

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

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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)

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Year A

CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING

22nd NOVEMBER 2020

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

He will take his seat on his throne of glory ...

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THIS FINAL SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH'S YEAR, FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING, is a chance to pray, along with Catholics across the country, for an end to the pandemic. In particular, Saturday (21st Nov) – feast of the Presentation of Mary, as well as vigil of Christ the King – has been set aside as a day of prayer for

an end to this devastating global affliction. May the Lord hear our prayers, and continue to sustain us in our personal sacrifices, as well as inspiring medics caring for sick patients, and biologists researching vaccines, to be successful in their crucial work at this time. 'Christ the King' is a beautiful feast, established just last century by Pope Pius XI, allowing us, as the year ends, to bring all things – "the joys and hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age," as Vatican II said – to the feet of our divine ruler for His gracious and benevolent blessing.

As well as last week's [Prayer Sheet no. 1](#), I have prepared [Prayer Sheet no. 2](#) for these weeks when public Mass is not available to you. Please God, as plans currently stand, we shall be able to return to Mass from Thurs 3rd Dec, and therefore for the Second Sunday of Advent, too. Let's pray that this remains possible, so that we can be back at Mass in good time for the great feast of Christmas. Until then, *our church is open all day long*, with Adoration morning and evening.

OBVIOUSLY THE PARISH HAS TAKEN ANOTHER FINANCIAL 'HIT' THIS MONTH, because of this second period of suspension of public Mass. Please continue to give to the parish as generously as you are able, to support our finances, either putting your offerings (e.g. offertory envelopes) through the Presbytery door, or by Standing Order or other online means: details available inside the Newsletter. Thank you!

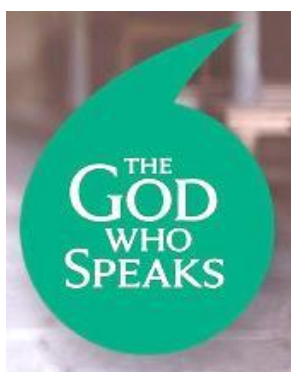
May Christ the King, ruler of the world, drive away this pandemic's afflictions.

Fr Philip



2019/20 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 48

Every saint is like a ray of light streaming forth from the word of God: we can think of Saint Ignatius of Loyola in his search for truth and in his discernment of spirits; Saint John Bosco in his passion for the education of the young; Saint John Mary Vianney in his awareness of the grandeur of the priesthood as gift and task; Saint Pius of Pietrelcina in his serving as an instrument of divine mercy; Saint Josemaria Escrivá in his preaching of the universal call to holiness; Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, the missionary of God's charity towards the poorest of the poor, and then the martyrs of Nazism and Communism, represented by Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), a Carmelite nun, and by Blessed Aloysius Stepinac, the Cardinal Archbishop of Zagreb.



PRAYER & LITURGY

CONO MIRAGLIOTTA of Middlefield Road died recently, aged 78. His funeral will be held in church in private. Our sympathies go out to his family.
May he rest in peace.

NOVEMBER LIST OF THE DECEASED: 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.

CHURCH OPENING: the church is open daily (c. 8.30am-7pm), with **Adoration** at the beginning and at the end of the day for an hour or more. 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.

PUBLIC SUSPENSION OF MASS: Mass is celebrated by Fr Joshy & Fr Philip in private.

- The suspension of public Mass means that the *obligation to attend Sunday Mass is removed* for the duration of the suspension.
- *Parish Masses*, for the intentions requested, will be offered without fail, even though in private. Please continue to ask for Masses to be offered, and these will be published in the Newsletter as usual.
- *Sunday Mass can be followed online* from various churches. This is not an obligation, but would be a pious practice in order to stay in touch with the rhythm of the Church's devotional life. E.g., *Bishops Stortford*, <http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford>; *Westminster Cathedral*: <https://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk/>; *The Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham*: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>
- *The readings for Mass* can be found every day on the 'Universalis' website <http://www.universalis.com/mass.htm>
- You don't have to be a FaceBook user to view our parish page, as it's open-access: www.facebook.com/CatholicHoddesdon – I will be adding a *video* of my homily to this page, so that I can continue to offer you my reflections on the Sundays and feasts.
- A *resource for daily spiritual nourishment* is the '[Pause for Faith](#)' YouTube channel hosted by

Westminster priest Fr Stephen Wang: 30-min reflections, very accessible.

- *Confessions* – available by request 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.

DRIVE-IN CAROL SERVICE (CHURCHES TOGETHER) will be held at Paradise Wildlife Park on **20th December** at 5.30pm & 7.30pm. Please put the date in your diary and more details will follow in due course.

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION would usually be taken at this time of the year. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices & parishes. By supporting the fund, you can help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met. You can donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations or use the QR code alongside:



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 ask 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:

<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: the intended small-group celebrations of Confirmation have had to be put on hold for now. So sorry about this!

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

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSIONS 2021-22: If your child was born between 1st Sept 2016 and 31st August 2017, you can apply for a Primary School place to start in September 2021. The application process closes on the **15th Jan 2021**. The school will be providing a virtual video of the Reception class environment and will be setting up remote meetings. Please check the school website www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk for the link to the sign-up form, dates, and times. Application form is available here:

<https://staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/ofsted/admissions>

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will resume his house visits in December.

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 21st Nov PRESENTATION OF THE B VIRGIN MARY Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	PAGE 158 in the Mass books
Private Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	1st Reading: Ezekiel 34: 11–12, 15–17 <i>As for you, my sheep, I will judge between sheep and sheep.</i>
Sun 22nd Nov CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING Private Mass <i>Bert Zwager RIP anniv.</i> Private Mass <i>Patricia Castaldi RIP</i> Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	Ps 22 — <i>The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.</i>
Mon 23rd Nov Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20–26, 28 <i>He will hand over the kingdom of God the Father, so that God may be all in all.</i>
Tues 24th November ST ANDREW Dŭng-Lac, Priest Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!</i>
Wed 25th November ST CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, Martyr Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	Gospel: Matthew 25: 31–46 <i>He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men from one another.</i>
Thurs 26th November Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	PREFACE TODAY: Christ the King (p. 68) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)
Fri 27^h November <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)</p>
Sat 28th Nov SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY Private Mass <i>Jean & Pat Walsh RIP</i>	1st Reading: Isaiah 63: 16–17, 64: 1, 3–8 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 3–9 Gospel: Mark 13: 33–37
Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	
Sun 29th Nov FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Private Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> Private Mass <i>Laurence & Tona Aquilina RIP</i> Private Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	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.
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
REGULAR EVENTS	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> 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 style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.
	<p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</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.*