

# The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

Tel: 01992-440986

Fax: 01992-440244

Web-site: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon>



E-mail: [hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk)

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](mailto:hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – [italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

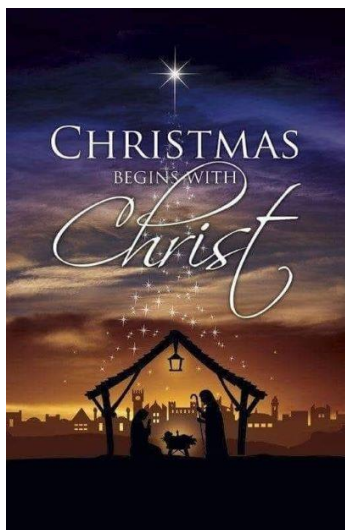
**Year B**

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY**

**3<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2021**

Gospel: John 1: 1-18

*The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.*



**My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,**

**\*\*\* UPDATE, 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY \*\*\*** ... SORRY TO ANNOUNCE, after the Newsletters had already been printed and distributed on Sunday, that for health reasons Fr Joshy & I will have to suspend public Mass for a while from Monday 4<sup>th</sup>. **There WILL be Mass on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> (9.15am & 11.15am ONLY)** said by one of the priests from Bishops Stortford. We expect to resume a full programme of Mass from **Wed 13<sup>th</sup> January**. The Mass intentions will still be celebrated, in private, or moved to later dates in January. Sorry for this, but it has become necessary.

**A BLESSED & HAPPY ONGOING CHRISTMASTIDE TO YOU!** Please keep up your Christmas decorations at least to the 6<sup>th</sup> January (Epiphany) – or even to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Sun 10<sup>th</sup>) – because our Christmas celebration as Christians is not a one-day wonder! We keep a *season* of several feasts, of

which Christmas Day is just the first: we have the Octave of Christmas, culminating in Mary, Mother of God (Jan 1<sup>st</sup>); and then the second full week of Christmas in the middle of which we keep Epiphany. These are all sacred days of celebration, and I urge you to keep your cribs up at home – and to visit the parish Crib – and to maintain your focus on the wonder of God made man.

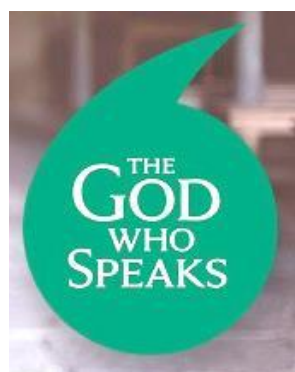
**ST JOHN'S BEAUTIFUL AND FAMOUS PROLOGUE** to the Gospel is the text we hear at Mass today, as we contemplate the great mystery of the birth of the Son of God. St John reminds us that this was the plan of God from the beginning, nurtured in His loving heart, and brought to fulfilment when "the Word became flesh, He dwelt amongst us, and we saw His glory."

**HERTFORDSHIRE'S BEING IN TIER 4** doesn't affect your access to the church, which is open c. 8.30am-6pm daily; it's a matter of the usual hygiene protocols: face coverings to be worn, hand gel to be used on entry and exit, and to avoid chatting or gathering together. The church pews are sanitized regularly.

**May the Lord continue to bless you with joy and peace and a Happy New Year!** **Fr Philip**

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

In considering the Church as "*the home of the word*", attention must first be given to the sacred liturgy, for the liturgy is the privileged setting in which God speaks to us in the midst of our lives; he speaks today to his people, who hear and respond. Every liturgical action is by its very nature steeped in sacred Scripture. In the words of ... *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, "sacred Scripture is of the greatest importance in the celebration of the liturgy. From it are taken the readings, which are explained in the homily and the psalms that are sung. From Scripture the petitions, prayers and liturgical hymns receive their inspiration and substance. From Scripture the liturgical actions and signs draw their meaning."



## PRAYER & LITURGY

**MARY KNIVETT**, formerly of Benstede Court, Hoddesdon died recently, aged 88. Her funeral will be held in Chichester where she has lived near her daughter since 2019. Mass will be offered here for Mary on 21<sup>st</sup> January.

**MARY RYAN** of Murchison Road died recently, aged 79. Her funeral will be held in church in private.

Our sympathies go out to their families.

*May they rest in peace.*

**WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH** Sienna Ednie who will be baptised this weekend.

**CRIB APPEAL:** our 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 over 5,500 children & their parents/carers. These families have faced desperate situations due to the coronavirus pandemic. There are many more families in need of support, so please consider making a donation.

