

# - The Announcer

## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS

Tel: 01992-440986

Web-site: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon>

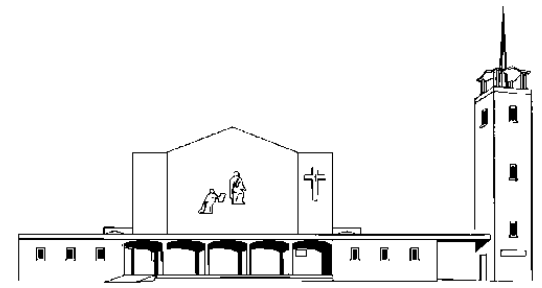
**Parish Priest: Fr Julian Davies**

Secretary: Dawn Bates (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, 9am-4pm)

Also in residence: Fr Mathews Valiyaputhenpura Joy (National chaplain to Knanaya community)

Safeguarding parish rep: Kathryn Hall – [hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – [italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)



E-mail: [hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk)

FaceBook: "CatholicHoddesdon"

**Year A**

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**22ND JANUARY 2023**

Gospel: *Matthew 4: 12-23 The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light.*

In his first letter to the Corinthians from which our epistle reading is taken today, St Paul encourages the Corinthian Church to *'make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice'*. Whatever these disagreements were, they had become horribly factional, since Paul accuses the Corinthians of becoming partisan, making cult figures out of the various apostles from whom they had received the gospel...some for Apollos, some for Paul, some for Cephas. We know that there were different ways in which these figures operated, and as personalities, they differed also. They may have emphasised also different aspects of the Christian life. Paul wanted the Corinthians to look beyond these differences and not to forget the unity that they have in 'belief and practice'. His words are very pertinent for us. There are some who might be inclined to sow division in the Catholic Church today. We should treasure the beliefs and practices which strengthen our collective identity as catholic, beliefs and practices which should not divide us, but which we should nurture and uphold. What he says is of timely relevance also, is it not, in this current Octave of prayer for Christian Unity? Admittedly practices are divergent among Christians, though not widely so, and today we are more tolerant than in previous ages. This is partly because of the legacy of bridge building after Vatican II, greater involvement in social mission together, and an increased transmission of the treasury of Christian spirituality. Many of the ecclesial communities have altered their beleaguered stance towards the Mother Church, while she has re-immersed herself in the practices of the early Church, such as the centrality of the Word, the use of the vernacular, receiving in two kinds and the enablement of the laity, which are the bedrock of the ecclesial communities and which had been at the heart of their original separation from the Mother Church. These practices had always been espoused by the Mother Church but tended to be less emphasised or practiced than what they should have been. Moreover, Mother Church has always held that unity in Christ does always entail uniformity in practice, as can be seen in the ways in which she accommodates the different liturgical rites of the Eastern Churches, the Ordinariate and others. If this is the case with practices, surely beliefs require a uniformity. If we were to go for the lowest common denominator, according to Our Lord we cannot enter the kingdom of God unless 'by water and the Spirit'. Baptism in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit is the defining mark of the Christian faith, underscored by the fact that if anyone enters into Mother Church from one of the ecclesial communities, their baptism is recognised retrospectively as catholic. But Christian faith is much more than baptism. Surely acceptance of the Catholic Creeds is non-negotiable. We may not understand their profundity, but they provide us with a shared platform of belief, which divides Christian off from other beliefs. It should warm our hearts to think that in most places of Christian worship, belief in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church is publicly professed. Let us not however fudge the issue. Beyond the credal basics, there are considerable differences in what Christians hold credal and credible, and these differences have to be recognised if dialogue is authentic. A vague soup of comprehensiveness makes one only sick. The crucial thing is not to lose sight of the all-important fact that we are all on a journey towards fuller communion, and that there is One who wills all his followers to be in unity. Jesus prays that we shall all be one. He doesn't say uniform. God didn't make a monochrome universe. Ultimately unity is all about Christ. As our communion antiphon proclaims today, if we follow the Light of the World, we will never *'walk in darkness but have the light of life'*.

Fr Julian



## PRAYER & LITURGY

**MASS** on Thursdays will now be at 8am and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 7.30am.

**CRIB APPEAL:** Our Crib offerings are donated to the Catholic Children's Society. The Society help local disadvantaged families facing severe hardship due to the cost of living crisis. Through the fund, they are providing immediate, practical support to families in need.

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Patrick Brien and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Giuseppa Rotondo, Francesca Gaiteri, Martin Graham, Giuseppe Ricotta, Angelo Barile, Keith Newell, Elsie Phipps, Jill Logsdail, Angela Coffey, William Collins, Albert Coleston, St Mary Bernard, Margaret Mulligan and Peter Gillow. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** Gabby will be resuming the Children's Choir at the 9.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. If your child would like to join the choir, Gabby will be playing **29<sup>th</sup> January, 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> February**. 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.

### **WARM SPACES PROJECT:**

The Warm Spaces will be open until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. A number of warm spaces will be provided across the Borough. We will provide a warm space in our crypt on Tuesdays from 2.30pm-5.00pm. If you would like to donate to the Warm Spaces, there is now a GoFundMe page at: <https://www.gofundme.com/warm-spaces-in-broxbourne>.



**18-25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY** is the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity. This years' service on behalf of Churches Together will be held this **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 6pm** at St Catherine's & St Paul's Church. All are welcome.

