

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, Thurs, 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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

16th MAY 2021

Gospel: John 17: 11-19 – *That they may be one like us!*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE CELEBRATED TOGETHER ON THURSDAY THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION, and now we come to the final Sunday of the Easter season before Pentecost. These days between Ascension & Pentecost are a time of special prayer – we think of Our Lady & the apostles gathered in the upper room, awaiting, as Jesus had solemnly promised them, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray daily for the Holy Spirit to be upon us too, as individuals and as a parish, that God may get to work in our lives most powerfully and prayerfully.



THE BISHOPS' CONFERENCE PROVIDES A NOVENA OF PRAYER FOR THESE DAYS on the 'Care of Creation' using the days of creation from *Genesis* as its basis –

it can be viewed here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/environment-novena/>. This ties in also with an emphasis that CaFOD is making at this time with regard to the UK's hosting of the COP26 Climate Conference this coming autumn: <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate>

DO REMEMBER THAT OUR MAY DEVOTIONS AT THE GROTTA will be next weekend: **Sunday 23rd May at 3pm** in the Presbytery garden. This will be a chance to gather safely to pray the Rosary together and to offer Marian hymns & prayers in this month of Our Blessed Lady.

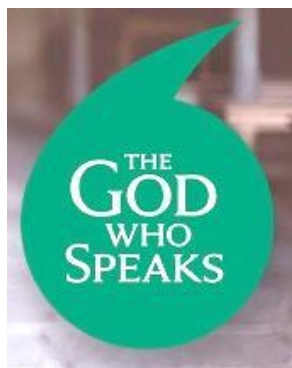
WE CONTINUE, HAPPILY, TO HAVE GRADUALLY INCREASING NUMBERS AT SUNDAY MASS. To help you to utilize all the space in church across the weekend, let me list for you the Mass attendance last weekend: Sat 4pm Italian Mass (50); Sat 6.30pm (55); Sun 9.15am (110); Sun 11.15am (85); Sun 5pm (32). So do make extra use of the Sat and Sun evening Masses, where there is still a lot more space for you to attend.

May the Lord prepare our hearts to long for the Holy Spirit this Pentecost!

Fr Philip

2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 72

Throughout the history of the Church, numerous saints have spoken of the need for knowledge of Scripture in order to grow in love for Christ. This is evident particularly in the Fathers of the Church. Saint Jerome, in his great love for the word of God, often wondered: "How could one live without the knowledge of Scripture, by which we come to know Christ himself, who is the life of believers?" He knew well that the Bible is the means "by which God speaks daily to believers." His advice to the Roman matron Leta about raising her daughter was this: "Be sure that she studies a passage of Scripture each day ... Prayer should follow reading, and reading follow prayer ... so that in the place of jewellery and silk, she may love the divine books." Jerome's counsel to the priest Nepotian can also be applied to us: "Read the divine Scriptures frequently; indeed, the sacred book should never be out of your hands. Learn there what you must teach."



PRAYER & LITURGY

MONTH OF OUR LADY: During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed 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. Simple refreshments will be available in the garden afterwards.

CORPUS CHRISTI (Sunday 6th June): because at present it would not be feasible to have the '40 Hours' devotion – owing to all the cleaning that still has to take place after each Mass etc. – Fr Philip intends to have a **Sunday Holy Hour** (Adoration, Evening Prayer & Benediction) on the feast of Corpus Christi, **3.30pm-4.30pm.**

MASS INTENTIONS: there are many spare *weekday & some weekend dates* for intentions for you to request Mass in the coming weeks. Mass can be offered not only for the deceased, but also for the intentions of the sick, for special intentions, for thanksgiving etc. Intention can be published as 'Private Intention' if you so wish.

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:

- *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.*
- *Confessions* – available again in the usual confessional, but only *kneeling at the grille/curtain*, not face to face.

5PM SUNDAY MASS: Please note that the 5pm Mass will continue for now, but will cease from August, or sooner if we are allowed to resume using all the pews.

THY KINGDOM COME is a service of prayer which will be held on the **19th May at 7.30pm.** It is an event facilitated by Rev. Dr David Chapman, Chair of the Methodist District. There will be a short service of prayer led by Bishop Paul McAleenan, with the support of the Venerable Dave Middlebrook, Archdeacon of Bedford and colleagues from across the churches. This will be followed by a time of open prayer. All are welcome! To register and receive the zoom invite, please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/thy-kingdom-come-churches-together-prayer-evening-tickets-152846141925>

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

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 exit door from church as you leave Mass. It is simple to use and seems to be working well.

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.

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.

CAFOD: As hosts of the G7 Summit, in June, (Cornwall) and the COP26 Climate Talks in November, (Glasgow), the UK has the chance to lead the world in taking responsibility for the climate crisis. CaFOD asks for a couple minutes of your time: do please sign the petition at <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home> urging the PM to make sure the hardest-hit communities are listened to.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S 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/pr/mary/staugustines/site/pages/ofsted/admissions>

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

HOUSE VISITS: Fr Philip will make house visits ('doorstep visits') this week, on Wed afternoon, with further visits to EN11 9D* (west Hill Rd, College Rd, etc.)

PRIESTS' TRAINING FUND: The amount raised was £306.23. Thank you to all who donated.

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

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 15th May 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Patrick & Thomas Lawlor RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 273 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 1: 15–17, 20–26 <i>We must choose one of these to be a witness to his resurrection with us.</i></p> <p>Ps 102 — The Lord has set his sway in heaven.</p> <p>2nd Reading: John 4: 11–16 <i>Anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl.: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. 'Alleluia</i></p> <p>Gospel: John 17: 11–19 <i>That they may be one like us!</i></p> <p>PREFACE TODAY: Ascension II (p. 61) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 28)</p>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 16th May SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass <i>Attilio & Cettina Castaldi RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Joan & Laurence Molloy RIP</i> 5pm Mass <i>Vitalia Acosta's intentions</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS PENTECOST SUNDAY (YEAR B)</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 2: 1–11 2nd Reading: 1 Cor 12: 3–7, 12–13 Gospel: John 20: 19–23</p>
Mon 17th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Bridget McDonagh's intentions</i> 6pm Adoration	
Tues 18th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Fr Kevin Alban O. CARM. RIP rec. dec.</i> 6pm Adoration	
Wed 19th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Barbara Murphy RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	
Thurs 20th May 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Patrick Carolan RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.30 – 9am & 10.40 – 11am or ask Fr Philip at any other time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
Fri 21st May <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Arthur & Rose McCafferty RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	
Sat 22nd May 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Darrel Divers RIP anniv.</i>	
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Nadia Miragliotta RIP</i>	
Sun 23rd May PENTECOST SUNDAY 9.15am Mass <i>Dave Greenall RIP anniv.</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 5pm Mass <i>Riva & Ksenia Dias in Thanksgiving</i>	
* 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.*