

The Announcer

St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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E-mail: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

FaceBook: "CatholicHoddesdon"

Parish Priest: Fr Julian Davies

Secretary: Dawn Bates (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, 9am-3pm)

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 C

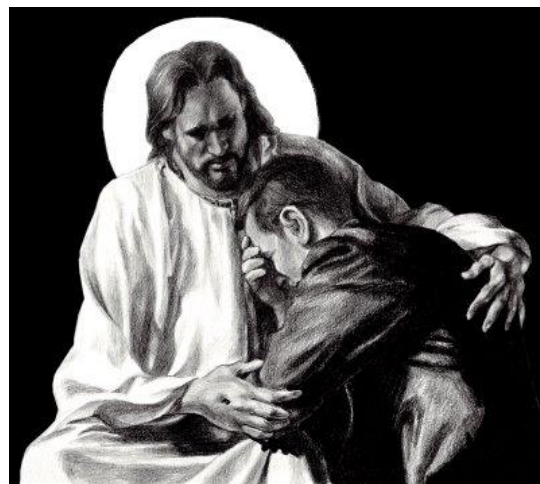
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12TH DECEMBER 2021

Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

What must we do?

Jesus could not have been given a name other than that which Mary and his adopted father were told he had to be given. You must call him Jesus...because he will save his people from their sins. The answer then is in Jesus' name. It comes from the Hebrew Yeshua which means the one who sets free. As St Peter proclaimed ...' there is no other name under heaven, given to men, whereby we must be saved'. Jesus has won for us our liberation and freedom from the deadly poison of sin through his singular act of self-sacrifice upon the cross. Only through this is a new humanity fashioned. The pervasiveness of sin within us and without us continually mars and contaminates human endeavour. No person, no culture, no philosophy, no religion can resolve it...only Jesus Christ through the saving power of the cross has. If Jesus has set us free from for our sins, then why do we still need to seek forgiveness for them through confession? The answer is that confession is the way in which we access the benefits of saving grace in our lives. Once we are attuned to the voice of our conscience informing us that we have sinned then we need to acknowledge what we have done and say sorry to our Heavenly Father. The door to personal confession is available to us at any time. Like the prodigal son we can always return to our Heavenly Father. More difficult is where we are prompted to uncover our burdens to a priest in what is known as auricular (meaning 'by ear') confession through the sacrament of reconciliation. Telling another person our sin can be very humbling, but we are assured that immense benefits come from it as Jesus has commanded his disciples to confess their sins to one another. So no problem you say, but where does Jesus mention making our confession specially to a priest. He doesn't in so many words but what he does say is that the apostles have the right to forgive sins. The priestly commission is simply the sharing in this apostolic commission. And where we don't seem to have unburdening of our souls through a simple personal private confession, which will be the case where we have committed a more serious 'mortal' sin, then the sacrament of reconciliation accesses for us the wonderful freedom of being reconciled with the Father who loves us, reconciled with the family to which we belong and reconciled with our divided selves. Confession is a wonderful gift so let's not reject it. Let us lay claim to the freedom that Christ has won for us.



Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

GIUSEPPE MANISCALCO of Middlefield Road died recently, aged 91. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 15th December at 12.30am.**

JAMES PEARCE of McKenzie Road, died recently aged 83. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 22nd December at 2pm.**

KATHLEEN PARKER of Danemead, died recently, aged 81. Her funeral will be on **Thursday 23rd December at 11am.**

Our sympathies go out to their families.

May they rest in peace.

ADVENT

RECONCILIATION BEFORE CHRISTMAS: Our Parish Penitential Services will be on **Monday 13th December at 11.30am and 7.30pm.**

PARISH CAROL SERVICE will be held on **Sunday 19th December at 6pm. Adult and young readers are needed,** so if you are able to assist, please sign the list on the blue board at the back of the church.

CHRISTMAS MASS: There will be a children's Mass at 3pm on Christmas Eve and there will also be Mass at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day, Mass will be at 9.15am and 11.15am.

ADVENT EXTRA magazine is now available to buy for £2.25 from the back of church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will not take place on Thursday evening.

SYNODAL PATHWAY is an initiative from Pope Francis & is being conducted in all churches around the world. The Westminster Diocese website has detailed information on this <https://rcdow.org.uk/synod/>. A letter from our Parish Rep, Michel Jordan, explaining more as well as 6 simple questions for you to reflect on and answer is beside the box at the back of church. **Please answer the questions and return them to the box provided at the back of the church by Sunday.** If you prefer, you can email or post your replies to the presbytery. Additional sheets are available at the back of the church. **Thank you.**

FR JULIAN'S FORMAL INDUCTION AS PARISH PRIEST will take place at the 6.30pm Mass on **Saturday 29th January 2022.** Bishop Paul McAleenan will be the principal celebrant, and it will be followed by a celebration in the crypt. Please do put the date in your diary. More details to follow in due course.

MUSICIANS are needed to help at the Sunday Masses. If you can assist, please do contact the presbytery.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY HELPERS NEEDED at the 9.15am Mass. If you are available to assist, please do contact the presbytery.

