

The Announcer

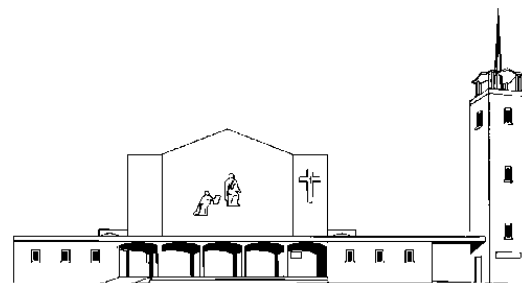
St Augustine's Catholic Church

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 – hoddesdong@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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

Year B

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

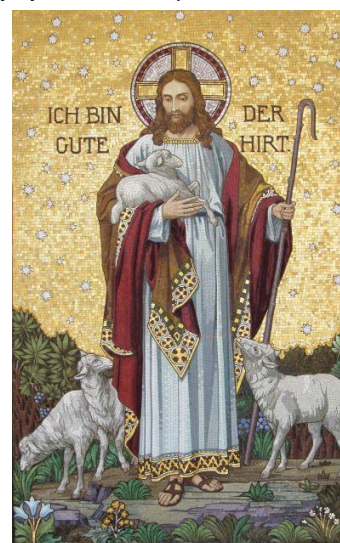
25th APRIL 2021

Gospel: John 10: 11-18 – *The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

'GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY' is the name we often give to this Fourth Sunday of Easter, given that we always hear some excerpt from Jn 10, the chapter in which Our Lord describes Himself as "the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep." It is a beautiful image, and we turn to the Lord for His loving guidance, and to bring us back when we stray.

PART OF OUR TRADITION IS TO KEEP THIS ALSO AS 'VOCATIONS SUNDAY' and we take the chance to support the seminaries where we train our future priests, through the annual collection. The seminary in London, Allen Hall, has recently issued its [Easter 2021 news](#), as it continues, despite the pandemic, to train our seminarians. The seminary in Rome that I attended, the Venerable English College (<https://www.vecrome.org/>), has just announced that a Westminster priest, Fr Stephen Wang, will be its Rector from the autumn, replacing Mgr Philip Whitmore, also of our diocese, who has served as Rector for 8 years. I do urge you to be generous in your giving this weekend to the Priests' Training Fund, either using the envelopes provided last weekend, or via the diocesan website: <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/>

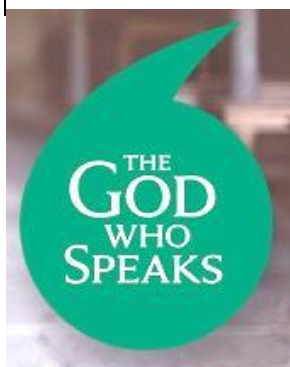


IN ORDER TO CONTINUE SAFELY OPENING THE CHURCH AND CELEBRATING MASS, we need the assistance of many volunteer as open-church supervisors and Mass stewards. A valiant force of parishioners has served in these capacities during the past 10 months, for which we should all be extremely grateful. But there are now some gaps in the supervisors' rota which need covering, so I ask that if anyone is available to offer their services, or to return to assisting after a break – even for just one 2-hr slot a week – could you please get in touch soon with Pat Kavanagh who kindly draws up the rota each week: patandcarolkav@btinternet.com.

May the Good Shepherd guide you to peaceful pastures this week! Fr Philip

2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 68

The *ambo* ... from which the word of God is proclaimed ... should be located in a clearly visible place to which the attention of the faithful will be naturally drawn during the Liturgy of the Word. It should be fixed, and decorated in aesthetic harmony with the *altar*, in order to present visibly the theological significance of *the double table of the word and of the Eucharist*. The readings, the responsorial psalm ... are to be proclaimed from the ambo; it can also be used for the homily and the prayers of the faithful.



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.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY: live-stream from Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 15th May 2021 at 3.00pm. The Cardinal will be celebrating a live-streamed Mass for all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2021. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the following details to the presbytery: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number if no email), and these details will be sent to those organizing this celebration. An Order of Service can be downloaded from the Cathedral website before the event – www.westminstercathedral.org.uk.

MONTH OF OUR LADY: During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed for before each Sunday Mass.

MAY DEVOTIONS in presbytery garden at the grotto: **Sunday 23rd May at 3pm.** You will need to be stationary and spaced out – there won't be a 'procession' as such. Some chairs will be provided for those unable to stand. All 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. It seems to be working well.

NEW BOXES OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES. If you would like to start using envelopes, please contact the Presbytery. **Fr Philip & Fr Joshy delivered many of the boxes during Easter 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 pray for our sick parishioners & friends: Ian Witham, John Lumley, Tallulah Scott, and Ray & Anne Smith.

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: Fr Philip hopes to e-mail the 2020 First-Communion families with some intended plans, this week. Confirmation candidates who have been regularly attending Mass will be invited over the coming months to be confirmed at parish Sunday Masses in groups of 3 or 4.

BAPTISMS are likely to be permitted from 17th May. If you have completed a Baptism course with Fr Philip *previously*, then you can be in touch with the Presbytery to arrange a tentative Sunday-lunchtime date for your child's baptism. The likely numbers of attendees will be small, perhaps only 15 or 30.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Tuesday 4th May in the crypt & Friday 14th May in the church from 7.30-9pm. Only one parent should attend the course and a face covering should be worn.** The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged; to enrol, please contact the presbytery.

WEDDINGS: If you intend to get married in the second half of this year, please contact the presbytery as soon as possible so that dates for the next Marriage-Preparation course can be set.

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.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PRIESTS' TRAINING FUND: this Sunday we pray for priests and for vocations to the

priesthood. **The annual collection for the Priests' Training Fund** helps pay for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 42 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 18 of whom are for our own Diocese; and two men are studying in Rome, also for our diocese. Last year three men were ordained to the priesthood for our diocese. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can donate online anytime at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations.

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 will make house visits ('doorstep visits') this week, on Wednesday afternoon, with visits to parishioners in EN11 9E* (Middlefield Rd 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 24th April SS ERKENWALD & MELLITUS, bishops 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Ken Parker RIP	PAGE 261 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Acts 4: 8–12 <i>This is the only name by which we can be saved.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* Canon John Longstaff & Fr Robert Tollemache RIP annivs.	Ps 117 — The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
Sun 25th April FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass William Anthony RIP 11.15am Mass For the Parish 5pm Mass Tom Star RIP	2nd Reading: 1 John 3: 1–2 <i>We shall see God as he really is.</i> Gospel Accl.: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia
Mon 26th April 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass Ray Smith's intentions 6pm Adoration	Gospel: John 10: 11–18 <i>The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.</i>
Tues 27th April 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass Forgiveness for those who do wrong 6pm Adoration	PREFACE TODAY: Easter III (p. 60) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28)
Wed 28th April 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass Robert Piacentini's intentions 6pm Adoration	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B) 1st Reading: Acts 9: 26–31 2nd Reading: 1 John 3: 18–24 Gospel: John 15: 1–8
Thurs 29th April ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, virgin & dr 8.15am Adoration 9.15am Mass Maureen, Maria & Eddie McGrath 6pm Adoration	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.
Fri 30th April POPE ST PIUS v <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass Carol Sutters' intentions 6pm Adoration	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sat 1st May ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass Joan Molloy RIP rec. dec.	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.
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* Canon Eddie Matthews RIP anniv.	SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.
Sun 2nd May FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass Dec'd members of Tona family 11.15am Mass Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP 5pm Mass For the Parish	Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699
* 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.*