

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

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

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Year B

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7th FEBRUARY 2021

Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39 – *He cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

IN ORDER TO LIMIT TRAVEL TO/FROM POSTCODES EN10, whilst the Public-Health authorities investigate and test for the latest Coronavirus variant, Bishop Paul McAleenan, auxiliary bishop in Herts, has asked the three parishes local to EN10 to suspend the public Liturgy of the Church for a short period. This means that, sadly, there will be **NO PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF MASS** here until we resume on Ash Wednesday, 17th February. The church will still be open daily 8.30/8.45am till 7pm for private prayer, and for some of that time each day there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.



IN OUR ONGOING GOSPEL READINGS FROM MK 1, we hear of the renowned care that Jesus had for those who were sick. Beginning with St Peter's mother-in-law, Our Lord heals countless sick people in Capernaum, and it is for this that he is suddenly famed and overrun with requests. It is always right that we bring our petitions to Jesus for those who are sick with great devotion, and to implore Him to be close to them in their sufferings. See: <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Prayer/Responses/Sickness.shtml>

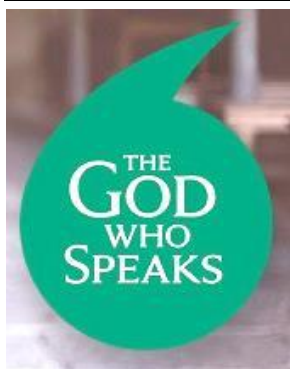
THIS IS A GOOD MOMENT TO REMIND YOU that although I am currently unable to make regular house visits even to the housebound, and take them Holy Communion at home as in normal times, yet I am *always* able to make home visits for [Confession, Holy Communion and] the Anointing of the Sick for those who are dangerously ill or nearing their death. I have anointed at least 3 parishioners in the past couple of weeks in just these circumstances, taking all the proper and necessary precautions. God bless all our frail parishioners.

May the Lord in His love & divine kindness be especially close to you who are sick. Fr Philip

2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 54

The profound unity of word and Eucharist is grounded in the witness of Scripture, attested to by the Fathers of the Church, and reaffirmed by the Second Vatican Council. Here we think of Jesus's discourse on the bread of life in the synagogue of Capernaum, with its underlying comparison between Moses and Jesus. ... Jesus's discourse on the bread speaks of the gift of God, which Moses obtained for his people with the manna in the desert, which is really the *Torah*, the life-giving word of God. In his own person Jesus brings to fulfilment the ancient image: "The bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world" ... "I am the bread of life." ... "When we encounter Jesus, we feed on the living God himself, so to speak; we truly eat 'the bread from

heaven'." In the discourse at Capernaum, John's Prologue is brought to a deeper level. There God's *Logos* became flesh, but here this flesh becomes "*bread*" given for the life of the world, with an allusion to Jesus' self-gift in the mystery of the cross, confirmed by the words about his blood being given as *drink*. The mystery of the Eucharist reveals the true manna, the true bread of heaven: it is God's *Logos* made flesh, who gave himself up for us in the paschal mystery.



PRAYER & LITURGY

MARY O'DONOVAN of Jersey Close died recently, aged 87.

KEITH NEWELL of Wulfrath Way, Ware, died recently, aged 76.

WILLIAM COLLINS of Belmont View died recently, aged 91.

MADGE PHELAN of Park Road died recently, aged 88.

Their funerals will be held in private. Our sympathies go out to their families.

May they rest in peace.

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 so. 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 *obligation to attend Sunday Mass* is currently removed.
- *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 – Fr Philip will be adding a *video* of his homily to this page, so that he can continue to offer

you his reflections on the Sunday readings.

- Funerals will go ahead as arranged, for those invited. Parishioners cannot at present just 'turn up' for a funeral, since there is a cap of 30 mourners for funerals, and these 30 will generally be invited directly by the family.

FINANCE

PARISH FINANCE has 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. As soon as it seems safe to resume classes and preparation for these sacraments, we will do so,

but it is clear that for now this is not yet the case.

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.

CAFOD: This Lent, why not challenge yourself by doing a *Walk for Water* to fight poverty, in solidarity with people who must walk to collect clean water? This year, CAFOD's aim is to help people like 23-yr old Abdella, who lives in Afar, Ethiopia, one of the hottest places on earth. Like 100s of people there, he spends up to 10 hrs. every day, walking to get water for his family to drink! <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

CARITAS VOLUNTEER FAIR "Step Forward in Love" is an online event which will be held on Wed 10th Feb 11am-1pm. Whether you want to try volunteering for the first time or are looking for a new role, come and find out what volunteering opportunities are out there at the moment. Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/caritas-volunteer-fair-tickets-135713539851>

CATHOLIC CLIMATE MOVEMENT – LENT COURSE: in 2015, Pope Francis published his ground-breaking letter on the environment *Laudato Si'*. This Lent, there is a series of reflective evenings with inspiring speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film resource 'Global Healing.' These 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 opened on Mon 18th January. Now offering up to 30 hrs provision (subject to availability). Videos of nursery-class environment and application form 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.

200 CLUB WINNER for Feb is no. 196, Jacqueline Fairgrieve. Congratulations!

EU CITIZENS: the diocese would like to remind any parishioners who are EU citizens (other than Irish), who were resident before 30th Dec 2020, and who do not already have 'permanent right to remain,' that they need to have applied via the EU Settlement Scheme before the **30th June 2021** in order to continue living in the UK. If you have not yet applied, you should do so now: <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip has discontinued his house visits for the time being owing to the

national Tier-5 'lockdown' restrictions.

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.

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

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

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

**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 6th Feb ST PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS Private Mass <i>Fr Paul Sanders RIP rec. dec.</i>	PAGE 134 in the Mass books
NO Italian Mass* Private Mass* Mary O'Donovan RIP rec. dec. Sun 7th Feb FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YR Private Mass Irene Willmer RIP anniv. Private Mass Clare Foxton-Bairwal RIP Private Mass For the Parish	1st Reading: Job 7: 1-4, 6-7 <i>Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.</i> Ps 146 — Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted. 2nd Reading: 1Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23 <i>I should be punished if I did not preach the Gospel.</i> Gospel Accl: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!</i> Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39 <i>He cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another.</i> PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 5 (p. 55) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)
Mon 8th February ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA Private Mass The Clayton Family intentions Tues 9th February Private Mass William Collins RIP rec. dec. Wed 10th February ST SCHOLASTICA, Virgin Private Mass Keith Newell RIP rec. dec. Thurs 11th February OUR LADY OF LOURDES Private Mass Theresa Delaney's intentions Fri 12th February Private Mass Mary O'Donovan RIP rec. dec. Sat 13th February SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY Private Mass Mary O'Donovan RIP rec. dec.	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)</p> 1st Reading: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46 2nd Reading: 1Cor 10:31-11:1 Gospel: Mark 1: 40-45
NO Italian Mass* Private Mass* Etong Alfonso RIP & Rizalina Gonzales RIP Sun 14th Feb SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YR Private Mass Molly Zwager RIP Private Mass For the Parish Private Mass Michael Warby RIP rec. dec.	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> Saturday 10.30 – 11 am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11 am or ask Fr Philip at any other time. <p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
<p style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>	<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>

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 parroccchiani 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.*