

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

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**Year B**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**28<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**

Gospel: Mark 15: 1-39 – *The Passion according to St Mark.*

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

**PALM SUNDAY, WITH JESUS'S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY**, marks the start of these most sacred of Christian days, Holy Week. I urge you to keep this week with all the solemnity that it deserves, and especially through your attendance – if you possibly can, and are not 'shielding' for medical reasons – at the ceremonies in church. All the service times for Holy Week are inside the Newsletter, but the crucial times for the **Sacred Triduum** are:



**6pm Holy Thursday Mass; 3pm Good Friday Liturgy; 9pm Holy Saturday (Easter) Vigil**

Each of the Triduum services will be simpler than usual, as there is still an expectation that we should be gathering indoors for shorter times rather than longer. Even so, let us give thanks that we *can* celebrate Holy Week together as a Catholic community, unlike last year when Fr Joshy & I celebrated these beautiful rituals alone! Please note: Good Friday, *the doors will be closed* once we begin the liturgy at 3pm.

**PRAYER:** think of coming to one or other meditation on the **Stations of the Cross** on Good Friday (10am or 7pm); and also use my sixth and final [Lenten prayer sheet](#), included with your Newsletter today.

**FASTING:** this is compulsory for those aged 16-60 on **Good Friday**, along with abstinence from meat for those aged 14+; this ancient practice of penance allows us to focus on the sacred day of the Lord's Cross.

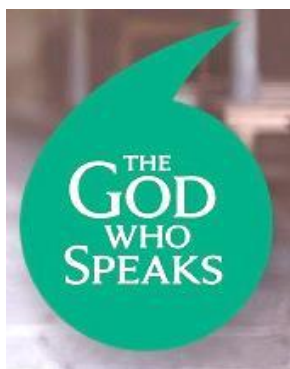
**ALMSGIVING:** as well as charities highlighted through Lent, we are asked to give generously for the **Holy Places** as we attend the rites of Good Friday: this supports the [Franciscan friars in the Holy Land](#) as they care for the sites of Our Lord's ministry, and the ancient Catholic communities of Palestine and beyond.

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION** for you to receive forgiveness before Easter will be offered by Fr Joshy & me at extra times: this week, that will be **Monday 6-7pm, and Wednesday 10-11am**. These will take place during Adoration; Fr Joshy will be in the Lady Chapel; I will be in the Confessional.

**May blessings be poured out upon us all from our crucified Lord! Fr Philip**

**2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 59**

"The homily 'is part of the liturgical action' and is meant to foster a deeper understanding of the word of God, so that it can bear fruit in the lives of the faithful." The homily is a means of bringing the scriptural message to life in a way that helps the faithful to realize that God's word is present and at work in their everyday lives. It should lead to an understanding of the mystery being celebrated, serve as a summons to mission, and prepare the assembly for the profession of faith, the universal prayer and the Eucharistic liturgy. ... The faithful should be able to perceive clearly that the preacher has a compelling desire to present Christ, who must stand at the centre of every homily.



## PRAYER & LITURGY

**JOHN DORAN** of Lichfield Way died recently, aged 80. His funeral will be held in private. Our sympathies go out to his family.

*May he rest in peace.*

### HOLY WEEK

**PALM SUNDAY** 28<sup>th</sup> March: Blessing of Palms will take place at every Mass.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** 1<sup>st</sup> April

8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer

**6pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 2<sup>nd</sup> April

9.45am Morning Prayer

10am Stations of the Cross

**3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion**

7pm Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY:** 3<sup>rd</sup> April

9.45am Morning Prayer

**9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil**

**EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15, 11.15am & 5pm Mass**

*NOTE: The Triduum ceremonies will be simplified because of the current pandemic protocols: e.g. there will be no washing of the Feet, and no watching in prayer till midnight on Maundy Thursday; and no kissing of the Cross on Good Friday. The Easter Vigil will also be more streamlined.*

### **RECONCILIATION BEFORE EASTER**

Fr Philip & Fr Joshy will *both* be available to hear Confessions in church on:

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March: 6-7pm**

**Wed 31<sup>st</sup> March: 10-11am.**

Additionally, Fr Philip will be available for Confessions:

**Holy Thurs: 9.15am & 5-5.30pm**

**Good Fri: 10.45am, 2pm, 4pm & 6.30pm**

**Holy Sat: 10-11am**

**CHURCH OPENING:** c. 8.30am-7pm, with **Adoration** at the beginning and at the end of the day (Mon-Fri). Low-level supervision from volunteer parishioners operates throughout each day, to ensure that all is safe. 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.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HODDESDON** will be hosting "Easter Praise" on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm**. Please view on their FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/CTHBW> for this special Easter event.

**YEAR OF ST JOSEPH** declared by Pope Francis (8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020-21) – [prayer cards](#) are available, and in March, the month of Joseph, extra devotion to him would be very appropriate.