FINANCE

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. For those whose finances are more stable at present, please consider your parish giving, to help the parish out. 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

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/bishopstortford>

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

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently including Giuseppe Maniscalco, James Pearce and Kathleen Pewter and & for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Angela Smith, Onofria Maniscalco, Henryk Nolewajka, Adelina Ciruolo, Georgina Nottle, Giuseppe Leto, Calogero Tagliarini, Bridget Gorry & Edward McManus. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

CATECHETICS

RCIA: 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Come and explore if you are considering becoming a Catholic or are an adult Catholic wishing to be confirmed. We meet at the presbytery on **Tuesday 14th December at 7.30pm.**

CONFIRMATION 2022: The date for the first class will be on **Monday 17th January at 7.15pm.** Forms are now available to apply for the course from the presbytery during the week or please email the presbytery to request the form. Please return the form to the presbytery by the 12th January 2022.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

FOODBANK: Sadly, donations to the foodbank are currently not meeting the basic need, so the Foodbank is using its reserves to buy the necessary food. If you can donate, basic foods are needed of non-perishable foods: dry food, tins and long-life milk etc. FoodBank collection boxes are in the church porch.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS are a fun and meaningful way to give gifts and make a difference to some of the poorest communities around the world. Catalogues are now available at the back of the church.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL have a vacancy for an Early Years LSA. Please visit https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view/learning-support-assistant-eyfs_67664.htm

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

COVID UPDATE: With the daily news about the omicron variant, it is important to ensure the following:

- Anyone displaying symptoms of covid-

19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person

- Please do use the hand sanitiser when you enter and leave the church
- There is a strong recommendation for people to wear a face covering during the act of worship.

REPOSITORY: The repository is now stocked with Christmas cards, so please do take a look!

MISSIO RED BOXES: Boxes should be opened for 2021 by the 20th December. My sincere thanks to members who have informed me of their change of payments. If you would like your box collected, please ring me on 464677. If you have moved house or area in the last 6 years and wish to continue to support Missio, please let me know. Calendars will be sent direct from London. Thank you. Ellen Bartlett.

THE CATHOLIC POST newspaper is now available from the back of the church for free.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Please do not leave cards for parishioners at the back of the church. We have found from past years that they are not collected. Please give them into the hands of the intended recipients! Thank you.

QUIZ NIGHT in aid of The Daniela Ruggiero Scholarship Fund will be held on **Friday 14th Jan,** 7.30pm in crypt. £5 per head, payable on the night. Please contact Vicky Lee-Lozone on 07747 485023 to reserve a table.

ST ELIZABETH'S CENTRE in Much Hadham have various job vacancies. Please visit <https://www.stelizabeths.org.uk/working-with-us/current-vacancies>.

CHURCH CLEANERS: At least two more cleaners are needed to help clean the church for one hour per month on a Wednesday. If you can help, please contact te presbytery.

CHURCH CLEANING: Elizabeth Nsonwah, Toni Iamarino, Penny Bengé & Assunta Iameo. Thank you for your help.

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

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 11th December ST DAMASUS I, Pope 9.30am Exposition 10am Mass <i>Maria, Domenico & Giovanni Rubino RIP</i>	<p align="center">Page 87 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-18 <i>The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.</i></p> <p>Ps 12— Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7 <i>The Lord is very near.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl.: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!</i></p> <p>Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18 <i>What must we do?</i></p>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 12th Dec THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am Mass <i>Larry O'Neill RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Margherita & Nicola Barone RIP</i>	<p align="center">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)</p> <p>1st Reading: Micah 5: 1-4 2nd Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-10 Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45</p>
Mon 13th December ST LUCY, Virgin & Martyr 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass <i>Mary & Christopher Byrne RIP</i> 6pm Exposition	
Tues 14th December ST JOHN OF THE CROSS, Priest 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass <i>Joy Ighade's intentions</i> 6pm Exposition	
Wed 15th December 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass <i>Decd members of the Galligan Family – followed by coffee in the crypt</i> 12.30pm Funeral Giuseppe Maniscalco RIP 6pm Exposition	
Thurs 16th Dec 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass <i>Private intention</i> NO Exposition	<p align="center">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> <p align="center">Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am or ask Fr Julian at any other time.</p>
Fri 17th December (Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Sr Luisa & Prudence intentions</i> 6pm Exposition	<p align="center">ROSARY</p> <p>The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
Sat 18th Dec 9.30am Exposition 10am Mass <i>Jean Walsh RIP</i>	<p align="center">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> <p>Any parishioner frail through illness or old age, or going into hospital for major surgery, can ask Fr Julian for the Sacrament of Anointing at any time.</p>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Maureen Murphy RIP</i> Sun 19th Dec FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am Mass <i>Chris Whelehan RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 6pm Carol Service	<p align="center">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> <p>Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p align="center">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	

REGULAR EVENTS

Tues 14th 1pm lunch club, crypt	Tues 14th 7.30pm RCIA, presbytery
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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 parroccchiani 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.*