**VESPERS IN THE CATHEDRAL** to honour the life of the late Pope Emeritus Benedict, and to pray for the repose of his soul will be held on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 5pm**. All are welcome.

**AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY** will be on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May**. More details will follow in due course. Please put the date in your diary.



**MARRIAGE THANKSGIVING MASS:** The Cardinal will be celebrating the annual Mass for Matrimony at the Cathedral on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm**. More details to follow.

## 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:

<b>Account Name:</b>	<b>WRCDT Hoddesdon</b>
<b>Sort Code:</b>	<b>40-05-20</b>
<b>Account Number:</b>	<b>31264370</b>

**CONTACTLESS GIVING AT MASS:** There is 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.

### HOUSEBOUND & SICK PARISHIONERS

*Please pray for our sick parishioners & friends: Marina Morris, Patricia Dempsey, Andrew, Kozlowski, Ian Witham & Frances Kearney.*

**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**

## CATECHETICS

**RCIA: 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** If you are considering becoming a Catholic or are an adult Catholic wishing to be confirmed, our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm in the presbytery.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023:** An initial meeting for candidates only will be held in the crypt on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 7-8pm.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 'PRAYER PARTNERS'** are needed for all the children on the First Holy Communion programme. A prayer partner prays for a child at least twice a day, whilst they are preparing to make their First Holy Communion. If you would like to become a prayer partner, please print your name in capital letters on the blue sheets on the blue board at the back of the church.

## SCHOOLS

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** has tours for new Reception and Nursery Parents on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 9.15am, Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 9.15am.** Please use this [link](#) to book a visit, call or pop into the office.

**GOVERNOR VACANCY:** St. Augustine's School are looking for two Governors, one with SEND skills and one with personnel skills. The roll is a 4-year tenure and requires attendance at 3 meetings per term plus occasional visits to the school to meet with classes and subject teachers. Training is provided to help Governors fulfil their very important role. If you are a practising Catholic and are interested in giving something back to your local Catholic school, please let Father Julian know. More info can be found at [www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/ser-ving-as-a-governor](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/ser-ving-as-a-governor).

**ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S** will be holding a coffee morning in the crypt on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January from 8.30am-10.30am** to raise funds. All are welcome!

## SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:** The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on the **2<sup>nd</sup> February at 4.30pm** in the presbytery. The group is working really well and if you need support and would



like to join the group, please do contact the presbytery.

**RETRouvaille: HELP YOUR MARRIAGE: Help Your Marriage** - Retrouvaille is a



programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, or a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**2022 PARISH MAGAZINE** in full colour, 60 pages, is still available to buy from the presbytery during the week. To cover the cost of printing, the price is £5.

**LOST PROPERTY:** A child's coat has been left in the church. Please contact the presbytery if it belongs to you.

**REFRESHMENTS** will be served after Saturday 6.30pm Mass on **4<sup>th</sup> February** in the crypt. Breakfast will also be served after the 9.15am and 11.15am Masses on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February.** All are welcome.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Pat Kavanagh, Sue Alvey and Val. Thank you for your help.

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

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Please take a parish membership form and information leaflet from the box attached to the noticeboard at the back of church, in the corner by the emergency door. Please return the completed form to the presbytery.

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Sat 21st January St Agnes, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b> 9.30am Exposition 10am Mass <i>Private intention</i>	<b>Page 127 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 8: 23-9:3 <i>In Galilee of the nations the people has seen a great light.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Margaret Mulligan RIP</i>	<b>Ps 26 — The Lord is my light and my help.</b>  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17 <i>Make up the differences between you instead of disagreeing among yourselves.</i>
<b>Sun 22nd January 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Andrew Kozlowski's intentions</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	<b>Gospel Accl.:</b> <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom, and cured all kinds of sickness among the people. Alleluia!</i>
<b>Mon 23rd January</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>James Griffin's intentions</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 4: 12-23 <i>He went and settled in Capernaum: in t his way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled.</i>
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January St Francis de Sales, Bishop &amp; Dr</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Maureen Harris ints &amp; Carl Feeney RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b>  <b>4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>  <b>(YEAR A)</b></p>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Maria-Teresa Distefano RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Zephaniah 2: 3, 3: 12-13 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 5: 1-12
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January Ss Timothy &amp; Titus, Bishops</b> (Anniversary of Fr Julian's Ordination) 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Maureen Payne RIP</i> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b>            Saturday 10.30 – 11am &amp; 5.30 – 6.15pm            Sunday 8.45 – 9am &amp; 10.45 – 11am            or ask Fr Julian at any other time.</p>
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January St Angela Merici, Virgin</b> (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Private intention</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass <i>Victims of Holocaust</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROSARY</b></p> <p>The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
<b>Sat 28<sup>th</sup> January St Thomas Aquinas, Priest &amp; Dr</b> 9.30am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Thomas Griffin &amp; Family intentions</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b></p> <p>Any parishioner sick, frail, 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>Joanne Smith RIP anniv</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b></p> <p>Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p>
<b>Sun 29th January 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Pietro Perzia RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b>  <b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b></p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>	
<b>Tues 24th</b> 1pm lunch club, crypt <b>Tues 24th</b> 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	<b>Tues 24<sup>th</sup></b> 7.30pm RCIA, presbytery <b>Wed 25th</b> 6pm Brownies, crypt

**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.*