> July SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YR</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Amie-Ellen McGrath</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Nicola Barone RIP anniv</i> 5pm Mass <i>Tony Clayton's intentions</i>	<b>Ps 85 — O Lord, you are good and forgiving.</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Romans 8: 26–27 <i>The Spirit expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words.</i> <b>Gospel Accl:</b> <i>Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!</i>
<b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup> July</b> 8.15am Adoration                      9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Patrick Hanly RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 13: 24–30 <i>Let them both grow till the harvest.</i>
<b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> July</b> 8.15am Adoration                      9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Josephine Hogan RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>PREFACE TODAY:</b> Sunday no. 8 (p. 68) <b>EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:</b> no. 3 (p. 27)
<b>Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> July ST MARY MAGDALENE</b> 8.15am Adoration                      9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>John Whelehan RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b> <b>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Kings 3: 5, 7–12 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Romans 8: 28–30 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 13: 44–52
<b>Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> July ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN</b> 8.15am Adoration                      9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Pius Ogbodu RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.
<b>Fri 24<sup>th</sup> July</b> <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>David Green's intentions</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>ROSARY</b> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
<b>Sat 25<sup>th</sup> July ST JAMES, Apostle</b> 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Kathryn Hall's intentions</i>	<b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b> 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* <i>For the Parish</i>	<b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.
<b>Sun 26<sup>th</sup> July SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF YR</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Erick Laffan RIP anniv</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Edward &amp; Richard Mates</i> 5pm Mass <i>Patricia Connell RIP rec. dec.</i>	<b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b> <b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b>
<p style="text-align: center;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday            ** With Children's Liturgy (nursery-age to year 2 only)</p>	
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>	

**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.*