

# The Announcer

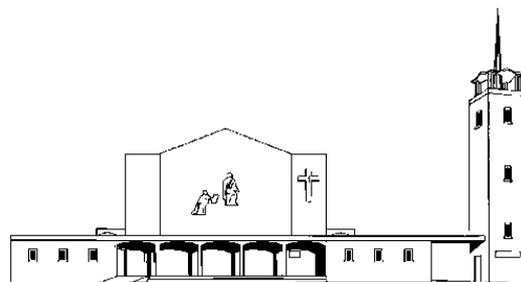
## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

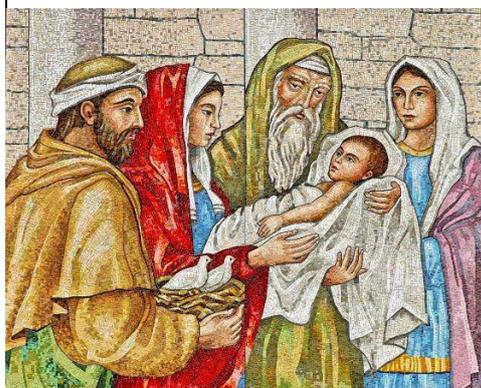
**31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021**

Gospel: Mark 1: 21-28

*He taught them with authority.*

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

**\*\*\* UPDATE, 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY \*\*\*** In order to allow 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 parishes local to EN10 to suspend the public Liturgy of the Church for another period. This means that, after the Mass of Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, there will be **NO PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF MASS** until Ash Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February. The Church will 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.



**I HAVE HAD THE CHRISTMAS CRIB LEFT UP THIS YEAR** until now, till the older, more traditional date for taking down the Crib, namely, Candlemas, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (2<sup>nd</sup> Feb.). It felt like the right thing to do, this year, especially as it has been a difficult and 'dark' January with the pandemic, and we have all needed the divine light of Christmas, the light of the newborn Christ-child, to continue to shine through this first month of 2021. We will celebrate **Candlemas this Tuesday (9.15am Mass)**, with the traditional service of light – the blessing

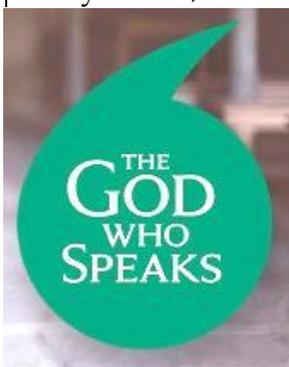
and carrying of candles that precedes the Mass – and so bring this longer 'Christmas season' to a close. May the light of the Lord shine strongly in ourselves and our families and help us all to be filled with the hope that only he gives. As Simeon said, on that occasion in the Temple: "*My eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared for all the nations.*"

**IT'S STILL NOT AN EASY TIME, AND THOSE OF US WHO FEEL ABLE TO COME TO MASS** at this time are very conscious of being present also on behalf of everyone else in the parish. Be assured, that at daily Mass, at Morning Prayer, and at the Mon-Fri (6-7pm) Adoration, your needs are being remembered and prayed for – especially for those sick, bereaved, or anxious.

**May the light of Candlemas, Jesus's presentation, shine upon you! Fr Philip**

**2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 53**

The relationship between word and sacramental gesture is the liturgical expression of God's activity in the history of salvation through the *performative character* of the word itself. In salvation history there is no separation between what God *says* and what he *does*. His word appears as alive and active, as the Hebrew term *dabar* itself makes clear. In the liturgical action too, we encounter his word which accomplishes what it says.



## PRAYER & LITURGY

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

**KEITH NEWELL** of Wulfrath Way, Ware, died recently, aged 76. His funeral will be held in church in private.

**ANNA RE** of Ware Road died recently, aged 78. Her funeral will be held in church in private.

**WILLIAM COLLINS** of Belmont View died recently, aged 91. His 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:

<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 pray for our sick parishioners & friends: Ian Witham, John Lumley, Tallulah Scott.*

**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

## SCHOOLS

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 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://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: DAILY WALK.** Something positive this Lent. Could you walk 10000 steps either on one day or every day this Lent? The walk could be a sign of your solidarity with all those who do not have access to a safe water source and who have to walk for water each day. Find out more or sign up online at [cafod.org.uk/walk](http://cafod.org.uk/walk) and go the distance this Lent to help end water poverty.

**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 18<sup>th</sup> Feb – 25<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30–8.30pm. **How to join?** To register click [HERE](#) or e-mail [jane@catholicclimatemovement.global](mailto: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)*

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL NURSERY 2021:** applications process opens on Mon 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

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

**EU CITIZENS:** the diocese would like to remind any parishioners who are EU citizens (other than Irish), who were resident before 30<sup>th</sup> 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 **30<sup>th</sup> 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>

**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](mailto:docforrest@hotmail.com).

**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.*



<b>Masses this week</b>	<b>Today's Liturgy</b>
<b>Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Jan SATURDAY MASS OF OUR LADY</b> 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>R Parker's intentions</i>	<b>PAGE 132 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Deuteronomy 18: 15–20 <i>I will raise up a prophet and I will put my words into his mouth.</i>  <b>Ps 94 — O that today you would listen to his voice!</b> <i>Harden not your hearts.</i>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1Cor 7: 32–35 <i>An unmarried woman can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy.</i>
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>  <b>Sun 31<sup>st</sup> Jan FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YR</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Mai Raynor RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Win &amp; Peter Daly RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>Thanksgiving &amp; speedy recovery</i>	<b>Gospel Accl:</b> <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!</i>  <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 1: 21–28 <i>He taught them with authority.</i>  <b>PREFACE TODAY:</b> Sundays no. 4 (p. 55) <b>EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:</b> no. 3 (p. 28)
<b>Mon 1<sup>st</sup> February</b> 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass <i>Ettore Forte RIP rec. dec.</i> 6–7pm Adoration  <b>Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> February THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</b> 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass <i>Walters Family intentions</i> 6–7pm Adoration	<b>Next Week's Readings</b> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Job 7: 1–4, 6–7 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1Cor 9: 16–19, 22–23 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 1: 29–39
<b>Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb SS LAURENCE, DUNSTAN &amp; THEODORE</b> 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass <i>Michael Connolly's intentions</i> 6–7pm Adoration  <b>Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> February</b> Private Mass <i>John Cullinane RIP</i>  <b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup> February ST AGATHA, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b> Private Mass <i>Keith Newell RIP rec. dec.</i>	<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.  <b>ROSARY</b> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup> February ST PAUL MIKI &amp; COMPANIONS</b> Private Mass <i>Fr Paul Sanders's intentions</i>  NO Italian Mass* Private Mass* <i>Mary O'Donovan RIP rec. dec.</i>	<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.
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Feb FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YR</b> Private Mass <i>Irene Willmer RIP anniv.</i> Private Mass <i>Clare Foxton-Bairwal RIP</i> Private Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	<b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.  <b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b> <b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b>
* 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 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.*