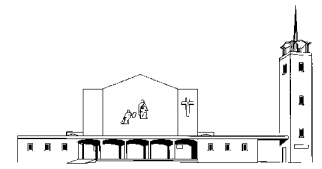




# The Announcer



## St Augustine's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Esdaile Lane, Hoddesdon, EN11 8DS Tel: 01992-440986

**Parish Priest: Fr Julian Davies**

E-mail: [hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk) Web-site: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hoddesdon>

FaceBook: "CatholicHoddesdon" 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)

**Year A**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023**

Gospel: *John 4: 5-42 The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.*

Last week's gospel was the Transfiguration, the revelation of Jesus as the Light. Today's gospel is about one brought to life by that Light, the Samaritan woman. According to early tradition, her name was Photini, which means 'enlightened'. It translates as Svetlana in Slavic countries and the popularity of that name stems from the popularity of the story of the Samaritan woman in Eastern Christianity. Much of the story is about gift rather than giving up. Lent is not just about giving up but also giving out, and both stem from the generous gift of God. More specifically Lent was, and is, the time of final preparation for the catechumens awaiting baptism into the Church at Easter. The story of the Samaritan woman, together



with that of the children of Israel seeking water in the wilderness, was central to the ancient Lenten liturgies. In Exodus, Moses strikes the rock to satisfy the thirst of the children of Israel. This prefigures for St Paul our baptism into Christ for, *'all drank the same spiritual drink; and they drank of the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ'*. Next the catechumens would hear the gospel of Jesus telling the Samaritan woman that he could give her *'living water...springing up to everlasting life'*. As the catechumens journeyed towards baptism, they would easily identify with the Samaritan woman. Like them, she was yearning for truth but had not yet fully received it, or as our St Augustine puts it, she was *'not yet justified, but waiting to be justified'*. Like them, she was a gentile, alienated from the chosen people. Like them, through God's grace she would soon be welcomed into the household of faith. The gospel speaks powerfully to those coming to faith, but also to all the baptised. It calls us to renew our own baptismal promises and continually resort to drink deeply from the spiritual well of Christ. How can we make a good lent if we fail to nurture our relationship with Jesus who is its object and focus, who baptises us in the Holy Spirit and leads us to the Father's heart? An Ambrosian preface for Lent puts it like this: *'defying the dark depths of vice, and leaving behind the vessel of harmful desires, may we ever thirst for You, that art the fountain of life, and source of all goodness, and may we please You by the observance of our fast'*. Jesus drew out of the Samaritan woman a desire for spiritual truth, simultaneously creating in her the gift of faith. The Ambrosian preface continues: *'and so He deigned to thirst for her faith, so that, as He asked water of her, He might enkindle in her the fire of divine love'*. Jesus thirsting for her faith? Given her exploited and drained life, we see her as necessarily thirsting for reality, true relationship and steadfast love. Pope Benedict said she *'represents the existential dissatisfaction'* with life, of one who has up to that point not found what she sought. But was Jesus also thirsting? For her faith? For her soul? For her? Jesus initiated his conversation with the Samaritan woman by asking her for water. As he was dying he would thirst again. His heart reveals an altogether deeper thirst, so often highlighted by St Teresa of Calcutta. Alongside every crucifix in all her chapels of the Missionaries of Charity she inserted in bold letters the words *'I Thirst'*. Jesus thirsts for the whole of humanity and for every bit of us, as she said.....*'for our life, our affection, that intimate attachment to him, that sharing of his passion'*. Unless we know that that Jesus thirsts for us, we will never know who He is and who we are in His eyes.... what He wants to do for us, and we for Him.

Fr Julian

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**SONIA WILSON** of Park Lane, Broxbourne died recently. Her funeral will be held on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm** at Woollensbrook Crematorium.

*May she rest in peace.*

'INSTRUCTIONS FOR MY FUNERAL MASS' leaflets are available beside the newsletters at the back of church, if you wish to complete one. Please hand the completed copy into the presbytery. **If you would like it emailed to you, please do email the presbytery to request a copy.**

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Sonia Wilson and Mary Fernandez and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Angelo Orsini, John Kelly, Rosa Abella, Sheila Barry, Felicia Abella, Ted Leatherbarrow, Milly Yarwood, Palmino Ingino, James O'Brien, Margaret Staines and Donald Gifford & Thomas & Maureen Murphy. *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 **12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March**. 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.

**AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY** will be on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May** and the coach will leave the church at 9am. The price of the coach is £22 each. You can either bring a packed lunch, or buy lunch at the café.



