

# The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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

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**Year B**

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**9th MAY 2021**

Gospel: John 15: 9-17 – *A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.*

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

THE EASTER GOSPELS FROM ST JOHN FOR THESE LATTER SUNDAYS OF THE SEASON focus on some of the beautiful teaching that Our Lord gives at the Last Supper (Jn 15 last Sunday and this; Jn 17 next weekend). In the middle of today's passage we have those poignant words, familiar to us, and yet still a challenge: "*Remain in My love ... Keep My commandments ... Love one another, as I have loved you.*" And He gives a reason for it: "*... so that My own joy may be in you, and your joy be complete.*" Our Lord, who knows us better than we know ourselves, understands that we need to keep His commandments if we are to be contented human beings, and if we are to be on course for the ultimate happiness of heaven. Let us do everything we can, daily, to "remain in His love."



THE BLESSED MONTH OF MAY, WHICH WE DEVOTE TO OUR LADY in a special way, urges us to make time each day to invoke Our Lady's intercession for our intentions and for the needs of the Church and the world. Praying the Rosary – even just one decade a day – is a good way to do this, as it allows us to enter in to the mysteries of Our Lord's saving life, death and resurrection, in company with His Blessed Mother. If you need encouragement or instruction on the rosary, there are rosary cards in the CTS rack in the church porch, or you can use this online guide: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/content/how-to-pray-the-rosary>.

THIS WEEK SEES THE 40<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF EASTER, when we commemorate Our Lord's Ascension back to heaven after His earthly ministry is completed and His risen appearances are over:

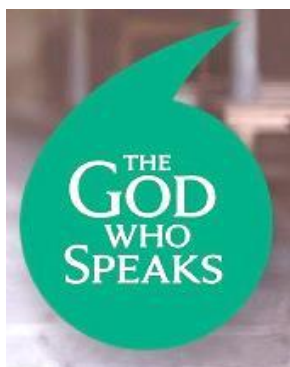
**\*\*\*\*\* Ascension Day Masses: 9.30am, 12noon, 6pm \*\*\*\*\***

Please make every effort to come to Mass this Ascension Day to mark the great feast!

**May the Lord give us that great joy through our devotion to Him! Fr Philip**

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

The liturgy is the privileged place for the proclamation, hearing and celebration of the word of God ... This encounter must be prepared in the hearts of the faithful and then deepened and assimilated, above all by them. The Christian life is essentially marked by an encounter with Jesus Christ, who calls us to follow him. ... I express my heartfelt hope for the flowering of "a new season of greater love for sacred Scripture on the part of every member of the People of God, so that their prayerful and faith-filled reading of the Bible will, with time, deepen their personal relationship with Jesus."



## PRAYER & LITURGY

**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.*

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

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

**MAY DEVOTIONS** in presbytery garden at the grotto: **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**CORPUS CHRISTI (Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 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**.

**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.

**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.

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

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY** live-streamed from Westminster Cathedral, **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 3.00pm**. The Cardinal will be celebrating a Mass for all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk).

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

**MARRIAGE REGISTRAR:** For the last 16 years Marie Fry has been our 'authorized person' for the weddings celebrated in our church. Now the system has altered, and far less work is needed for the civil registering of weddings, and Marie has asked to step down from this role. As a parish, we thank Marie for all her work over the years which has been really appreciated.

## 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:

<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:** 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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:** The second part of the course will be held on **Fri 14<sup>th</sup> May in church, 7.30-9pm**. Only one parent need attend; a face

covering should be worn.

**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 EN11 9D\*

**200 CLUB WINNERS** are: April, no. 168, Rita Lethbridge; and May, no. 17, Mrs J Scanlon. Congratulations to you both!

**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
<b>Sat 8<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Joan Hiscock RIP anniv.</i>	<b>PAGE 266 in the Mass books</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 10: 25–26, 34–35, 44–48 <i>The Holy Spirit has been poured out on the pagans too.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>	<b>Ps 97 —</b> <i>The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.</i>
<b>Sun 9<sup>th</sup> May SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Patricia Castaldi RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Francesco Borrelli RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniv.</i> 5pm Mass <i>José Baudelino Torres RIP</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 John 4: 7–10 <i>God is love.</i> <b>Gospel Accl.:</b> <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. 'Alleluia</i>
<b>Mon 10<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Daniela Ruggiero RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>Gospel:</b> John 15: 9–17 <i>A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.</i>
<b>Tues 11<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Margaret Galligan RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>PREFACE TODAY:</b> Easter V (p. 61) <b>EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:</b> no. 2 (p. 25)
<b>Wed 12<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Bert Zwager RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	<b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b> <b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <b>(YEAR B)</b>
<b>Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> May THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b> 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.30am Mass <i>Miriam Higgins' intentions</i> 12 noon Mass <i>Margaret Whelehan RIP</i> 6pm Mass <i>John &amp; Mary Miller Diamond Wedding</i>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 1: 15–17, 20–26 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> John 4: 11–16 <b>Gospel:</b> John 17: 11–19
<b>Fri 14<sup>th</sup> May ST MATTHIAS, Apostle</b> <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Private intention</i> 6pm Adoration	<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 15<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Patrick &amp; Thomas Lawlor RIP</i>	<b>ROSARY</b> 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>	<b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b> 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.
<b>Sun 16<sup>th</sup> May SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Attilio &amp; Cettina Castaldi RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Joan Molloy RIP rec. dec.</i> 5pm Mass <i>Vitalia Acosta's ints</i>	<b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date. <b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b> <b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b>
<p style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>	

#### 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.*