

- 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>

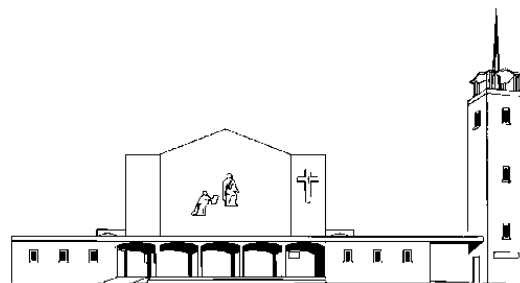
Parish Priest: Fr Julian Davies

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



E-mail: hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk

FaceBook: "CatholicHoddesdon"

Year C

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

20TH MARCH 2022

Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe has been released after several years' imprisonment. A large debt has been paid which she could never pay. The joy on her husband's face was palpable. I'm not sure how she was sustained during her years of confinement but often the most severe physical restrictions serve only to heighten the contrast between what we experience and the hope for something better. That hope can come only from our innate longing to be free because God has created us for freedom not bondage. This hope is apparent even more for those who know that they are children of God. Through his act of amazing grace, Christ has set us free from altogether deeper imprisonment than bricks and mortars, one which we build around us often with help from others. Hurts, rejection, denials, unforgiveness all serve to reinforce the walls. Love grows colder. Aggression and hatred of self and others sets in. Its justification is often a pathetic litany of lies and invective. We have heard it emanate from the Kremlin and seen it graphically being played out murderously on the streets of Ukraine. At the heart of this conflict is one man's desperate need to be loved. Hemmed in and shackled, humans strive to get free but cannot pay the debt that is weighted against us. The debt that sets humanity free is so enormous that only the bank of heaven could pay it. God has done it. It has been paid, not in any currency or precious metals but through the precious blood of Jesus. Not only has the debt been paid, but the jailer who wants to keep us chained, has been bound. What then is hindering our release? The key to our freedom is metanoia.....repentance. Stop waging war with yourself, God and others, face the reality of truth, turn towards God and stop running away. Come clean, reject evil and the sin that we do not wish to name. Make humble confession. All this change of mind, attitude and action is encompassed in the operative word of today's Gospel reading...**REPENT**. It is the partner of good news. It is the message of all authentic Christian preaching and all Marian apparitions. It is the summons to a springtime of death and resurrection. Still there is time, but only just.....Respond to God's love, mercy and compassion without delay. He has already set you free. Save us Saviour of the world for by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. it is high time we entered into our freedom. Give peace a chance!



Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

ASSUNTA FONZO of Stanstead Road, died recently, aged 101. Her Requiem will be held on **Monday 21st March at 1pm.**

JOSEPH STEPHENS of McKenzie Road, died recently aged 89. His Requiem will be held on **Monday 28th March at 1pm.**

JOHN KELLY of Stains Close, died recently, aged 84. Details of his Requiem will follow in due course.

May they rest in peace.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Gabby will be running a Children's Choir at the 9.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. If your child would like to join the choir, Gabby will be playing on the following dates: **this Sunday and 3rd April.** Please ensure that your child arrives at church at 9am and goes straight to the organ loft, so there will be time to run through the hymns before Mass.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY will be held at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 14th May** at 3pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please contact the presbytery with the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) by **Wednesday 30th March.**

MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS: 12 volunteers, male or female, are needed to have their feet washed. If you can take part, please sign your name on the list at the back of the church. **During the Mass, there will also be a Rite of Re-commissioning for the Ministers of Holy Communion, so if you are a Minister, please attend the Mass at 8pm.**

MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION, READERS & ALTAR SERVERS: If you can assist at any of the services of Holy Week, please sign your name on the lists on the blue board in the porch.

LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed in church each Friday (12.30pm, after Mass) & Saturday (9.30am, before Mass). Italian Stations of the Cross will be at 5pm each Friday.

LENTEN ALMS: Funds raised in this year's Cardinal's Lenten Appeal will be shared between parishes and Caritas Westminster. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. You will find the box throughout Lent in the church.

'**ENCOUNTERING THE SPIRIT**' is the diocesan faith-sharing resource for Lent and is offered to encourage and enable to the continuation of "spiritual conversations" begun in the synod process. The week 3 leaflet, entitled Garden, is inserted in the newsletter this week.

EXTRA CONFESSIONS IN LENT: Fr Julian will be available to hear confessions on Fridays in Lent during Exposition from 6-7pm in church.

