

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, Thurs, Fri, 9am-1pm)

Also in residence: Fr Joshy Philip (National chaplain to Knanaya community)

Safeguarding parish rep: Rhian Hanson – hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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

Year B

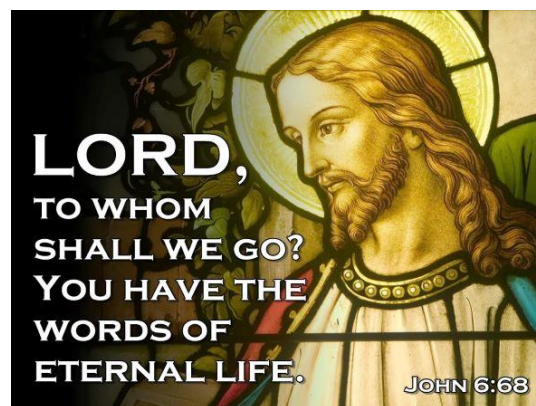
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

22nd AUGUST 2021

Gospel: John 6: 60-69 – *Who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life.*

My Dear Parishioners of St Augustine's,

WE CONCLUDE, THIS SUNDAY, THE GOSPEL PASSAGE FROM ST JOHN (JN 6) that we have been hearing from for several Sundays – the chapter in which Our Lord elaborates on His being the 'Bread of Life.' Today's excerpt at the end of Jn 6 shows Our Lord asking the apostles if they, too, like some of His other hearers, consider His words about the Eucharist as "intolerable language." St Peter's loving, honest, and heartfelt response – surely some of the most poignant words in the whole Gospel – sum up the attitude of any faithful Christian: "*Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.*" Each one of us needs to have this clarity of faith, that Jesus is the only One who holds the key to life, and that His word is sacred and life-giving truth. The Holy Eucharist – Jesus's saving sacrifice encompassed in the simplicity of the Blessed Sacrament – is central to His self-giving love, by which He embraces us with His holy grace.



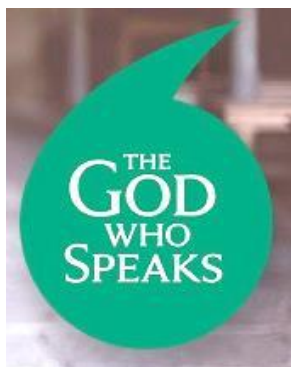
AS OF THIS WEEKEND, WE WILL RESUME USING ALL THE PEWS IN CHURCH. It is no longer necessary to space out as previously, although we should still be respectful of keeping some distance from other parishioners who are not of our household, and not 'crowding in' upon them. We will also resume using the **Parish Mass Books** and **Hymn Books** this weekend. We will maintain the use of hand gel upon entering at the church doors, and ensuring that there is some ventilation, and one or two other practices like omitting the Offertory Procession and Sign of Peace, for now.

MY LEAVING MASS AND FAREWELL PARTY will be on **Bank Holiday Monday, 30th August** at 12 noon, and I look forward to celebrating that occasion with all who are able to come, including some of the Deanery priests. I am afraid it is *no longer possible* to request attendance at the garden buffet after Mass, as numbers have already been submitted to the caterer. Also: PLEASE, NO GIFTS, as my belongings will all have gone *several days prior*, and there will be no way I can transport anything new!

May we turn to Christ always, knowing He leads us to eternal life. Fr Philip

2020/21 Year of the Word: Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, n. 90

In the Prologue of his Gospel, John contemplates the Word from his being with God to his becoming flesh and his return to the Father with our humanity, which he has assumed for ever. In this coming forth from God and returning to him, Christ is presented as the one who "tells us" about God. Indeed, as Saint Irenaeus of Lyons says, the Son "is the revealer of the Father." Jesus of Nazareth is, so to speak, the "exegete" of the God whom "no one has ever seen". "He is the image of the invisible God."



PRAYER & LITURGY

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS to Melih Ahmet and Alana White married here in the church this weekend. May God bless them in their married life.

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Tommy Spires and Freddie Jones who will be baptised this weekend.

CONFIRMATION: We congratulate and pray for Zara Hussein and Sophia Manzo who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend.

NOTE: NO 6PM ADORATION this Thursday.

SUNDAY HOLY HOUR (Adoration, Evening Prayer & Benediction) will take place at **5pm on Sunday 29th August.**

URGENT! MASS INTENTIONS: there are very 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.

CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC MASS:

- There *can* now be congregational singing, but we will continue with no Offertory Procession and no Sign of Peace for now. 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.

