

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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

30th AUGUST 2020

Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

FRIDAY SAW OUR PARISH'S PATRONAL FEAST – ST AUGUSTINE'S DAY – and whilst, this year, it had to be kept in a very low-key way, yet it's an important reminder to keep our patron saint before our eyes as a focus of devotion. His life story was a remarkable one (there are some CTS booklets on him in the racks if you wish to read it): after a long time of searching, he only came to faith and Baptism at the age of 32 in the Italian city of Milan, far from his home in N. Africa. But, constantly supporting his spiritual journey by her prayers and her tears, was his saintly mother, Monica. Within 10 years of his Baptism in 387AD, he was a Bishop, back in N. Africa (the city of Hippo Regius), and served as Bishop there until his death in 430AD. His 30+ years as Bishop were full of challenges, both within the Church and in wider society, and indeed the destructive threat from marauding tribes was an ever-present reality as his life drew to its close. St Augustine knew very much about preserving the mission of the Church – preaching the Gospel – within difficult circumstances. We ask for his prayers for our families and our parish at this time, that we remain focussed on Christ, His eternal and unchanging message for us, and the real blessedness that it brings.

I REMIND PARISHIONERS AGAIN THAT WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AT SUNDAY MASSES, so I do urge everyone to return to 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: 30th Aug, 13th Sept. Surnames L-Z: 6th Sept.

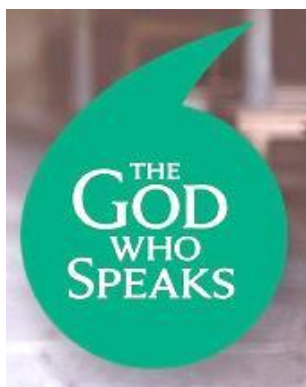
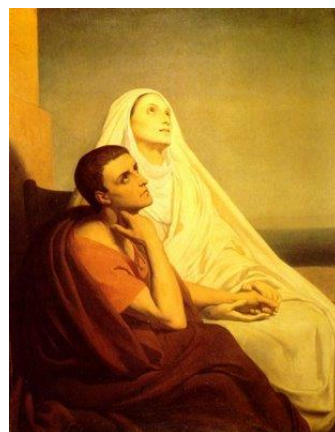
We'll keep the alphabet restrictions (A-K/L-Z on alternating Sunday mornings) for now, but if by mid-Sept this no longer seems helpful, then I will drop it. What is important is that we now move back as best we can into a sense of Sunday Mass attendance being the norm again.

May the Lord guide us to giving our whole life to Christ.

Fr Philip

2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 40

[We] need to be conscious of the relationship between Old and the New Testaments. First of all, it is evident that *the New Testament itself acknowledges the Old Testament as the word of God* and thus accepts the authority of the sacred Scriptures of the Jewish people. ... It explicitly acknowledges them by citing many parts of them as a basis for argument. In the New Testament, an argument based on texts from the Old Testament thus has a definitive quality, superior to that of mere human argumentation. ... Sound Christian doctrine has always resisted all new forms of 'Marcionism,' which tend, in different ways, to set the Old Testament in opposition to the New.



PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Oscar Bailey and Amelia West who will be baptised this weekend.

BANK HOLIDAY MASS on Monday will be at 10am. There will be no evening Adoration at 6pm and the church will be closed after Mass.

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 30th Aug, 9.15/11.15am Masses: A-K only.** Surnames L-& on 6th Sept. Attendance at Sat 6.30/Sun 5pm NOT restricted by surname.
- **Extra Sunday Mass: 5pm Sunday afternoon.**
- Parish volunteer stewards will 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.

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 safe upkeep of our buildings and grounds. We do those 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](#). For a Standing Order, here are the necessary details:

Account Name:	WRCDT Hoddesdon
Sort Code:	40-05-20
Account Number:	31264370

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.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S: The Governing Body of St. Augustine's has vacancies for Foundation Governors, ideally with skills in these fields: Legal, Health & Safety and Marketing. If you are interested in supporting the school in this way, please contact the Headteacher, Mrs. Napier, via her PA on: cbranch@staugustines.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) this week (Wednesday afternoon) in: High Rd Broxbourne, Briarley Close, Winford Drive.

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

Wednesday 3rd September
St Gregory the Great
Pope & Doctor

Pope St Gregory I was pope from 3rd September 590 until his death in 604. Gregory is well known for his writings, which were more prolific than

those of any of his predecessors as pope. He was the first of the popes to come from a monastic background. He is considered a saint in the Catholic Church and also in the Eastern Orthodox Church. Immediately after his death, Gregory was canonized by popular acclaim. It was he who sent St Augustine ("of Canterbury") from the monastery in Rome to evangelize southern England in 597, and so we have much to be grateful for from this wise and saintly Pope.



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 29th Aug THE PASSION OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Bernard Seward RIP rec. dec.</i></p>	<p>PAGE 122 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7–9 <i>The word of the Lord has meant insult for me.</i> Ps 62 — For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God. 2nd Reading: Romans 12: 1–2 <i>Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.</i> Gospel Accl: 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!</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 & Alan Lawlor</i> 5pm Mass <i>Marian Corrigan RIP</i></p>	<p>Gospel: Matthew 16: 21–27 <i>If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 6 (p. 67) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 24)</p>
<p>Mon 31st August ST AIDAN, Bishop 10am Mass <i>Miley Connors's intentions</i> THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED AFTER MASS.</p> <p>Tues 1st September 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Bert Zwager RIP</i> 6pm Adoration</p> <p>Wed 2nd September 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Trish Walters RIP anniv.</i> 6pm Adoration</p> <p>Thurs 3rd Sept ST GREGORY THE GREAT, Pope & Dr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Mary McCarthy RIP 5th anniv.</i> 6pm Adoration</p> <p>Fri 4th September ST CUTHBERT, Bishop <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Winnie McBrearty rec. dec.</i> 6pm Adoration</p> <p>Sat 5th September 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Peter & Margaret White</i></p>	<p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 1st Reading: Ezekiel 33: 7–9 2nd Reading: Romans 13: 8–10 Gospel: Matthew 18: 15–20</p>
<p>4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Patrick Malone RIP</i></p> <p>Sun 6th Sept TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Francesca Crimauo RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>For the Parish</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. Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
<p>* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>	
<p>REGULAR EVENTS</p>	

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.*