

The Announcer

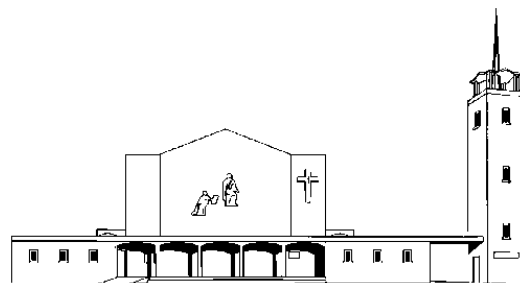
St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

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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

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Year C

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5TH DECEMBER 2021

Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6

All mankind shall see the salvation of God.

We are in the last four weeks before Christmas, the season known as Advent. Advent means towards the coming, in other words looking forward to the coming of Jesus. One can meaningfully speak of six Advents. First there is the Advent of Jesus' first coming, as the long expected one and the one whose coming was heralded in the words of prophecy and by the birth of his relative John the Baptist. God so loved the world..... that he sent his Son into the world (John 3:16-17). Then we have the second Advent, as Jesus enters upon his public ministry, heralded again as we



see in the readings today, by the prophetic ministry of John the Baptist. Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29). The third Advent comes to everyone who acknowledges the saving work and Lordship of Jesus Christ and invites him into their lives. He comes seeking admission into our lives. He never forces his way in, but he impresses upon us his desire to set up home with us. If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. (John 14: 23). The fourth Advent is like a knocking on the door of our souls for a deeper relationship. Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me (Revelation 3: 20). These words are often meaningfully used as an invitation for those who do not yet believe to invite Jesus into their lives, but let's not forget that the Lord spoke them not to non-believers but to Christians in first century Laodicea inviting them into a far deeper relationship with Jesus than what they already experienced. Jesus is not content in being a casual visitor or an ignored resident. He is not here to squat. The fifth Advent is when Jesus comes to us in generally unexpected encounters when we recognise that he is to be found in those who bear his image, marred though that is, that we meet anytime of the day. The sixth Advent is the crown of all these other Advents and the one which Jesus spoke most about. It is when he returns not as a child but as King to inaugurate His kingdom and the Bridegroom to vindicate all who have loved him- his Bride the Church. This will be the end of our history, when all will know that it is His Story and the inauguration of a new heaven and new earth. Behold I am coming soon!...I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. ... Amen Come Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22: 12-13,20)

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH
Harrison Cook who will be baptised this weekend.

MARIE LAYDON of High Road died recently, aged 99. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 8th December at 10am. The Morning Mass will be at 9am.** Our sympathies go out to her family.

GIUSEPPE MANISCALCO of Middlefield Road died recently, aged 91. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 15th December at 12.30am.** Our sympathies go out to his family.

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. Volunteers are needed to help make refreshments afterwards. If you can help, please contact the presbytery.

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/>. Attached to the newsletter is a letter from our Parish Rep, Michel Jordan, explaining more as well as 6 simple questions for you to reflect on and answer. This will also be added to our website. **Please answer the questions and return them to the box provided at the back of the church by the 12th December.** Please note the date has now been

extended. 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/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

PLEASE PRAY for those who have died recently including Marty Rooney, Molly Brown, Giuseppe Maniscalco and Marie Laydon & for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Maria, Giovanni & Domenico Rubino, Gerarda Lanza, Marjorie Gaynor, Mary Brent, Constantina Infantino, Guerina Keable, Philomena Coleston, Paola Di Maria, Annie Keogh & Margherita Barone. *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 7th December at 7.30pm.**

CONFIRMATION: Any young person who is in year 9 or above and is interested in being Confirmed, please contact the presbytery with your name, date of birth, school, school year and a contact number.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Saturday 11th December at 11.30am** in church. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

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

REPOSITORY: A volunteer is needed to help out after the 6.30pm Mass to open the repository. If you can assist, please contact Carol on 07976.950359. The repository is now stocked with Christmas cards, so please do take a look!

JOYEUX NOEL Ware Choral Society will be singing an Oratorio and Carols on **Saturday, 11th December**, at The Drill Hall, Ware, at 7.30pm. All Tickets, £15, from Anne Byrne, 467097.

200 CLUB WINNERS: The winners for December are: First prize - Teresa Hourihan, Second prize - Denise Wright and Third prize - Lorraine Horne. Congratulations to you all!

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 the presbytery.

CHURCH CLEANING: Michele & Pelle De Luca & Kathleen Connors. 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 4th December ST JOHN DAMASCENE, Priest & Dr 9.30am Exposition 10am Mass <i>Decd members of Graffato & Gimalva Families</i>	<p align="center">Page 84 in the Mass books</p> 1st Reading: Baruch 5: 1-9 <i>God means to show your splendour to every nation.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>	Ps 125— <i>What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.</i>
Sun 5th Dec SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9.15am Mass <i>Pasquale Ricotta RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Melania Pinto RIP</i>	2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11 <i>Be pure and blames for the day of Christ.</i>
Mon 6th December ST NICHOLAS, Bishop 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass <i>Tom & Theresa Delaney intentions</i> 6pm Exposition	Gospel Accl.: <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!</i>
Tues 7th December ST AMBROSE, Bishop & Dr NO Exposition 9.15am Mass <i>Caroline Delaney & Family intentions</i> 6pm Exposition	Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6 <i>All mankind shall see the salvation of God.</i>
Wed 8th December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 8.30am Exposition 9.00am Mass <i>Private intention – followed by coffee in the crypt</i> 10am Funeral <i>Marie Laydon RIP</i> 6pm Exposition	<p align="center">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)</p> 1st Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-18 2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7 Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18
Thurs 9th Dec ST JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass <i>Pat Cookson RIP</i> NO Exposition	<p align="center">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am or ask Fr Julian at any other time.
Fri 10th December BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OF LORETO <i>(Abstinence from meat today for those aged 14+)</i> 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.45 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>John & Johanna Doyle RIP</i> 6pm Exposition	<p align="center">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sat 11th Dec ST DAMASUS I, Pope 9.30am Exposition 10am Mass <i>Maria, Domenico & Giovanni Rubino RIP</i>	<p 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 Julian for the Sacrament of Anointing at any time.
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>For the Parish</i>	<p 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.
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">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
<p align="right">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Tues 7th 1pm lunch club, crypt	Tues 7th 7.30pm RCIA, presbytery

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 parrocciani 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.*