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

FR PHILIP'S LEAVING MASS will be held on Bank Holiday **Monday 30th Aug at 12 noon.**

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES with Westminster diocesan priest Fr Dennis Touw, 20th-24th September by air from Heathrow to Toulouse. There will be a 4-night stay in the 4* Eliseo hotel. There will be Mass in the Shrine of Lourdes and you will be able to enjoy the processions and say prayers at the Grotto. To book call Tangent Tours on 01732-886666.

FINANCE

FINANCE COMMITTEE: we are in need of a parishioner to join the Finance Committee to look after aspects of the premises / health & safety aspects. Help and support would be provided as required. It would involve getting quotations, organising work to be undertaken and completing smaller jobs around the church. The role would be ideal for a retired person. If you think you can help in this crucial role, please talk to Fr Philip or contact the presbytery.

CONTACTLESS GIVING AT 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 is at the **LEFT HAND** exit door from church as you leave Mass.

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: it would be good to hear from any adult who wishes to think about being Baptized, becoming a Catholic, or being Confirmed if they 'missed out' at a younger age. Do get in touch with Fr Philip, sooner rather than later, so that he can begin to form a group that in the autumn would gather and receive instruction and formation in the Catholic faith with a view to receiving the Sacrament(s) at Easter.

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 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.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY: Fr Philip's new posting is to Newman House, London's Catholic Chaplaincy for students. If any students expecting to be resident in London for studies next year would like to live in the Catholic Chaplaincy, they should apply here: <https://www.universitycatholic.net/accommodation/newman-house-residential-community/>

FR PHILIP'S LEAVING COLLECTION: If you would like to donate, please put your donation in an envelope, write on it "Fr's leaving collection" and post it through the presbytery letter box. If you would also like to write a farewell message for Fr's leaving card, please either e-mail it to hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk or write it and post it through the presbytery letter box by the 27th August. Please mark it for the attention of Dawn Bates. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANERS are **urgently** needed to help clean the church for 1 hr per month. After interim arrangements over the past year, we are now returning to our volunteers' rota but due to the ongoing pandemic risks the church must still be regularly cleaned. If you can help in any way, please contact the Presbytery soon.

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST BARTHOLOMEW

24TH AUGUST

All that is known of him with certainty is that he is mentioned in the Synoptic Gospels and Acts as one of the twelve apostles. His name, a patronymic, means "son of Tolomai" and scholars believe he is the same character as Nathanael mentioned in John's Gospel, who says he is from Cana and that Jesus called him an "Israelite incapable of deceit." The Roman Martyrology says he preached in India and Greater Armenia, where he was flayed and beheaded by King Astyages.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 21st August ST PIUS X, Pope 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Assunta Cusano RIP rec. dec.</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAGE 123 in the Mass books</p> 1st Reading: Joshua 24: 1–2, 15–18 <i>We will serve the Lord, for he is our God.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>	Ps 33— Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Sun 22nd Aug 21ST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 9.15am Mass <i>Enzo Genuardi RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Orsola Scibelli RIP anniv.</i>	2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 21–32 <i>This mystery has many implications for Christ and his Church.</i>
Mon 23rd August ST ROSE OF LIMA, virgin 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Assunta & Henryk Nolewajka RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	Gospel Accl.: Alleluia, alleluia. Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!
Tues 24th August ST BARTHOLOMEW, apostle 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Denis Casey RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	Gospel: John 6: 60–69 <i>Who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life.</i>
Wed 25th August 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Tony Casey RIP rec. dec.</i> 6pm Adoration	<p style="text-align: center;">PREFACE TODAY: Sundays no. 5 (p. 55) EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: no. 3 (p. 27)</p>
Thurs 26th August Bl. DOMINIC BARBERI 8.15am Adoration 9am Morning Prayer 9.15am Mass <i>Alfonso D'Onofrio RIP rec. dec.</i> NO 6pm Adoration	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS *** ST AUGUSTINE'S DAY *** (YEAR B)</p>
Fri 27th August ST MONICA <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Bill Pollard RIP</i> 6pm Adoration	1st Reading: Wisdom 7: 7–10, 15–16 2nd Reading: Ephesians 3: 8–12 Gospel: Matthew 23: 8–12
Sat 28th August ST AUGUSTINE, bishop & doctor 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Tom Breen RIP anniv.</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> 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>	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sun 29th Aug ST AUGUSTINE'S FEAST 9.15am Mass <i>Stanley Abrahams RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Deceased of parish 2008–21 †</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> 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 style="text-align: right;">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p> † There are also Sunday evening Masses in English in Hertford (6pm) and Waltham Cross (6.30pm)	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> 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 ciascun 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.*