

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

11th APRIL 2021

Gospel: John 20: 19-31 – *Eight days later, Jesus came.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

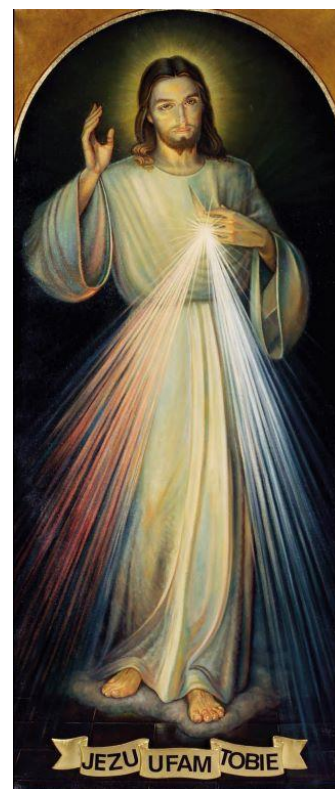
A BLESSED & HAPPY ONGOING EASTER TO YOU! Let's not forget that Easter is a *season*, not a day: we have seven weeks of Eastertide to enjoy and to celebrate the glorious Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour! Today we hear of the appearance "eight days later," when Jesus shows St Thomas His wounded hands and side, and Thomas sinks to His knees in adoration of the risen Jesus: "My Lord and my God!"

Since the pontificate of Pope St John Paul II, this 2nd Sunday of Easter is also known as '**Divine Mercy Sunday**,' a day on which to reflect on and celebrate the devotion which Our Lord promoted through St Faustina Kowalska. The [Divine Mercy chaplet](#) and associated prayers have been adopted by the faithful of the Church with great enthusiasm, centring as they do on the forgiveness and tender mercy of Our Lord's sacred heart, which were poured out lovingly for us as He hung upon the Cross. We will keep Divine Mercy Sunday this year with the 3pm devotions:

Divine Mercy devotions – 3pm, Sunday 11th April

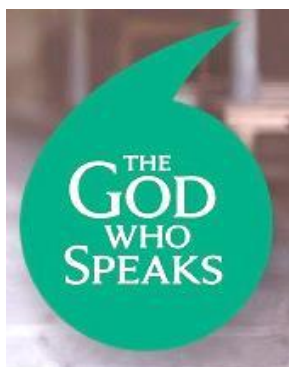
I WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE SUCH GOOD NUMBERS at the Triduum services of Holy Week, and c. 350 at the various Masses of Easter. We reached the safe capacity a couple of times, including on Good Friday, but providentially no-one had to be turned away – God brought just the right number of you to the Passion service that day! I pray that you continue to return, now, to your weekly Sunday Mass: it has been typical that the Saturday evening 6.30pm and Sunday 5pm Masses have had the most space, so please think of adopting these as your Sunday Mass for the time being.

May many joyful blessings and His divine mercy be granted us from our risen Lord! Fr Philip



2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 62

Among the forms of prayer which emphasize sacred Scripture, the Liturgy of the Hours has an undoubted place ... "a privileged form of hearing the word of God, inasmuch as it brings the faithful into contact with Scripture and the living Tradition of the Church." Above all, we should reflect on the profound theological and ecclesial dignity of this prayer. "In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church, exercising the priestly office of her Head, offers 'incessantly' to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. This prayer is 'the voice of a bride speaking to her bridegroom, it is the very prayer that Christ himself, together with his Body, addressed to the Father'."



PRAYER & LITURGY

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.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH declared by Pope Francis (8th Dec 2020–21) – [prayer cards](#) are available.

MAY DEVOTIONS will be held in the presbytery garden by the grotto on **Sunday 23rd May at 3pm**. People will need to be stationary and spaced out – that is, there won't be a 'procession' as such. All are welcome.

FINANCE

CONTACTLESS GIVING AFTER MASS: since many people now carry little or no cash on them, beginning this Easter weekend, all being well, there will be a device for giving your weekly offering to the parish for its upkeep contactlessly, by card. You will find the simple device at the LEFT HAND of the exit doors from church as you leave Mass. Please remember to use hand gel sanitizer before and/or after using the device. Thanks to all those who bravely tried it out last Sunday! It seemed to work well.

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. **Fr Philip & Fr Joshy delivered many of the boxes during the week. If you now have a standing order and don't want your box of envelopes in the future, please contact the presbytery to let us know.**

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:

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: <https://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. We await guidance from the diocese on this matter.

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.

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 1st Sept 2020 and 31st 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-schools-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.

CATHOLIC ETHOS ADVOCATE: The Trustees of St Elizabeth's, Much Hadham are creating a new post to further, celebrate and promote the distinctive Catholic identity and ethos of the Centre. St Elizabeth's is a long-established charity, (which has a school for 5-19 year olds; a College for 18-25 year olds and a Registered Children's Home and Care Home

with Nursing for Adults), providing education, care and medical support on a 52-week basis for up to 200 people of all ages with learning disabilities and other complex medical needs, often caused or complicated by severe epilepsy and/or autism. Salary: c. £40k per annum (dependent upon skills, qualifications and experience, pro-rata where applicable). To apply and to find out more information about St Elizabeth's, visit: www.stelizabeths.org.uk or e-mail recruitment@stelizabeths.org.uk.

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 is being 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 commenced on 8th April with the removal of the old flooring; the new flooring will be installed this week. Many thanks to Mary Briggs for seeing this project through, especially for all the work she and her family have done in clearing the crypt in readiness for this work to happen.

THE CATHOLIC HERALD is now a monthly publication. The April edition is available to buy for £5 from the back of the church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip hopes to resume his house visits ('doorstep visits') this week, on Wednesday afternoon, with visits to parishioners in postcodes: EN11 9F* (Plomer Ave, Christian Close etc.)

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.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 10th April SATURDAY OF EASTER OCTAVE 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Antonino & Franco Martorana RIP</i>	PAGE 255 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Acts 4: 32–35 <i>United, heart and soul.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>John & Wendy Buttigieg RIP</i>	Ps 117 — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
Sun 11th April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass <i>Maureen O'Neill RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>In Thanksgiving</i> 5pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	2nd Reading: 1 John 5: 1–6 <i>Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.</i>
Mon 12th April 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass <i>Bernadette Howard RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	2nd Reading: 1 John 5: 1–6 <i>Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.</i>
Tues 13th April 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass <i>Melville Pereira RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	Gospel Accl.: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Alleluia</i>
Wed 14th April 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass <i>Bridget & Martin Moriarty RIP anniv.</i> 6pm Adoration	Gospel: John 20: 19–31 <i>Eight days later, Jesus came.</i>
Thurs 15th April 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass <i>Enrico Rega RIP anniv.</i> 6pm Adoration	PREFACE TODAY: Easter I (p. 60) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1. (p. 18)
Fri 16th April <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Justin Ighade's intentions</i> 6pm Adoration	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B) 1st Reading: Acts 3: 13–15, 17–19 2nd Reading: 1 John 2: 1–5 Gospel: Luke 24: 35–48
Sat 17th April 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>John & Johanna Doyle RIP</i>	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.
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sun 18th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass <i>Dec'd members of Mercurio Family</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Antonino & Giuseppa Cannatella RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>Samuel Mungai RIP</i>	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.
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date. Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699

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.*