



# 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 – [hoddesdong@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdong@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

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

**Year A**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

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

Gospel: *John 11: 1-45 I am the resurrection and the life.*

The raising of Lazarus is not like the resurrection of the dead proclaimed in our creed each week. This is because Lazarus would die again, as would the son of the widow of Nain, and the daughter of Jairus, both of whom Jesus raised also from the dead. Hopefully, like them, Lazarus survived for many more years before finally succumbing to natural death a second time. When Jesus miraculously raised the three of them respectively, their bodies were still subject to decline and decay. They were raised not as glorious spiritual bodies, as they will be at their eventual resurrection, but as the same mortal bodies which they had before.



Their bodies could not materialise and immaterialise as Jesus' glorious resurrection body did after his Resurrection. As they eventually died a second death, they now await the resurrection of the dead, as all the dead do, and as one day we ourselves will, after our own death. This is regardless of whether we believe it or not. Uniquely Jesus has already been raised from the dead, never to die again. As we also say in the creed, he will return to judge the living and the dead. Everyone will be raised from the dead without exception, some, Jesus tells us, to life, others to condemnation. Jesus' own Resurrection is the lynchpin of our Christian belief. It is impossible to be a Christian unless you believe it. It is at the heart of the good news. As St Paul said *'If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved'*. However, at this stage in the events leading up to Holy Week only Jesus knew what was going to happen to him three days after his own death. Although he mentioned his own resurrection to his disciples, they wouldn't have understood what he meant by it. If they understood anything by resurrection, it would have been the conventional Jewish belief in the resurrection on the last day. Martha voices the same belief, that her brother would *'rise again at the resurrection on the last day'*. Jesus however was not content that Martha should simply believe in a future resurrection. He draws her attention away from the future and indeed from her present grief, to his present self. Those who place their trust in him now are empowered with a measure of that power which would raise his very body three days after his own death, and which will eventually raise the dead at the end of time. Unequivocally he identifies himself as the one true God of the living, declaring, *'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die'*. No one before or since has ever made a similar claim. Only in and through Jesus does humanity access that fulness of life, freedom, spaciousness, indeed eternal life, for which we crave. In this season of lent, as we walk the way of the cross, as we die to ourselves, as we give up and give away, let us remember that lent ultimately means one thing-Jesus' claims upon my life. He calls for my love, recognition and obedience. I shall have made a good lent if I acknowledge that I am not the Lord of my life, but that He is, and that I am called to entrust myself entirely into his hands. Jesus said to Martha, *'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God'*. He says the same to us, and who would wish to ignore it?

Fr Julian

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**EXPOSITION** of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 5-6pm on Tuesday due to the Confirmation meeting.

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Rosalind Needham, Calogero Belanca, Susan Harwood, Robert Cullen, Baby Angelina Rodia, Maria Di Stefano, Antonino Martorana, Antonino Cuffaro, Salvatore Russo, Rocchina Tedesco, Rosalia Castagna, Esther Blake, Ellen Higgins, Robert Cullen, Brian Finlay, Rosa Leto and Roberta Copuroglu. *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 **26<sup>th</sup> March and 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY** will be on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May** and the coach will leave the church at 9am. The coach is now full. If you have not yet paid, can you please drop your money in to the presbytery.



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

**VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD** Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May St James, Spanish Place (tube Bond St/Baker St) Open Evening for any interested men.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** is from **21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023**, led by HE Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Book now to avoid disappointment as places are limited at: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/westminster-lourdes>.



**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** will be on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**. Mass that evening will therefore be at 8.30pm. More details will follow.

### 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.



**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.

### HOLY WEEK

**MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS:** 5 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.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY ON GOOD FRIDAY:** Children should be taken straight to the crypt. Children should also be collected from the crypt.

**HOLY WEEK POSTERS** are now available at the back of church. Please do take one to display in your window at home.

### HOLY WEEK – advanced notice of times:

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April: **CHRISM MASS** at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** 6<sup>th</sup> April  
8.30am Exposition  
**8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
9.30pm–Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 7<sup>th</sup> April  
9.45am Morning Prayer  
11 *Churches Together* Act of Witness (clock tower)  
12-3pm Adoration before the Cross  
**3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion**  
7pm Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY:** 8<sup>th</sup> April  
9.45am Morning Prayer  
**9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil**

**EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15am and 11.15am Mass**



## 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>

**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.**



### 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 25<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.30pm in the presbytery.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023:** The next meeting for candidates only will be held in the crypt on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 7-8pm.**

### SCHOOLS

**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.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S** will be holding their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April** from 12-3pm. Previous staff/committee members are most welcome. Please rsvp to Lynn on 07880887663.



**WE WISH THE STUDENTS & STAFF** of our parish schools a blessed and restful Easter break.

### SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:** The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wed 19<sup>th</sup> April 4.30pm** in the presbytery. If you need support and would like to join the group, please do contact the presbytery.

**BACON/SAUSAGE** sandwiches and refreshments will be served in the crypt after the 9.15am and 11.15am Masses **next weekend.** Tea and cake will be served after the 6.30pm Mass. All are welcome.

**UPDATE ON SUPPORTING ASYLUM SEEKERS IN BROXBORNE:** Thank you for your wonderful response to the appeal for assistance for asylum seekers. So many clothes have been donated, that a temporary halt has been put on clothing so what has been donated can be distributed. Whilst clothes are no longer being collected, you can still make a monetary donation at

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/donation/ca-re-4-calais-west-essex-east-herts&tag=>

**LOVE THE STRANGER - A Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees** is a document from the Department for International Affairs of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England. You can read it at <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2023-03/bishops-england-and-wales-call-for-safe-access-of-migrants-to-uk.html>



**HOMES FOR UKRAINE MATCHING SERVICE:** Caritas Social Action

Network, a Catholic charity, are matching Ukrainian people displaced by the brutal war in their country with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their home for six months. If you have room to consider welcoming a stranger displaced by war, then please email [homesforukraine.org.uk](mailto:homesforukraine.org.uk) or visit [www.sjog-homesforukraine.uk](http://www.sjog-homesforukraine.uk).

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Michele & Pelle De Luca, Sophie Lenguito & Alex Thomson. Thank you for your help.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Sat 25<sup>th</sup> March THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</b> 9.00am Exposition                      9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>Tommy, Mary and children</i>	<b>Page 170 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Ezekiel 37: 12-14 <i>I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass* <i>Robert Cullen RIP</i>	<b>Ps 129 — With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.</b>
<b>Sun 26<sup>th</sup> March FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Brian Finlay RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Romans 8: 8-11 <i>The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.</i>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Pamela, Dan and children</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel Accl.</b> Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Sina Guddemi's intentions</i> <b>5-6pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel:</b> John 11: 1-45 <i>I am the resurrection and the life.</i>
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March</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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b>  <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  <b>(YEAR A)</b></p> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 50: 4-7 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Philippians 2: 6-11 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 26: 14-27
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b> 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Vincent Byrne RIP</i> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am or ask Fr Julian at any other time.
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b> (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Frederick Wayne RIP</i> 12.30pm Stations of the Cross 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 1<sup>st</sup> April</b> 9.00am Exposition                      9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>Mr and Mrs Smith's intentions</i>	<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* 6.30pm* Mass <i>Maria Randazzo RIP anniv</i>	<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.
<b>Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> April PALM SUNDAY</b> 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Antonino &amp; Franco Martorana 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 28th</b> 1pm lunch club, crypt	<b>Tues 28th</b> 7pm Confirmation
<b>Tues 28th</b> 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	<b>Wed 29th</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.*