

The Announcer

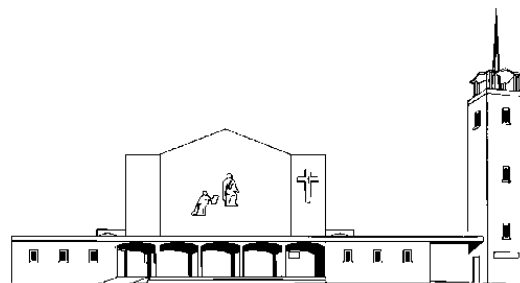
St Augustine's Catholic Church

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

ALL SAINTS' DAY

1st NOVEMBER 2020

Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.



ALL SAINTS DAY

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

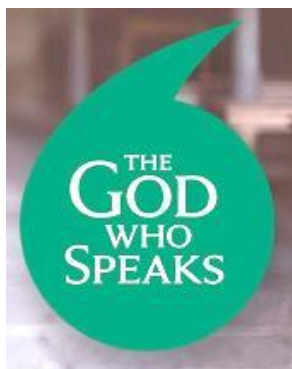
THE ORDINARY SUNDAY OF THE YEAR is replaced today by the solemn feast day of All Saints, the first of November. It's a feast that has been celebrated in the church for centuries, a tradition begun in Rome at the church (St Mary and all the Martyrs) which was converted in 610AD from the pagan Roman 'Pantheon' in the heart of the eternal city. Given that each of the martyrs could not have their own feast day in the year, Pope Boniface IV decreed that the consecration day of that new church (13th May) should be that feast of 'All Saints.' Within a century or two, the date of the feast was moved to 1st November, and gradually this was decreed as a holy day for the Church.

This beautiful feast is a chance to acknowledge not just all the named, 'canonized,' saints of the Church, but indeed all those unnamed holy people who now dwell with God in heaven. The reading from Apocalypse this Sunday speaks of the blessed joy of the numerous heavenly host: "A great multitude that no-one could number, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands and crying out with a loud voice." As we honour the saints, and as we meditate on their heavenly rest, we long to be with them, and we invoke their prayers to assist us on our earthly Christian journey, that we may not through grievous sins choose a life other than that which aims at heaven.

WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AT SUNDAY MASS. We had c. 270 last weekend across all the Masses including the Italian Mass, but, by a long way, we have not reached safe capacity: we can easily fit 70-90 in the church. **All weekend Masses are now once again open to all.** I will continue to monitor numbers, ensuring we gather safely for the sacred mysteries of the Holy Mass. **God bless, Fr Philip**

2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 47

The interpretation of sacred Scripture would remain incomplete were it not to include listening to *those who have truly lived the word of God: namely, the saints.* Indeed, "*viva lectio est vita bonorum.*" The most profound interpretation of Scripture comes precisely from those who let themselves be shaped by the word of God through listening, reading and assiduous meditation. It is certainly not by chance that the great currents of spirituality in the Church's history originated with an explicit reference to Scripture. I am thinking for example of Saint Anthony the Abbot, who was moved by hearing Christ's words: "if you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."



PRAYER & LITURGY

FRANCESCA MARINO of Westgate Nursing Home, Ware, died last week at 84 yrs of age. Our sympathies go out to her family. Her funeral Mass will be held in church in private shortly.

FR JOHN MILLER who regularly supplied in this parish for many years in the past, has died, aged 97. Mass will be offered for Fr John on Friday 4th Dec at 12 noon. Our sympathies go out to his family. *May they rest in peace.*

NOVEMBER LIST OF THE DECEASED: lists for you to write the names of your departed relatives and friends are attached to the newsletter. Please return the lists to the presbytery, along with any Mass offering. During November, the lists will be kept on the altar and at least one Mass a day will be offered for the Holy Souls. Therefore, few other Mass intentions can be taken for November.