There will be Mass, Benediction and the Rosary. If you would like to go, please complete the tear off slip and return it to the presbytery together with the £22. **We have now booked a bigger coach, so there are 9 spaces available. If you have reserved a place, can you please pay the £22 to confirm your place.**

**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**. All couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023 are invited. If you would like to attend, please contact the presbytery with the husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

**WARM SPACES PROJECT:** We will provide a warm space in our crypt on Tuesdays from 2.30pm-5.00pm.

**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 and commissioning for the Ministers of Holy Communion, so if you are a Minister, please attend the Mass at 8pm.**



**MINISTERS 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.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND** will be led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP from **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November to Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. The route will be Galilee - Jerusalem - Bethlehem and flights will be from Heathrow on BA. Cost is for full board £2265 per person sharing a room, £682 single room supplement. Travel insurance essential. You can book online at <http://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL> or call Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886666 or Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage office 0207 798 9173.

**NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION** will be held on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** in our church from 10am-4.30pm in support of Marie Curie. You can light a candle and remember your loved ones who have died and then have refreshments in the crypt from 10-11.30am and 3.30pm-4.30pm. There is also an opportunity to do crafts in the crypt.



### LENT

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be prayed in church each Friday (12.30pm, after Mass) & Saturday (9.30am before Mass.) Exposition will take place at 9am on Saturday mornings in Lent. Italian Stations will be at 4.30pm each Friday.

**LENTEN ALMS: Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023** Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service 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 porch.

**LENT FAITH SHARING GROUP:** If you would like to join a faith sharing group, please contact Michel Jordan on 07479012984. One group has already started meeting on Thursday mornings and we are looking to start another group at another time. You don't need to attend all sessions.

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE** for the parish will be on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm**.



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

**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 the link below <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>

**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**

**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 14<sup>th</sup> March** at 7.30pm in the presbytery.



**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023:** The next meeting for candidates only will be held in the crypt on **Tuesday 21st March 7-8pm.**

**BAPTISM COURSE** will be held on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 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**

**Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal:** CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows the Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria

Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.



**SCHOOLS**

**UNDER 5'S 200 CLUB RENEWALS** will take place **this weekend** after every Mass. Please note there are still spare numbers available.

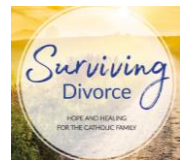
**ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5's** is looking for enthusiastic early years practitioners to join their team. Applicants to be qualified to level 2/3 in Early Years Childcare and Education or equivalent. Please email the Under 5's at [staugustinesunder5s@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:staugustinesunder5s@hotmail.co.uk) or call 460614. Apply with covering letter and CV to Charlton Close Hoddesdon EN11 8DR. **CLOSING DATE Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March.**

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** have nursery tours available. Please contact the school office on 01992 463549 or [admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk) for further details.

**SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS**

**SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:**

The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wed 15<sup>th</sup> March at 4.30pm** in the presbytery. If you need support and would like to join the group, please do contact the presbytery.



**CHURCH CLEANING:** Elizabeth Nsonwah, Tina Pegna & Sophie Lenguito. Thank you for your help.

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**PILGRIMAGE DAY TO AYLESFORD PRIORY ON 11<sup>th</sup> MAY.**

Name: .....

Contact no: .....

Email address.....

Next-of-kin name & contact number:  
.....

Please return to the presbytery in an envelope with your name on together with the £22.

**PROTECTING YOUR PRIVACY**  
Your personal details will be held on file. After the Pilgrimage day, your details will be securely destroyed. You can read the full privacy policy on [rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy](http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy).

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Sat 11<sup>th</sup> March</b> 9.00am Exposition 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <b>Giulio Colla RIP</b>	<b>Page 158 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Exodus 17: 3-7 <i>Give the water to drink.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <b>Thomas &amp; Maureen Murphy RIP</b>	<b>Ps 94 — O that today you would listen to his voice:            'Harden not your hearts.'</b>
<b>Sun 12<sup>th</sup> March THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 9.15am Mass <b>Ethna Mooney</b> 11.15am Mass <b>For the Parish</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8 <i>The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us.</i>
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <b>Milly Yarwood RIP anniv</b> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel Accl.</b> Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Lord, you are really the saviour of the world; give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <b>Franca Mercurio RIP anniv</b> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel:</b> John 4: 5-42 <i>The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.</i>
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <b>Vincenzo Gudemi &amp; Geogio Azzotardi RIP</b> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS            FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT            (YEAR A)</b></p>
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March</b> 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <b>Private intention</b> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Ephesians 5: 8-14 <b>Gospel:</b> John 9: 1-41
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March ST PATRICK, Bishop, Patron of Ireland</b> (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <b>Isobel Camp's intentions</b> 12.30pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROSARY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
<b>Sat 18<sup>th</sup> March St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop &amp; Dr</b> 9.00am Exposition 9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <b>Assunta Mezzullo RIP</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">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 <b>For the Parish</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p>
<b>Sun 19<sup>th</sup> March FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 9.15am Mass <b>Dave Greenall RIP</b> 11.15am Mass <b>Esther Lynch's intentions</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust            Registered Charity No. 233699</b></p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>	
<b>Tues 14<sup>th</sup></b> 1pm lunch club, crypt <b>Tues 14<sup>th</sup></b> 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	<b>Tues 14<sup>th</sup></b> 7.30pm RCIA, crypt <b>Wed 15<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 in the porch. 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.*