

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

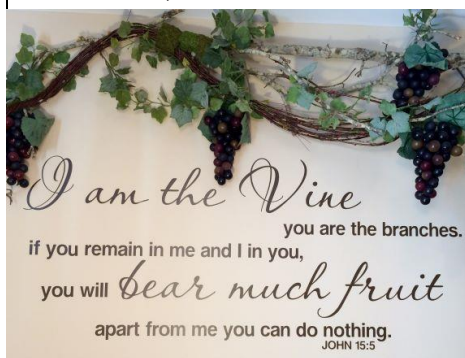
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

2nd MAY 2021

Gospel: John 15: 1-8 – *Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

THE BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND & WALES, meeting at their Spring gathering after Easter, have written a letter to us, entitled '[The Day of the Lord](#),' addressing various issues pertaining to the pandemic, and most of all encouraging the Catholics of the country to begin in earnestness their return to regular Sunday practice at Mass. A copy of this letter is enclosed with your Newsletter, and I encourage you to read the stirring words with which our Bishops remind us of the sacred treasure which is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Jesus truly present in the Eucharist, and our need to be present here with Him.



IN TODAY'S GOSPEL PASSAGE, Our Lord describes Himself as "the True Vine." It's an image that likewise emphasizes the centrality of our being one with Him – present to Him, united with Him – so that we can receive His grace and life. "Apart from Me, you can do nothing," He reminds us! It's a metaphor that is clear and instructive: just as the life flows into the vine only through its being healthy and whole, so the lifeblood of Jesus can only flow into our souls by our being one with Him, and this occurs most

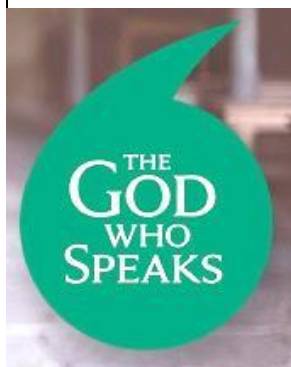
powerfully in our being present with Him at His Sacrifice, as He offers His lifeblood on the altar.

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. Thanks to those who have already offered in the past week!

May the Lord send His life & grace that we may bear much fruit! Fr Philip

2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 69

*The readings drawn from sacred Scripture may never be replaced by other texts, however significant the latter may be from a spiritual or pastoral standpoint: "No text of spirituality or literature can equal the value and riches contained in sacred Scripture, which is the word of God." This is an ancient rule of the Church which is to be maintained. In the face of certain abuses, Pope John Paul II had already reiterated the importance of never using other readings in place of sacred Scripture. The *Responsorial Psalm* is also the word of God, and hence should not be replaced by other texts.*



PRAYER & LITURGY

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS to Giuseppe Siracusa and Laura Morreale married here in the church this weekend. May God bless them in their married life.

JOAN MOLLOY of Chadwick Care Home died recently, aged 95.

CONCETTA LERCARA of Hillside Crescent died recently, aged 65.

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

May they rest in peace.

BANK HOLIDAY MASS on Monday will be at 10am. The church will be closed after Mass.

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

ASCENSION DAY is on **Thursday 13th May** and Mass will be at 9.30am, 12 noon and 6pm.

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.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY live-streamed from Westminster Cathedral, **Saturday 15th May 2021 at 3.00pm**. The Cardinal will be celebrating a Mass for all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th 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 e-mail), 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.

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.

HOLY COMMUNION VISITS: Fr Philip hopes to be able to resume his visits to housebound parishioners after 17th May.

FINANCE

CONTACTLESS GIVING AFTER MASS: since many people now carry little or no cash on them, there is now a device for giving your weekly offering to the parish for its upkeep contactlessly, by card. The 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 is simple to use and seems to be working well.

NEW BOXES OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES. If you would like to start using envelopes, please contact the Presbytery. **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:
<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 e-mailed the 2020 **First-Communion** families with some intended plans, last 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 be in touch with the Presbytery to arrange a tentative Sunday date for your child's baptism. The numbers of attendees will be small, perhaps only 15 or 30.

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

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will make house visits ('doorstep visits') this week, on Wednesday afternoon, with visits to remaining parishioners in EN11 9E* (Manor 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.

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 1st May ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Joan Molloy RIP rec. dec.</i>	PAGE 264 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Acts 9: 26–31 <i>Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his journey.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Canon Eddie Matthews RIP anniv.</i> Sun 2nd May FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass <i>Dec'd members of Tona family</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	Ps 21 — You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly. 2nd Reading: 1 John 3: 18–24 <i>His commandments are these: that we believe in his Son and that we love one another.</i>
Mon 3rd May SS PHILIP & JAMES, apostles 10am Mass <i>Nanette Alfonso Raneses RIP</i> PLEASE NOTE THE CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED AFTER MASS	Gospel Accl.: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. Alleluia</i>
Tues 4th May THE ENGLISH MARTYRS 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Severino Valenzuela RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	Gospel: John 15: 1–8 <i>Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.</i>
Wed 5th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Edward Kenny RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	PREFACE TODAY: Easter IV (p. 60) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 1 (p. 18)
Thurs 6th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>John Doyle RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B) 1st Reading: Acts 10: 25–26, 34–35, 44–48 2nd Reading: 1 John 4: 7–10 Gospel: John 15: 9–17
Fri 7th May <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>David Hale RIP anniv.</i> 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.
Sat 8th May 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Joan Hiscock RIP anniv.</i>	ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 9th May SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass <i>Patricia Castaldi RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Francesco Borrelli RIP 1st anniv.</i> 5pm Mass <i>José Baudelino Torres 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.
<div style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</div>	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.*