LENT EXTRA magazines with daily Lent meditations are now available to buy from the back of the church for £2.25. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

FRIDAY LUNCHES: During Lent, a simple lunch of soup & a roll will be served on a Friday after Mass in the crypt for a donation of £2.50.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE for the parish will be held on **Tuesday 12th April at 7.30pm.**

UKRAINE

HELP UKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL: The Ukrainian Catholic Church in the UK and Ukrainian Cultural organizations have organized an appeal. The money will go directly to support the work in Ukraine & Poland. You can donate directly to the appeal fund at AUGB Ltd, 80038237, 20-65-89 ref HelpUkraine. You can also donate on the fundraising page GoFundMe by following the link or by scanning the QR code. You can also send a cheque payable to AUGB LTD -Central Appeal Fund & send it to Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London, Chancery Office, 21-22 Binney St, London W1K 5BQ. There are also details of how you can donate items on the blue board at the back of church. **Please note that EM Tuition, the drop off point at Cheshunt are no longer collecting clothes and cannot take out of date medicines.**



<https://rb.gy/dcqgcc>

FINANCE

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: 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 John Kelly, Joseph Stephens and Assunta Fonzo and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including George Stubbs, John Doran, Kathleen Gemmell, Maureen Norman & Dave Greenall. *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 will meet at the presbytery on **Tuesday 22nd March at 7.30pm.**

CONFIRMATION 2022: The date for the next class will be on **Monday 21st March at 7.00pm** for candidates in the church. Parents will need to sign the register this weekend.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE 2022-2023: Applications forms for children currently in Year 2 and who will be going into Year 3 in September to prepare to receive Holy Communion in May 2023 are now available to

collect from the presbytery during the week (before 3pm) on any day except Tuesday. You can also email the presbytery to request a form. Details of the course will be given with the form. The form should be returned to the presbytery by **April 4th**. From **April 10th** there will a register to sign in the church lobby as evidence that you are attending Mass.

SCHOOLS

ST CROSS SCHOOL currently have places in Reception, Year 4 & 5 classes. If you are interested, please contact the school on 467309 or email admin@stcross.herts.sch.uk.

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL have a vacancy for a Breakfast Care Playworker. Please visit : <https://uk.indeed.com/jobs?q=st%20augustines&l=en11%208dp&vjk=2dfc69701e8579ad>

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PLANNED GIVING: Boxes of envelopes for the new financial year are available from the back of the church from this weekend. If you would like to start donating through the envelopes/standing orders, forms will be available beside the boxes. Gift Aid forms will also be available. Many parishioners have already signed Gift-Aid forms, which enables the parish to collect the tax on the donations. There is no further cost to the donor but the parish is able to claim another £1 for every £4 donated under Gift Aid. **If your circumstances have changed, and you pay less or no tax, please inform the presbytery asap.**

UNDER 5'S 200 CLUB RENEWALS will take place **this weekend and 26th/27th March.** Please note there are still spare numbers available.

INTERCESSIONS BOOK: A book for you to write any prayers is available on the left-hand table beneath the sculpture of Jesus.

SUGGESTIONS/REQUEST BOX is now available at the back of church for any suggestions or requests you may have.

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

CHURCH CLEANING: Pat Kavanagh, Sue Alvey & Tanya McAteer. Thank you for your help.

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 19th March ST JOSEPH, Spouse of B Virgin Mary 9.00am Adoration 9.30am Exposition 10am Mass Gaetano Martorana RIP	Page 160 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15 <i>I Am has sent me to you.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Sr Mary Norbert RIP	Ps 102— The Lord is compassion and love.
Sun 20th MARCH THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am Mass Dave Greenall RIP 11.15am Mass For the Parish	2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12 <i>The life of the people under Moses in the desert was written down to be a lesson for us.</i>
Mon 21st March 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass Mary McCarvill RIP 1.00pm Funeral Assunta Fonzo RIP 6pm Exposition	Gospel Accl.: <i>Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!</i>
Tues 22nd March 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass Mollie & Eric Field RIP 6pm Exposition	Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9 <i>Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.</i>
Wed 23rd March ST TURIBIUS OF MOGROVEJO, Bishop 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass Maria-Teresa Distefano RIP followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)</p> 1st Reading: Joshua 5: 9-12 2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21 Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32
Thurs 24th March 8.30am Exposition 9.15am Mass Lloyd Grandison RIP 6pm Exposition	<p style="text-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 25th March THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (No Friday Abstinence) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Dr Margaret Walshe RIP 12.30pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Exposition	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sat 26th March BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ON SATURDAY 9.00am Adoration 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass Antonino Cuffaro RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> Any parishioner sick, frail, 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 Helen Lonergan	<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.
Sun 27th March FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am Mass For the Parish 11.15am Mass John & Fatimo Pinto RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Mon 21st 7pm Confirmation, church Tues 22nd 1pm lunch club, crypt	Tues 22nd 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 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.*