

# - 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>

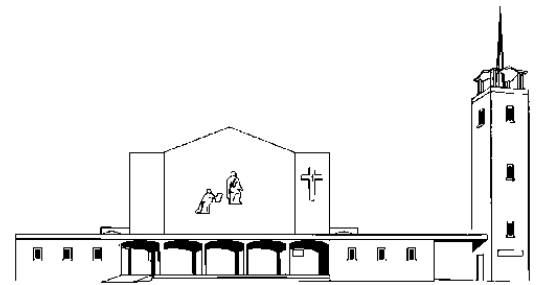
**Parish Priest: Fr Julian Davies**

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

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

Safeguarding parish rep: Rhian Hanson – [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**

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023**

Gospel: *Matthew 3: 13-17 As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.*

A few days ago, we celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany, the Journey of the Magi to Bethlehem. Epiphany means a showing forth, and it celebrates the revelation of Jesus to the non-Jewish world, shortly after his birth. It was God's intention from the very beginning that the good news of salvation should be for outsiders as well as insiders. Tradition identifies three magi, or wise men, because of the number of gifts and often depicts them as from the Near East, Asia and Africa. Magi were known in different cultures, but these wise men may have come more locally from Persia, since there the magi were the priestly ruling caste of the Zoroastrians. Wherever they came from, they were seekers after the truth. Not possessing the revelation of the chosen people, they sought guidance from their own religious inclinations and from their observation of divinely ordered nature. They were prepared to step out in faith to find Christ. Were they wise? Certainly not in worldly terms, for they were fortunate to escape with their lives, after turning up at Herod's court and pointedly asking, where is the real king of the Jews? Their wisdom was in that they desired divine truth, and sought the Christ child with courageous faith, trusting in the prophetic words that they heard. We celebrate their visit at Epiphany, together today with the Baptism of Christ. The Baptism opens up epiphany, not just as a revelation of Jesus' messiahship, but as a theophany, a manifestation of His divinity. The Baptism of Christ is one of the great Trinitarian feasts, when all three persons of the Trinity touch the natural world...the word of the Father, the self-offering of the Son and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. No longer simply the long awaited one, prophesied by a voice in the wilderness, Jesus is now openly declared as divine by the Father and the Spirit. The Church also sees the Marriage at the Feast of Cana as an epiphany event, at which Jesus made the first 'sign', as St John puts it, of his true identity, through miraculously changing water into wine. But why stop there? Just as we can talk of the several advents of Jesus... his first coming, the coming of his ministry, his silent coming to us in our lives, his second coming at the end of time...we can say also that there are several epiphanies...his manifestation from the manger throne, at his baptism, through his words and miracles, the dawning epiphany of his truth in our lives and that final epiphany, in all his glory before whom every knee will bow and every tongue confess. And what of his Epiphany in us? Christ wants to dwell in us deeply to manifest his grace, truth, love, peace, joy, forgiveness and wholeness. It can only be through his empowerment. Through his incarnation, God is pleased to dwell within us and manifest himself in our lives, not in spite of, but through our very frailty and brokenness. Through our encounter with Christ, like the magi we are also on a journey, but a return journey in which we are being reassembled and re-integrated, where we see ourselves and the world afresh as they did. We have been deeply touched and we discover our true selves and the true God by falling in love, in adoration and worship. That truly wise man, our father in the faith, Pope Benedict XVI, uttered as his last words 'Jesus I love you'. This is where all Epiphany ends and begins.



Fr Julian

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**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.

**WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH** Gabriella Verde who will be baptised this weekend.

**VINCENZO SILENTI** of Tregelles Road died recently, aged 80. His Requiem will be on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 1.15pm** with Don Antonio.

**STEFANO DIESEI** of Stortford Road, died recently aged 86. His Requiem will be on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 11.30am**.

*May they rest in peace.*

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Stefano Diesi, Vincenzo Silenti and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Aldeuzia Crimauo, Leo Lee-Lozone, Cornelius Van Hage, Maria Cuffaro, Pellegrino Alfieri, Filippa Gaiteri, Mary O'Donovan, Vincenzo Papa, Vincenza Provenzano, Giuseppe Chiazza, Vincenzo Segameglio, Connie Murphy, Giovannina Minichiello, Phyllis Lawlor, Marion Miller and Peggy Folan. *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 **15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> January**. 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>.

**CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE** on behalf of Churches Together will be held on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 6pm** at St Catherine's & St Paul's Church.

## 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 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:** 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 17<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm in the presbytery.



**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023:** An email has been sent to Confirmation parents regarding the Confirmation programme. If you have not received the email, please contact the presbytery.



**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next course will be held on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 11.30am** in the church. The course must be completed before a Baptism is arranged.

