

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-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 THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 16th AUG 2020

Gospel: Luke 1: 39-56

The Almighty has done great things for me, he has exalted the lowly.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY INTO HEAVEN – known in Italy as *Ferragosto* – is the great summer feastday of the Church, and in many countries (in more normal years!) a day of lavish festival and summer partying. The admission of Our Blessed Lady, body and soul, immediately into the fullness of heaven, is a consequence of her having been always free from sin – she does not suffer the indignity of bodily decay that we do, and she shares immediately in the *resurrection of the flesh* that Jesus won for us in His glorious Resurrection from the dead. We hope, at the end of time, after our judgment and our purgatory, also to be restored to our full human nature in body and soul. When we see Mary already enjoying this great blessing, then we have hope, and we ask for her prayers to assist us on this all-important journey to heaven, that we may not allow ourselves to be lost in sin and deflected from our life's only true goal.



WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AT SUNDAY MASSES, so I do urge you – if you have not already done so – to return to attending Sunday Mass, unless you are frail, elderly, or 'shielding' because of health conditions. Saturday evening (6.30pm Mass) and Sunday evening (5pm) Mass are open to all, whilst Sunday-morning Masses are currently restricted to surnames as follows, on an alternating (fortnightly) basis:

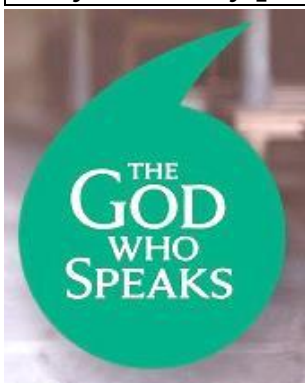
9.15 & 11.15am Sundays ONLY: Surnames A-K: 16th Aug, 30th Aug. Surnames 23rd Aug.

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. **Government regulations now require Mass-goers to wear a face covering inside church as of 8th August, so I ask you please to comply with this.**

May Our Lady pray for us, from her place in heaven, to stay always faithful to Jesus. Fr Philip

2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 37

We learn from the Fathers that exegesis "is truly faithful to the proper intention of biblical texts when it goes not only to the heart of their formulation to find the reality of faith there expressed, but also seeks to link this reality to the experience of faith in our present world." Only against this horizon can we recognize that the word of God is living and addressed to each of us in the here and now of our lives. In this sense, the Pontifical Biblical Commission's definition of the spiritual sense, as understood by Christian faith, remains fully valid: it is "the meaning expressed by the biblical texts when read, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, in the context of the paschal mystery of Christ and of the new life which flows from it. This context truly exists. ... It is therefore quite acceptable to re-read the Scriptures in the light of this new context, which is that of life in the Spirit."



PRAYER & LITURGY

PATRICK WYNDHAM of Crossfield Road, Hoddesdon died on 1st August, aged 77.

ELLEN PEARSON of St Catherine's Residential Home, Broxbourne, died on 4th August, aged 90.

JOHN KELLY of St Augustine's Drive, Broxbourne died on 10th August, aged 81.

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 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 Sun 16th Aug, 9.15/11.15am Masses: A-K only.** Surnames A-K on 23rd Aug. Attendance at Sat 6.30/Sun 5pm NOT restricted by surname.
- **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.
- *Please note that the toilets will remain CLOSED.*
- *Sunday Mass will be shortened, 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.*

MASS INTENTIONS: there are spare *weekday & some weekend dates* for intentions for you to request Mass to be offered in the coming weeks. Mass can be offered not only for the deceased, but also for the intentions of the sick, for special intentions, for thanksgiving etc. Intention can be published as 'Private Intention' if you so wish.

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY on Sundays is suspended for the time being.

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 suspension of public Mass.

Outgoings were cut enormously during the past 5 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

WINTER NIGHT SHELTER: The current situation has made planning very difficult due to the uncertainties resulting from the coronavirus. Last year's model, using dormitory style overnight accommodation in churches, will not be possible because of the high risks it poses to guests and volunteers alike. Single venue options are currently being explored by the Council and the Night Shelter Core Team. It may turn out that we need significantly fewer volunteers compared to last year but we will keep you updated when we know more.

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

THE CATHOLIC HERALD is now back on sale in the church porch. No longer a weekly magazine, it is now *monthly*, price £5.

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

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.

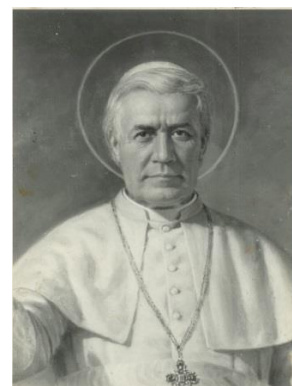


SAINT OF THE WEEK

POPE ST PIUS X

(21st August)

Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto saw the light of heaven on August 20, 1914. Two of the most outstanding accomplishments of this saintly Pope were the



inauguration of the liturgical renewal and the restoration of frequent communion from childhood. He also waged an unwavering war against the heresy and evils of Modernism, gave great impetus to biblical studies, and brought about the codification of Canon Law. His overriding concern was to "renew all things in Christ." Above all, his holiness shone forth conspicuously. His last will and testament bears the striking sentence: "I was born poor, I have lived in poverty, and I wish to die poor."

Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 15th August 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Ken Parker RIP	PAGE 178 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Apocalypse 11: 19, 12:1-6,10 <i>A woman adorned with the sun, standing on the moon.</i> Ps 44 — <i>On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.</i> 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20–26 <i>Christ as the first-fruits and then, those who belong to him.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Mary has been taken up into heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Luke 1: 39–56 <i>The Almighty has done great things for me, he has exalted the lowly.</i>
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* Private intention Sun 16th Aug ASSUMPTION OF BL. V. MARY 9.15am Mass Thanksgiving from Byrne Family 11.15am Mass For the Parish 5pm Mass NHS and Care Workers of our parish	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Mary has been taken up into heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Luke 1: 39–56 <i>The Almighty has done great things for me, he has exalted the lowly.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Assumption (p. 70) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 27)
Mon 17th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Jimmy Robb's intentions 6pm Adoration	Next week's readings TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 1st Reading: Isaiah 22: 19–23 2nd Reading: Romans 11:33–36 Gospel: Matthew 16: 13–20
Tues 18th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Molly Zwager RIP 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.
Wed 19th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass John McGrath RIP 6pm Adoration	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Thurs 20th Aug ST BERNARD, Abbot & Doctor 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass John Kelly RIP rec. dec. 6pm Adoration	SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK 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.
Fri 21st August ST PIUS X, Pope <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass Kitty Dwyer RIP 6pm Adoration	SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.
Sat 22nd August THE QUEENSHIP OF BL. V. MARY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Toni Randazzo RIP anniv.	Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* For the Parish	
Sun 23rd Aug TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass Greta & John O'Reilly 11.15am Mass Orsola Scibelli RIP anniv. 5pm Mass Sheila Scales RIP rec. dec.	
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	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.*