

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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

Year A

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

5th JULY 2020

Gospel: Matthew 11: 25-30

I am gentle and humble of heart.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

AFTER 15 LONG WEEKS' WAIT, FROM THIS SATURDAY YOU ARE WELCOME BACK AT THE CELEBRATION OF MASS! In order to provide a *check* on the numbers in church, at least until we are able to open more 'like usual' (and we don't know when that will be): I ask that only those who have **SURNAMES BEGINNING WITH A-K** come to Sunday

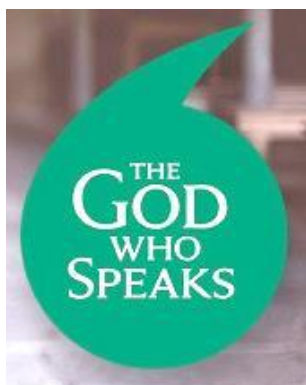
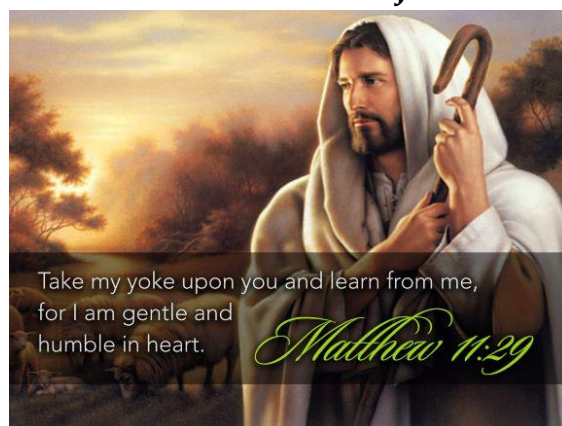
Mass this weekend, with L-Z the weekend of 11th-12th

July), and then alternating this pattern for the weeks to come if it seems right. There is currently **also a Sunday 5pm Mass** here each weekend. Weekday Masses are also an alternative for now.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass **has not yet been restored**, and therefore anyone frail, elderly, or with health concerns should know that they need not come to Sunday Mass yet. Additionally, not everyone who wishes to, can come to Sunday Mass every weekend, because we need to impose a *safe capacity* in the church given the requirements of being sufficiently spaced. The current capacity of the church is 50 - 90 depending on whether people come as singles, couples, or families. Only half the pews are available for sitting in. It may be that at times the doors will need to be closed for Mass if capacity has been reached. Please be aware of this, and do not be upset if you arrive and cannot get in.

I am very grateful to those parishioners volunteering in 2-hr shifts to provide church supervision through the week; also those assisting as 'stewards' at Mass. **Please remember**, if you have any of the classic symptoms of the coronavirus (fever, cough etc.), you need to stay away from church until you have had a test to prove you are not carrying the virus, or until you have recovered.

May the Lord who is "gentle & humble of heart" give us renewed faith at this time! Fr Philip



2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 28

How completely at home Mary is with the word of God, with ease she moves in and out of it. She speaks and thinks with the word of God; the word of God becomes her word, and her word issues from the word of God. ... As we contemplate in the Mother of God a life totally shaped by the word, we realize that we too are called to enter into the mystery of faith, whereby Christ comes to dwell in our lives. Every Christian believer, Saint Ambrose reminds us, in some way interiorly conceives and gives birth to the word of God: even though there is only one Mother of Christ in the flesh, in the faith Christ is the progeny of us all. Thus, what took place for Mary can daily take place in each of us, in the hearing of the word and in the celebration of the sacraments.

PRAYER & LITURGY

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 opening for roughly the usual times (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, 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: as soon as Fr Philip is permitted to resume the celebration of Baptisms, it will be announced here, and the re-scheduling of missed Baptisms will commence.

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!

BOXES OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: those who give via Offertory envelopes can continue to deliver your offering through the Presbytery letter-box. We still rely on your giving! **NEW BOXES FOR APRIL 2020 ONWARDS** available for collection from the Presbytery, if you haven’t received yours through your letter-box.

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 now returned to the **church porch in their usual place.**

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/dioocese/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 July OUR LADY ON SATURDAY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Mary O'Driscoll & Tony Saunders family ints.</i> | PAGE 99 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Zech 9: 9–10 <i>See now, your King comes humbly to you.</i> |
| 6.30pm Mass* <i>Nadia Miragliotta RIP</i> | Ps 144 — <i>I will bless your name for ever, O God my king!</i> |
| Sun 5th July FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YR 9.15am Mass <i>Karla McGrath</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Parish deceased, April–June 2020</i> 5pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i> | 2nd Reading: Romans 8: 9, 11–13 <i>If by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.</i> |
| Mon 6^h July ST MARIA GORETTI, Virgin & Martyr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Douglas Edden RIP rec. dec.</i> 6pm Adoration | Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!</i> |
| Tues 7th July 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>C. Delaney's intentions</i> 6pm Adoration | Gospel: Matthew 11: 25–30 <i>I am gentle and humble of heart.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sunday no. 6 (p. 67) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 24) |
| Wed 8th July 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>James Connors RIP rec. dec.</i> 6pm Adoration | <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> |
| Thurs 9th July 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Canon Christopher Tuckwell RIP rec. dec.</i> 6pm Adoration | 1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 10–11 2nd Reading: Romans 8: 18–23 Gospel: Matthew 13: 1–23 (or vv. 1–9) |
| Fri 10th July <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Denis Lynch RIP</i> 6pm Adoration | 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. |
| Sat 11th July ST BENEDICT, Abbot 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Tony O'Reilly</i> | <p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass. |
| 4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i> | <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. |
| Sun 12th July FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YR 9.15am Mass <i>Pamela Newell RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Girolamo Ferraro RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>Michael & Helen Sherman RIP</i> | <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. |
| <p style="text-align: center;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p> ** 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 style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</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 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.*