To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

### JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

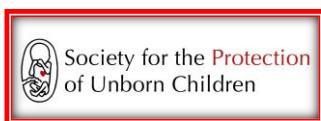
**CAFOD:** Could you volunteer and help them raise awareness in either parishes or schools about their work across the developing world tackling poverty and injustice? Find out more by joining one of the volunteer meetings in Lambeth London on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January** or Oakwood, North London on **Wed 1<sup>st</sup> February**. Please contact Tony at CAFOD for further details. [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk) or 0208 449 6970

### SCHOOLS

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** has tours for new Reception and Nursery Parents on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm**. 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).

### JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE



**SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL:** The Society for the Protection of Unborn

Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal on the **14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> January**. SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable, and is

raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion.

### SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**ENQUIRY INTO ASSISTED SUICIDE:** The House of Commons Health and Social Care Committee has launched an inquiry into assisted suicide and is inviting participation from the public through answering a consultative paper with six questions. Assisted suicide presents profound dangers to public safety and the common good, and so it is crucial that as many people as possible engage with the inquiry and oppose the introduction of assisted suicide into UK law. The public response must be in by Friday 20 January. To aid public engagement, the Anscombe Bioethics Centre has [produced a short two-page Briefing](#) (at the back of the church) to help anyone interested in responding, whether as an individual or as an organisation. The relevant links for the questionnaire and for longer responses are included in this document. Anyone with any questions can contact the Anscombe Centre at [admin@bioethics.co.uk](mailto:admin@bioethics.co.uk).

### 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.



**2022 PARISH MAGAZINE** in full colour, 60 pages, is now available to buy from the presbytery during the week. To cover the cost of printing, the price is £5. If you cannot get to the presbytery during the week, but would like a copy, please do contact the presbytery.

**CHILDREN'S BOOKS** by Kristina Cooper, the former editor of Good News, are available to buy from the repository. Esmeralda & the Readies are £9.95 each and The Little Witch Who Wanted to be Good are £7.95 each.

**200 CLUB WINNER** for January is no. 53, Ellen Bartlett. Congratulations!

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Elizabeth Nsonwah, Toni Iamarino, Penny Bengé & Antonia Di Piano. Thank you for your help.

| Liturgy this week  | Today's Liturgy   |
|--|---|
| <b>Sat 7<sup>th</sup> January St Raymond of Penyaford, Priest</b><br>9.30am Exposition<br>10am Mass <b>John Walsh RIP</b>  | <b>Page 118 in the Mass books</b><br><br><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7<br><i>Here is my servant in whom my soul delights.</i>  |
| 4.00pm Italian Mass*<br>6.30pm Mass* <b>Marion Miller RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniv</b>   | <b>Ps 28 — The Lord will bless his people with peace.</b>   |
| <b>Sun 8<sup>th</sup> January THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b><br>9.15am Mass <b>Peggy Folan RIP</b><br>11.15am Mass <b>For the Parish</b>  | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 10: 34-38<br><i>God anointed him with the Holy Spirit.</i>  |
| <b>Mon 9<sup>th</sup> January</b><br>8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br>9.15am Mass <b>Hugh Chantel &amp; Family</b><br>6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament   | <b>Gospel Accl.:</b> <i>Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'</i> Alleluia!  |
| <b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January</b><br>8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br>9.15am Mass <b>Andrew Kozlowski's intentions</b><br>6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  | <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 3: 13-17<br><i>As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.</i>  |
| <b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January</b><br>8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br>9.15am Mass <b>Ramsahaye Family intentions</b> followed by coffee in the crypt<br>6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b><br/> <b>2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b><br/> <b>(YEAR A)</b></p> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6<br><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Corinthians 1: 1-3<br><b>Gospel:</b> John 1: 29-34                    |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January St Aelred of Rievaulx</b><br>7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br>8am Mass <b>Sarah Manners intentions</b><br>NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  | <b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b><br>Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm<br>Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am<br>or ask Fr Julian at any other time.   |
| <b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January St Hilary, Bishop &amp; Dr</b><br>(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)<br>11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction<br>12 noon Mass <b>Private intention</b><br><b>1.15pm Funeral Vincenzo Silenti RIP</b><br>6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROSARY</b></p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.   |
| <b>Sat 14<sup>th</sup> January Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday</b><br>9.30am Adoration<br>10am Mass <b>Grace Henshaw RIP</b>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b></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*<br>6.30pm* Mass <b>Kevin O'Bryan RIP &amp; Baby William O'Bryan</b>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b></p> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.<br><br><b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b><br><b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b> |
| <b>Sun 15<sup>th</sup> January 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b><br>9.15am Mass <b>For the Parish</b><br>11.15am Mass <b>Giuseppe Tambuzzo RIP</b>  |   |
| * Vigil Mass of Sunday   |   |
| <b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>  |   |
| <b>Tues 10<sup>th</sup></b> 1 pm lunch club, crypt<br><b>Tues 10<sup>th</sup></b> 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt  | <b>Wed 11<sup>th</sup></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.*