

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-1pm)

Also in residence: Fr Joshy Philip (National chaplain to Knanayan community)

Safeguarding parish rep: Rhian Hanson – hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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Year B

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

17th JANUARY 2021

Gospel: John 1: 35-42

They saw where He lived and stayed with Him



My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

HAVING CONCLUDED THE CHRISTMAS SEASON LAST WEEKEND, we start now on these Ordinary Sundays of the Year in which we hear of the early part of Our Lord's public ministry. In the Gospel passage today, St John the Baptist points St Andrew, and another disciple, in the direction of Jesus, that they follow Him instead now. "Come and see," says Jesus to them!

BELMONT ABBEY IN HEREFORD, a monastery I know well and usually visit for retreat every couple of years, has been offering online reflections through these past months via their website. Their latest, which goes live on Saturday (16th) is on St Mark's Gospel, '[The Mysteries of Mark.](#)' This is

timely because in 'Year B' of the church lectionary we mostly hear from the Gospel of St Mark on Sundays (this Sunday is an exception!). I do recommend the reflections provided by Dom Brendan of Belmont Abbey – they are gentle, but thought-provoking too, and ideal for this time.

NATIONAL TIER-5 RESTRICTIONS still permit your access to Mass and the church, which is open c. 8.15am-7pm daily. We must strictly adhere to the usual hygiene protocols: face coverings to be worn; hand gel to be used on entry & exit; *sitting only with those of our own household or support bubble* and at least 2m from anyone else; and to avoid chatting or gathering together in or outside church. Surfaces that are touched, such as door handles and pews are sanitized regularly.

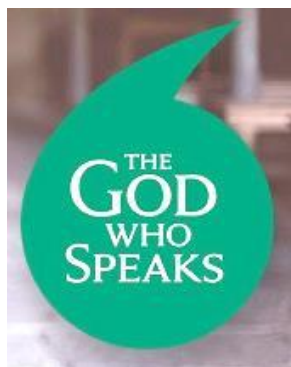
May the Lord sustain you spiritually with faith & hope through this pandemic. **Fr Philip**

2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 52

To understand the word of God, we need to appreciate and experience the essential meaning and value of the liturgical action. *A faith-filled understanding of sacred Scripture must always refer back to the liturgy,* in which the word of God is celebrated as a timely and living word: "In the liturgy the Church faithfully adheres to the way Christ himself read and explained the sacred Scriptures, beginning with his coming forth in the synagogue and urging all to search the Scriptures."

Here one sees the sage pedagogy of the Church, which proclaims and listens to sacred Scripture following the rhythm of the liturgical year. This expansion of God's word in time takes place above all in the Eucharistic celebration and in the Liturgy of the Hours. At the centre of everything the Paschal Mystery shines forth, and around it radiate all the

mysteries of Christ and the history of salvation which become sacramentally present ... [The] deep meaning of the word of God ... unfolds each year in the liturgy, revealing the fundamental mysteries of our faith. This is in turn the basis for a correct approach to sacred Scripture.



PRAYER & LITURGY

VINCENZO MARTORANA of Tovey Avenue died recently, aged 78. His funeral will be held in private in the church with Don Antonio.

MARIANO PALOMBELLI of Old Highway dies recently, aged 91. His funeral will be held soon in church in private.

GIUSEPPE CHIAZZA of Hailey Lane died recently, aged 60. His funeral will be held in church in private.

MARY O'DONOVAN of Jersey Close died recently, aged 87. Her funeral will be held in church in private.

Our sympathies go out to their families.
May they rest in peace.

CRIB APPEAL: LAST CHANCE! Crib Offerings are donated to the *Catholic Children's Society*. Since March, the Society has provided emergency food & essentials, as well as mental-health services, for 5,500+ children & their parents/carers. These families have faced desperate situations due to the pandemic. There are many more families in need of support, so please consider making a donation.

PARISH TIMETABLE: sees the church open daily (c. 8.15am – 7pm) and Mass and Adoration at the usual times. Evening **Adoration (6-7pm) continues Monday-Friday**. Low-level supervision operates throughout each day, to ensure that all is safe: volunteer parishioners 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.

CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC MASS:

- Parish volunteer stewards ensure that those arriving at Mass adhere to the protocols regarding hygiene and distancing.
- *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.
- *Please note that the toilets will remain CLOSED.*
- *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.

FINANCE

PARISH FINANCE is greatly helped by the many new Standing Orders set up last year. However, covering parish costs is still a big problem. The parish bank a/c decreased by about £11.5k across 2020.

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, 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!

YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry at each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? *Retrouvaille* helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. There is no group therapy or group work. The programme has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. **The next 'virtual weekend retreat' takes place 25th-28th February.** For confidential information about *Retrouvaille*, or to register for the next programme, call 07887-296983 or 07973-380443, or e-mail retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

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.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: **make a difference as a CaFOD volunteer.** CaFOD Westminster is looking for volunteers, who care about global poverty, to help us inspire others to act here, so we can tackle poverty and injustice across the developing world. Are you a 'people person' who would relish involving and encouraging others? Are you a good communicator who would enjoy speaking about our work in a Parish or School? Please get in touch on westminster@cafod.org.uk or 020-8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of our CAFOD online information sessions.

GLOBAL CATHOLIC CLIMATE MOVEMENT – LENT COURSE: in 2015, Pope Francis published his ground-breaking letter on the environment *Laudato Si'*. This Lent, we are inviting you to join us for a series of reflective evenings with inspiring speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film resource 'Global

Healing.' These engaging documentaries will inform and challenge us to respond to Pope Francis's call to "care for our common home."
When? 6 Thursdays 18th Feb – 25th March, 7.30–8.30pm. **How to join?** To register click [HERE](#) or e-mail jane@catholicclimatemovement.global
"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience ... Truly, much can be done!" (Laudato Si', 217, 180)

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL NURSERY 2021: applications process opens on Mon 18th January. We are now offering up to 30 hrs provision (subject to availability). Videos of the Nursery-class environment and application form are available here:

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

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL has a small number of vacancies in years 2, 3, 4 & 5. Please contact the school for more info on 463549.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS



GOOD NEWS!! 'Awards for All' from the National Lottery, has awarded us a £9k+ grant to complete the upgrade of our crypt-hall flooring. The very 'tired' 25-yr-old carpet will be replaced with 2 types of flooring, one part matching the crypt-kitchen floor, for easily-cleaning areas where food is served, and the other for the remainder of the crypt. The work will commence as soon as possible.

UNDER-5s 200 CLUB: The January winner of the 200 Club is no. 14, Andrea Smith. Congrats!

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will discontinue his house visits for the time being owing to the national Tier-5 'lockdown' restrictions.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOKS 2021 available to buy for £4.50 from the back of the church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES can be viewed online <https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs>.

MARSHAL VOLUNTEERS: vaccinations against the virus are taking place in Barclay Hall, by Hoddesdon Anglican Church. The NHS is asking for volunteers to help with marshalling. The session would be for 4 hours (8.45am-1pm or 12.45-5pm. The marshals would need to be outside during this time. If you are interested in volunteering, contact docforrest@hotmail.com.

CHURCH CLEANING – a special rota will be devised now that the church is open again.

**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 16th Jan SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Cono Miragliotta RIP rec. dec.</i>	PAGE 127 in the Mass books 1st Reading: 1Sam 3:3–10, 19 <i>Speak, Lord, Your servant is listening.</i>
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* Giovannina & Antonio Minichiello RIP	Ps 39 — Here I am, Lord! I come to do Your will.
Sun 17th Jan SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YR 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass Giuseppe Tambuzzo RIP 5pm Mass Connie Murphy RIP 1st anniv.	2nd Reading: 1Cor 6:13–15, 17–20 <i>Your bodies are members, making up the Body of Christ.</i> Gospel Accl: Alleluia, alleluia! <i>Speak, Lord, Your servant is listening — You have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!</i>
Mon 18th January 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Edith Brett RIP 6–7pm Adoration	Gospel: John 1: 35–42 <i>They saw where He lived, and stayed with Him.</i>
Tues 19th January ST WULSTAN, bishop 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Ken Parker RIP 6–7pm Adoration	PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 2 (p. 54) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 2 (p. 25)
Wed 20th January 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Giorgio Azzopardi RIP 6–7pm Adoration	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) 1st Reading: Jonah 3: 1–5, 10 2nd Reading: 1Cor 7: 29–31 Gospel: Mark 1: 14–20
Thurs 21st January ST AGNES, virgin martyr 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass Mary Knivett RIP rec. dec. 6–7pm 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.
Fri 22nd Jan ST VINCENT, deacon & martyr 11am Adoration/11.45am Benediction 12 noon Mass Kathleen Fitzpatrick RIP 6–7pm Adoration	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sat 23rd Jan SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Phil & Leo Cowhig RIP	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.
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* Cono Miragliotta RIP rec. dec.	SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.
Sun 24th Jan THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YR 9.15am Mass Antonio Mezzullo RIP 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 5pm Mass Margaret Gannon RIP	Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699
<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 ciascuna 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.*