

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-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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

23rd AUGUST 2020

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20

You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

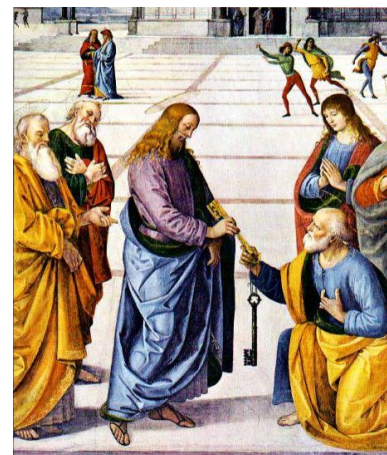
THE 'YEAR OF THE WORD' IN THIS YEAR 'A' (GOSPEL OF MATTHEW) reaches a special point this Sunday, as we hear the key text in Mt 16, the 'confession' of St Peter. The whole of St Matthew's Gospel hinges on this text – the midpoint of the Gospel narrative – in which the Apostles, voiced by St Peter, express their faith in Jesus: "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!*" What a moment of joy this must have been for Our Lord, that His dearest companions have now realised the truth of Who He Is! His teaching, His miracles, and their experience of His person, had been leading up to this point: so that they now could have the confidence to confess Him to be the Messiah. Our Lord responds with those famous words, elevating Peter to being the 'Rock' of unity, to which the whole Church is anchored: "*You are Peter, and on this Rock I will build My Church.*" Throughout history, we have needed this visible unity with the successor of St Peter – the Holy See, diocese of the Pope in Rome – to anchor us to the one true faith and keep us from losing direction in our Christian lives.

WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AT SUNDAY MASSES, so I do urge everyone now 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 L-Z: 23rd Aug, 6th Sept. Surnames A-K: 30th Aug.

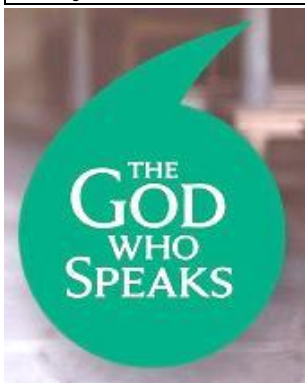
Government regulations now require Mass-goers to wear a face covering inside church as of 8th August, so I ask you please to comply with this.

May we be faithful to Jesus and devoutly adherent to our Holy Father the Pope. Fr Philip



2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 39

We learn, within the Church's great tradition, to see the unity of all Scripture, grounded in the unity of God's word, which challenges our life and constantly calls us to conversion. ... "All divine Scripture is one book, and this one book is Christ, speaks of Christ and finds its fulfilment in Christ." Viewed in purely historical or literary terms, of course, the Bible is not a single book, but a collection of literary texts composed over the course of a thousand years or more, and its individual books are not easily seen to possess an interior unity; instead, we see clear inconsistencies between them. This was already the case with the Bible of Israel, which we Christians call the Old Testament. It is all the more so when, as Christians, we relate the New Testament and its writings as a kind of hermeneutical key to Israel's Bible, thus interpreting the latter as a path to Christ.



PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH

Riccardo Ingrao who will be baptised this weekend.

JOHN KELLY of St Augustine's Drive, Broxbourne died on 10th August, aged 81. His funeral will be held in private with Mass in church. Our sympathies go out to his family. *May he 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 23rd Aug, 9.15/11.15am Masses: L-Z only.** Surnames A-K on 30th 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.

SCHOOLS

ST CROSS: The Governing Body of St Cross has vacancies for Foundation Governors, ideally with experience in: Risk, Health & Safety, Business Management or HR. If you are interested in supporting the school in this way, please contact Chair of Governors, Cate Campany, on ccampany@stcross.herts.sch.uk.

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 (door-step visits) in September.

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.

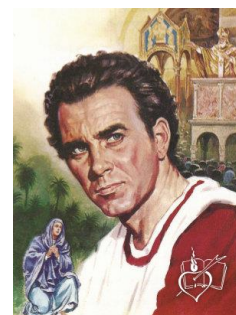
Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of us who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



PRAYER OF THE WEEK

From St Augustine's Confessions

"Late have I loved You, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved You! You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for You. In my unloveliness I plunged into the lovely things which You created. You were with me, but I was not with You. Created things kept me from You; yet if they had not been in You they would not have been at all. You called, You shouted, and You broke through my deafness. You flashed, You shone, and You dispelled my blindness. You breathed Your fragrance on me; I drew in breath and now I pant for You. I have tasted You, now I hunger and thirst for more. You touched me, and I burned for Your peace." (bk X, xvii, §38)



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 22nd August THE QUEENSHIP OF BL. V. MARY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Toni Randazzo RIP anniv.</i></p>	<p>PAGE 120 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 22: 19–23 <i>I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.</i></p> <p>Ps 137 — <i>Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.</i></p> <p>2nd Reading: Romans 11: 33–36 <i>All that exists comes from him, all is by him and for him.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!</i></p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 16: 13–20 <i>You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 5 (p. 67) EUCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 24)</p>
<p>4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i></p> <p>Sun 23rd Aug TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Greta & John O'Reilly</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Orsola Scibelli RIP anniv</i> 5pm Mass <i>Sheila Scales RIP rec. dec.</i></p>	<p>Next Week's Readings TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</p> <p>1st Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7–9 2nd Reading: Romans 12: 1–2 Gospel: Matthew 16: 21–27</p>
<p>Mon 24th August ST BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Henryk & Assunta Nolewajka RIP</i> 6pm Adoration</p>	
<p>Tues 25th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Matthew Breen RIP anniv.</i> 6pm Adoration</p>	
<p>Wed 26th August Bl. DOMINIC BARBERI, priest 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Giuseppe Distefano RIP</i> 6pm Adoration</p>	
<p>Thurs 27th Aug ST MONICA 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Bill Pollard RIP</i> 6pm Adoration</p>	
<p>Fri 28th August ST AUGUSTINE, Bishop PARISH PATRONAL FEASTDAY <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Parishioners' intentions</i> 6pm Adoration</p> <p>Sat 29th Aug THE PASSION OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Bernard Saward RIP rec. dec.</i></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
<p>4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i></p> <p>Sun 30th Aug TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Catherine Kelly</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Margaret & Allen Lawlor</i> 5pm Mass <i>Marian Corrigan RIP</i></p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</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.*