### LENT

**LENTEN ALMS** in support of the [Cardinal's Lenten charity](#): you will find envelopes by the newsletters. Please post envelopes through Presbytery door, or sacristy door by St Anthony.

### FINANCE

**NEW BOXES OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** are now available to collect from the Presbytery office **Mon, Wed & Fri, 9am-1pm**. If you would like to START using envelopes, please contact the Presbytery for a form.

**PARISH FINANCE:** Thank you so much to all who continue to give regularly by S.O., or by envelope throughout this critical time.

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. As soon as it seems safe to resume classes and preparation for these sacraments, we will do so. This may be the case after Easter, but attendance at Sunday Mass would be a pre-requisite.

### JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

**CORONAVIRUS - FOODBANK:** Thank you to parishioners who give so generously for the local FoodBank! 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. FoodBank collection boxes are in the church porch.

### SCHOOLS

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** Governing Body has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor, ideally with legal skills. Training is provided. If you are interested in supporting the school in this way, please contact the Headteacher, Mrs Napier, via [cbranch@staugustines.herts.sch.uk](mailto:cbranch@staugustines.herts.sch.uk).

**ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY**

### **SCHOOL – NURSERY ADMISSIONS 2021.**

Applications are welcome for Nursery Class (Sept 2021) from families whose child reaches their third birthday between 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2021. There are two forms of provision each day: a core offer of 15 hrs; and an extended offer of 30 hrs. COVID-19 restrictions prevent visits to the school at this moment, but the school will be offering remote sessions to meet Headteacher, Mrs Napier, and hear more. For details and to access the application form, please see: <https://staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/ofsted/admissions>

### **ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASS**

has some vacancies in Years 2, 3, 4 & 5. Contact the Herts in-year admissions team: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/in-year-admissions-change-school-during-the-year/in-year-admissions-change-school-during-the-year.aspx> and the School Office for a school application form as you will need to complete both.

### 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 25-yr-old carpet will be replaced with 2 types of flooring, one part like 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 8<sup>th</sup> April.

**HOUSE VISITS:** Fr Philip hopes to resume his house visits ('doorstep visits') after Easter.

**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
<b>Sat 27<sup>th</sup> March</b> 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <b>Mr Renolds RIP</b>	<b>PAGE 176 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 50: 4–7 <i>I did not cover my face against insult, I know I shall not be shamed.</i>
4pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <b>John &amp; Wendy Buttigieg RIP</b>  <b>Sun 28<sup>th</sup> March PALM SUNDAY</b> 9.15am Mass <b>Dec'd members of Mezzullo Family</b> 11.15am Mass <b>Jimmy Hurley RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniv.</b> 5pm Mass <b>For the Parish</b>	<b>Ps 21 — My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?</b>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Philippians 2: 6–11 <i>He humbled himself; but God raised him high.</i>
<b>Mon 29<sup>th</sup> March MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b> 8.15am Adoration <span style="float:right">9am Morning Prayer</span> 9.15am Mass <b>Joy &amp; Justin Ighade's and Tony &amp; Eddy's ints</b> 6pm Adoration	<b>Gospel Accl.:</b> <i>Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!</i>
<b>Tues 30<sup>th</sup> March TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b> 8.15am Adoration <span style="float:right">9am Morning Prayer</span> 9.15am Mass <b>Antonio Domingos</b> 6pm Adoration	<b>Gospel:</b> shorter Passion according to Mark 15:1–39  <b>PREFACE TODAY:</b> Passion (p. 59) <b>EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:</b> no. 2 (p. 25)
<b>Wed 31<sup>st</sup> March WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b> 8.15am Adoration <span style="float:right">9am Morning Prayer</span> 9.15am Mass <b>Jackie's intentions</b> 6pm Adoration	<p style="text-align:center"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> <b>(YEAR B)</b></p>
<b>Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> April MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 8.15am Adoration <span style="float:right">9am Morning Prayer</span> <b>6pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper For the Parish</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 10: 34, 37–43 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Colossians 3: 1–4 <b>Gospel:</b> John 20: 1–9
<b>Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> April GOOD FRIDAY</b> <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+; and fasting for those aged 16–60)</i> 9.45am Morning Prayer <span style="float:right">10am Stations of the Cross</span> <b>3.00pm CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION</b> 7.00pm Stations of the Cross	<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>Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> April HOLY SATURDAY</b> 9.45am Morning Prayer 9.00pm* Mass of the Easter Vigil <b>Priest's int's</b>  <b>Sun 4<sup>th</sup> April EASTER SUNDAY</b> 9.15am Mass <b>Justina Ogbodu's intentions</b> 11.15am Mass <b>For the Parish</b> 5pm Mass <b>Antonino Cuffaro RIP anniv.</b>	<p style="text-align:center"><b>ROSARY</b></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"><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b></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.

**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.*

**Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust**  
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