NOVEMBER PRAYERS AT CEMETERY: Fr Philip will lead the annual visit to the cemetery to pray the Rosary for the deceased members of the parish on **Sunday 1st Nov**. Please meet inside the main gate at Ware Road at **2pm**.

Fr Philip will also be attending Woollensbrook Cemetery on **Saturday 7th November at 11.30am** to pray and bless the graves.

Please note the "rule of 6" must be followed by each family group at a grave. Family groups must maintain distancing from one another. Mingling together is not permitted.

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASS:

- **The restriction by alphabet has been removed.** Attendance at all Sunday Masses is now NOT restricted by surname.
- 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.

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: volunteer parishioners or Fr Philip or Fr Joshy, are available in church/porch. There are hygienic facilities in place, masks are to be worn, and distancing (2m from any person other than from one's own household) is to be maintained.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY on Sundays must still be suspended for the time being.

FINANCE

PARISH FINANCE is greatly helped by the many new Standing Orders set up this year. However, covering parish costs is still a big problem. The parish bank a/c has decreased by about £13k since the start of the year.

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

You can also give by Virgin Money Giving: by using this link tiny.cc/8xn0tz, or by using the QR code alongside:



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:

<https://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. Despite looking at options for a suitable space to take classes, there seems still no safe way to pursue **First Holy Communion** class with the children, so this will continue to be suspended until the New Year 2021, after which we will try to resume their preparation.

Confirmation: Fr Philip will gradually be inviting those who have already returned to Mass to be confirmed in groups of 3 or 4 at parish Sat eve / Sun Masses in the coming months. But there's no hurry for this – the door will not 'close.'

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 HEADTEACHER, Mrs Joanne Walsh, writes re Reception Intake September 2021: Due to the current restrictions with COVID-19 visits for prospective parents of the Reception intake 2021 are not feasible at present. I am delighted to share with you a video clip of 'a typical day in the life of a St. Cross pupil' which has been uploaded to our school website www.stcross.herts.sch.uk. Applications for the September 2021 intake open on 2nd November 2020 and the deadline for return is 15th January 2021. Application Forms for St Cross School can also be downloaded at www.stcross.herts.sch.uk/site/data/attachments/P42/St-Cross-School-SIF-2021.214052967.pdf.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL Reception Class Admissions 2021-22. If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and

31st August 2017, you can apply for a Primary School place to start in September 2021. The application process opens 2nd November 2020 and closes on 15th January 2021. The school will be providing a virtual video of the Reception-class environment and will be setting up remote meetings. Please check school website www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk for the link to the sign-up form, dates, and times.

ST CROSS SCHOOL has a small number of spare places for children in year 3. Please contact the school on 467309 for further information.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will continue his new round of house visits (door-step visits) this week (**Wednesday afternoon**) to EN11 9L*.

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.



Masses this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 31st October SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Annie Doyle</i>	PAGE 184 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Apocalypse 7: 2–4, 9–14 <i>I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe & language.</i> Ps 23 — <i>Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.</i> 2nd Reading: 1 John 3: 1–3 <i>We shall see God as he really is.</i>
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Denis, Teddy & Anna Tobin RIP</i> Sun 1st November ALL SAINTS' DAY 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 5pm Mass <i>William Blake RIP anniv.</i>	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Matthew 5: 1–12 <i>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Glory of Jerusalem (p. 71) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)
Mon 2nd November ALL SOULS' DAY 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> 6pm Adoration	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY OF YEAR A 1st Reading: Wisdom 6: 12–16 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4: 13–18 Gospel: Matthew 25: 1–13
Tues 3rd November ST MARTIN DE PORRES, Religious 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</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 4th November ST CHARLES BORROMEEO, Bishop 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> 6pm Adoration	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Thurs 5th November 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</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 6th November <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Holy Souls</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.
Sat 7th November ST WILLIBRORD, Bishop 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Vincent Byrne RIP</i> Sun 8th Nov THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 5pm Mass <i>Esther Blake RIP</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.*