

The Announcer

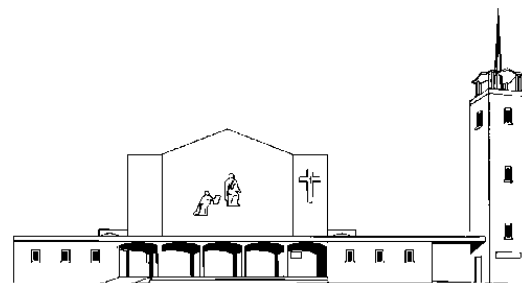
St Augustine's Catholic Church

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 – hoddesdong@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Year A

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

20th SEPTEMBER 2020

Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

AS WE CONTINUE THROUGH THE LATTER PART OF ST MATTHEW'S GOSPEL, Sunday by Sunday, we are hearing some of the great 'Parables of the Kingdom' from Jesus: last week, the parable about the forgiving Master; this week the parable about the 11th-hour vineyard workers. And others follow over the coming Sundays. These are truly rich passages of divine teaching: Our Lord uses these images and stories not to entertain, but to instruct, to teach us with directness and clarity the truth about God's kingdom, which He desires us fully to be a part of. We are not to stay idly outside, but we are to be engaged in His work, for which He will give us the gift of true life.



WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AT SUNDAY MASS, so I continue to urge everyone to return to Sunday Mass, (unless you are 'shielding' or 'isolating' because of specific health conditions). Happily, numbers have gradually increased at Mass, and we finally 'broke through' the 200 barrier last weekend: we had 230 across all the Masses including the Italian Mass. But, by a long way, we have not reached the safe capacity: we can easily fit 70-90 in the church even under current conditions. I would ask that you please make sure you come *in good time* for Mass (5 mins early minimum), because it is very difficult for the stewards to direct parishioners to safely available seating once Mass has begun without causing great distraction to those already present. 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:

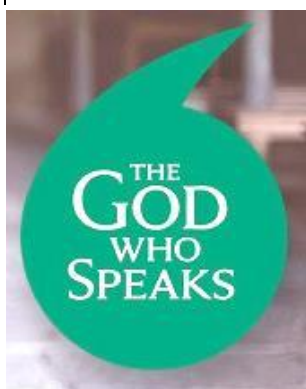
9.15 & 11.15am Sundays ONLY: surnames L-Z for 20th Sept.; surnames A-K for 27th Sept.

Let us heed the Lord's call to be co-workers in His vineyard. Fr Philip

2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 42

Biblical revelation is deeply rooted in history. God's plan is manifested progressively and it is accomplished slowly, in successive stages and despite human resistance. God chose a people and patiently worked to guide and educate them. Revelation is suited to the cultural and moral level of distant times and thus describes facts and customs, such as cheating and trickery, and acts of violence and massacre, without explicitly denouncing the immorality of such things. This can be explained by the historical context, yet it can cause the modern reader to be taken aback, especially if he or she fails to take account of the many "dark" deeds carried out down the centuries, and also in our own day. In

the Old Testament, the preaching of the prophets vigorously challenged every kind of injustice and violence, whether collective or individual, and thus became God's way of training his people in preparation for the Gospel.



PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Sienna Keighrey and Alexis Smith who will be baptised this weekend.

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASS:

- **SURNAMES FOR Sun 20th Sept 9.15/11.15am Masses: L-Z only.** Surnames A-K on 27th Sept, but *this restriction is under review*. 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 is shortened*, to give time for sanitizing the church between Masses. There is no congregational singing, no Offertory Procession and no Sign of Peace. Holy Communion will be distributed carefully and slowly. You can give your usual weekly donation as you *exit* the church, rather than in the middle of Mass.
- *The obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues to be suspended*, so those whose health is compromised may still feel it necessary to avoid coming to Mass for the time being.
- *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 many spare *weekday & some weekend dates* for intentions for you to request Mass 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 grateful for the new Standing Orders that have helped parish finances during the pandemic. It is good to report that the parish now receives twice per month in SOs what it was receiving in January. However, the covering of parish costs is still a big problem. The parish bank a/c has decreased by about £17k since the start of the year.

Outgoings were cut enormously during the past 6 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

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>

<p>IF YOU GO IN TO HOSPITAL: Catholics in hospital are unlikely to receive an <i>automatic</i> 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.</p> <p>Chaplains are: Lister, John O'Neill 01438-285138 or 07876-526935; Princess Alexandra, Fr Leszek Gamracy 01279-426017</p>

CATECHETICS

"RCIA" / FIRST HOLY COMMUNION / CONFIRMATION: classes suspended for now. Thought will be given to how these catechetics courses can be safely resumed. But participants do now need to return to Sunday Mass in order for this to be possible.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER is excited to announce a new online experience for

marriage enrichment. For the past 50 years Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering marriage enrichment retreats all around the world. Focused on couples who want to enrich their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage, it offers a unique experience to explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, regardless of how long you have been together. During the Coronavirus pandemic our residential retreats have had to be cancelled so we are reaching out to couples who want to deepen their relationship by offering a newly energised video conferenced retreat. The next Marriage Encounter Online Experience is **26th & 27th September**. Why not find out more at wwme.org.uk or contact us on **0845 260 2016**.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

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 SCHOOL Governing Body 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 SCHOOL Governing Body 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. September issue now available.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will be making house visits (door-step visits) this week (**Wednesday afternoon**) in: Robinia Road, Macers Lane/Court, Vancouver Drive, and environs.

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.



SAINT OF THE WEEK OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM 24th SEPTEMBER

Our Lady of Walsingham is a title used for Mary, the mother of Jesus. The title derives from the belief that Mary appeared in a vision to

Richeldis de Faverches, a devout English noblewoman in 1061 in the village of Walsingham, Norfolk. Lady Richeldis had a Holy House built in Walsingham which became a shrine and place of pilgrimage. In passing on his guardianship of the Holy House, Richeldis's son left instructions for the building of a priory in Walsingham. Like all religious houses, it was destroyed in the Reformation in the 1530s. The Catholic shrine today is at the Slipper Chapel.



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 19th September SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Dec'd members of the Giamalva Family</i>	PAGE 131 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 6–9 <i>My thoughts are not your thoughts.</i> Ps 144 — The Lord is close to all who call him.
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>	2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 20–24, 27 <i>Life to me is Christ.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!</i>
Sun 20th Sept TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Bill Anthony RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Giovanni & Providenza Cicchirillo RIP anniv.</i> 5pm Mass <i>Private intention</i>	Gospel: Matthew 20: 1–16 <i>Why be envious because I am generous?</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 1 (p. 66) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 24)
Mon 21st Sept ST MATTHEW, Apostle 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Dec'd members of Bevement Family</i> 6pm Adoration	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 1st Reading: Ezekiel 18: 25–28 2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 1–11 Gospel: Matthew 21: 28–32
Tues 22nd Sept 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Doris Martin 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.
Wed 23rd Sept CONSECRATION OF OUR CHURCH 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Benefactors of the Parish</i> 6pm Adoration	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Thurs 24^h Sept OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Billy Delaney's intentions</i> 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 25th September <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Fausta Gavuzzo RIP rec. dec.</i> 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. Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699
Sat 26th September SATURDAY MASS OF OIR LADY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Dom Bernard Wassall OSB RIP rec. dec.</i>	
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>	
Sun 27th Sept TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Pasquale Ricotta RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Michael O'Reilly</i> 5pm Mass <i>J & B Hensman Diamond wedding int's</i>	
<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.*