

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-NINTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

18th OCTOBER 2020

Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-21

Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.

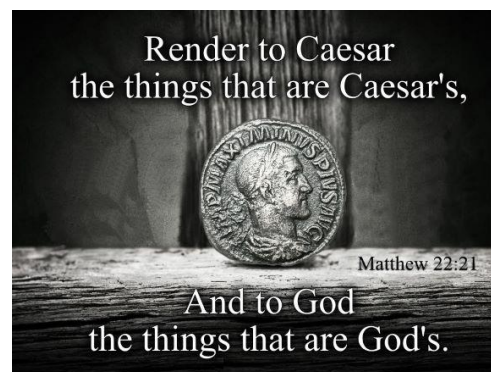
My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE'VE HAD A GREAT CYCLE OF PARABLES IN RECENT WEEKS FROM ST MATTHEW'S GOSPEL, but now we have a short break from those, until the 3 parables from ch. 25 that we hear over the last 3 Sundays of the Church's year, next month. For now, then, we hear of some of Jesus's other sayings – today, the tricky question about paying taxes! Our Lord is usually ambivalent when He is questioned about money and riches. He always turns the question on its head, and reminds us that our priority is our relationship to God. Yes, of course we must pay our taxes: it's part of our civic duty and keeps our nation able to fulfil its responsibilities to all citizens. But far more precious in terms of our human life is that which we 'pay' to God: the daily respect of our souls to Him, our prayer, and the works of charity that spring out of a healthy spiritual life.

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY, and it would be good for us each to practise this sacred and traditional devotion each day if possible. The Rosary is a prayer ideally suited to the home, to travelling, to simple quiet times when we are walking, or sitting, or even doing humdrum chores. If you need a reminder as to how to pray the mysteries of the Rosary, do buy a simple rosary card (30p) from the CTS racks in the porch.

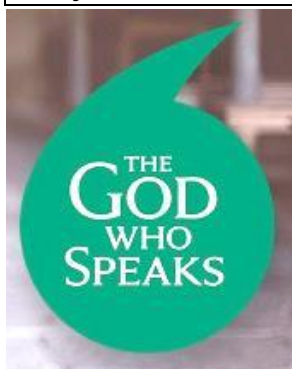
WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AT SUNDAY MASS. We had c. 260 last weekend across all the Masses including the Italian Mass, but, by a long way, we have not reached safe capacity: we can easily fit 70-90 in the church. As a result, I am *removing* for a trial period the 'alphabet restriction' on surnames that we have had since July on Sundays for Mass. **All weekend Masses, therefore, 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.

May Jesus's words urge us truly to "give to God what belongs to God" each day! Fr Philip



2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 46

Conscious that the Church has her foundation in Christ, the incarnate Word of God, the Synod wished to emphasize the centrality of biblical studies within ecumenical dialogue aimed at the full expression of the unity of all believers in Christ. The Scriptures themselves contain Jesus's moving prayer to the Father that his disciples might be one, so that the world may believe. All this can only strengthen our conviction that by listening and meditating together on the Scriptures, we experience a real, albeit not yet full communion; "shared listening to the Scriptures thus spurs us on towards the dialogue of charity and enables growth in the dialogue of truth."



PRAYER & LITURGY

TONY CLAYTON of Taylors Avenue died last week at 87 yrs of age. Our sympathies go out to his family. His funeral Mass will be held in church in private shortly. *May he rest in peace.*

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Luisa Rodia who will be baptised this weekend.

A DECADE OF THE ROSARY will be recited before each Sunday Mass in this month of October, month of the holy rosary.

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.**

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.

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: 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 is suspended for the time being.

FINANCE

PARISH FINANCE. The parish is grateful for the many new Standing Orders that have helped parish finances during the pandemic. September's income was also up, so thank you! However, the covering of parish costs is still a big problem. The parish bank a/c has decreased by about £13k 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>

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 is thinking of inviting those who have already returned to Mass to be confirmed in groups of 3 or 4 at parish Masses between now and Christmas. 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 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

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

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. October issue now available.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will continue his new round of house visits (door-step visits) this week (**Wednesday afternoon**) on the Hundred-Acre estate: postcodes EN11 9N*.

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 17th October ST IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, Bishop 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Carlo & Francesca Di Maria RIP</i>	PAGE 143 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Isaiah 45: 1, 4–6 <i>I have taken Cyrus by his right hand to subdue nations before him.</i> Ps 95 — Give the Lord glory and power.
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 18th Oct TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Patrick White</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Filippo Adamo RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>Lisa O'Sullivan RIP anniv.</i>	2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1: 1–5 <i>We constantly remember your faith, your love and your hope.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Matthew 22: 15–21 <i>Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.</i>
Mon 19th October 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Tony Clayton RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 5 (p. 67) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)
Tues 20th October 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Michael Cadwallader RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 1st Reading: Exodus 22: 20–26 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1: 5–10 Gospel: Matthew 22: 34–40
Wed 21st October 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Tony Clayton 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.
Thurs 22nd October ST JOHN PAUL II, Pope 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Private intention</i> 6pm Adoration	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Fri 23rd October <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration / 11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Michael & Vincent Byrne RIP</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.
Sat 24th October SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Rosalia Dilena RIP</i>	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
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Vincenzo Graffato RIP</i> Sun 25th Oct THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF YR 9.15am Mass <i>Eileen & Patrick Carolan</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Francesco Borrelli RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	
* 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.*