**PARISH TIMETABLE:** the church is open daily (c. 8am – 7pm) with Mass 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.

### **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 this year. However, covering parish costs is still a big problem. The parish bank a/c has decreased by about £12.5k 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:

<b>Account Name:</b>	<b>WRCDT Hoddesdon</b>
<b>Sort Code:</b>	<b>40-05-20</b>
<b>Account Number:</b>	<b>31264370</b>

You can also give by Virgin Money Giving: by using this link [tiny.cc/8xn0tz](https://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!

### 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.

**BROXBORNE WINTER NIGHT SHELTER** will not take place in 2021 as the council is now housing guests and providing starter-packs of kitchen, bedroom & bathroom essentials. Thank you to all those who helped over the last 2 yrs!

### SCHOOLS

**ST CROSS SCHOOL HEADTEACHER,** Mrs Joanne Walsh, writes: due to the current restrictions with COVID-19, visits for prospective parents of the Reception intake 2021 are not feasible. I 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](http://www.stcross.herts.sch.uk). Applications for the September 2021 intake opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 and the deadline for return is **15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021**. Application forms can be downloaded at [www.stcross.herts.sch.uk/site/data/attachments/P42/St-Cross-School-SIF-2021.214052967.pdf](http://www.stcross.herts.sch.uk/site/data/attachments/P42/St-Cross-School-SIF-2021.214052967.pdf).

**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 **15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. The school is providing socially distanced tours and a face-to-face meeting with the Headteacher. Please check the school website [www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk](http://www.staugustines.herts.sch.uk) for the link to the sign-up form, dates, and times of each tour. Videos of the Reception class environment and an application form are available here: <https://staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/sign-upform>

**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

**HOUSE VISITS:** Fr Philip will continue his house visits on **Wednesday afternoon**, in the postcodes EN11 9F\*.

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

**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. The NHS will draw up a rota of volunteers, so people could volunteer for just one session a week. It is unsure when the programme will start and finish at the moment, but could start in December and go on for 2 months. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact [docforrest@hotmail.com](mailto:docforrest@hotmail.com).

**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
<p><b>Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan SS BASIL THE GREAT &amp; GREGORY NAZIANZEN</b>            9.30am Adoration            10am Mass <i>Private intention</i></p>	<p><b>PAGE 112 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Ecclesiasticus 24: 1–2, 8–12  <i>The wisdom of God has pitched her tent among the chosen people.</i></p>
<p>4pm Italian Mass*            6.30pm Mass <i>Samuel Mungai's intentions</i></p> <p><b>Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan SECOND SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY</b>            9.15am Mass <i>Enzo Genuardi RIP</i>            11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>            5pm Mass <i>Wilfred Maciel &amp; Stanley Almeida RIP</i></p>	<p><b>Ps 147 — <i>The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.</i></b></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Ephesians 1: 3–6, 15–18  <i>He determined that we should become his adopted sons through Jesus.</i></p>
<p><b>Mon 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>            Private Mass <i>In thanksgiving</i></p> <p><b>Tues 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>            Private Mass <i>Henry &amp; Freda Benge RIP</i></p> <p><b>Wed 6<sup>th</sup> January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>            Private Mass <i>Sinead Azzopardi RIP</i>            Private Mass <i>Kay McGrath RIP</i></p> <p><b>Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>            Private Mass <i>Luisa Di Palma RIP</i></p> <p><b>Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>            Private Mass <i>Maria Reveglia &amp; Americo Pascale</i></p> <p><b>Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>            Private Mass <i>Lisa O'Sullivan RIP</i></p>	<p><b>Gospel Accl:</b> <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to be you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans; Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!</i></p> <p><b>Gospel:</b> John 1: 1–18  <i>The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.</i></p> <p><b>PREFACE TODAY:</b> Christmas III (p. 53)  <b>EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:</b> no. 3 (p. 28)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS            THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD            (YEAR B)</b></p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 55: 1–11  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 John 5: 1–9  <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 1: 7–11</p>
<p>4pm Italian Mass*            Private Mass* <i>For the Parish</i></p> <p><b>Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Jan THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>            9.15am Mass <i>Kevin &amp; Baby William O'Bryan RIP</i>            11.15am Mass <i>Benedetto &amp; Vincenza Provenzano RIP anniv.</i></p>	<p><b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b>            Saturday 10.30 – 11am &amp; 5.30 – 6.15pm            Sunday 8.30 – 9am &amp; 10.40 – 11am            or ask Fr Philip at any other time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROSARY</b></p> <p>The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>	<p><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b>            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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b></p> <p>Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust            Registered Charity No. 233699</b></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.*