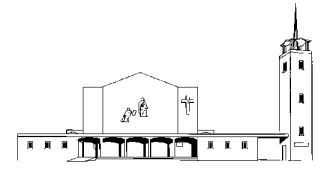




The Announcer



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 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

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Year A

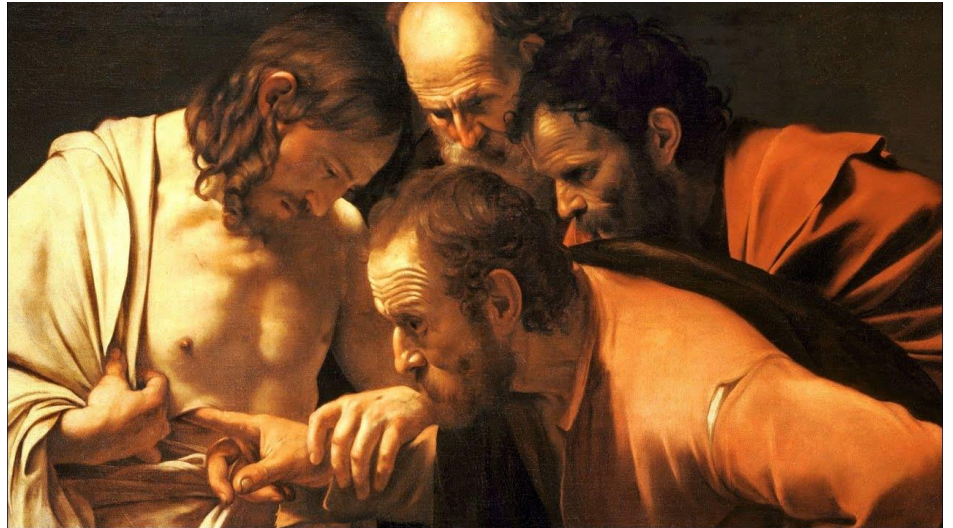
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY)

16TH APRIL 2023

Gospel: *John 20: 19-31*

Eight days later, Jesus came.

Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed!
Today is the Second Sunday of Easter, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus has been raised from the dead so what has this to do with divine mercy? Everything in fact, so long as we hold the Cross and the Empty Tomb together. Today's gospel reading is the encounter of Thomas with the risen Lord. Thomas had not been present when Jesus first appeared to his disciples on the evening of the day when he rose from the dead. Thomas doubted when the disciples told him that the risen Lord had appeared to them. *'Unless I see the holes that made*



the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Thomas' request is a tall order. He would not be satisfied with the anaemic version of the resurrection which is so often peddled for the truth today. So often we hear that the resurrection was a fiction of the disciples' sensory imagination or credulity, that they were assured that Jesus was alive because they felt it or believed it not because it actually took place. Other ideas, old gnostic or modernist new age, alternatively suggest that the disciples had simply a spiritualised, ethereal encounter with a disembodied Jesus. Holy Scripture and the testimony of the early Church categorically refute these ahistorical and unphysical versions of the resurrection of Jesus. They certainly would not have satisfied Thomas, even if the disciples had offered them to him as an explanation of their encounter with Christ. Thomas was a materialist. He wanted to touch the very matter of Jesus' risen body, to feel its very physicality. When Jesus appeared to the disciples a second time, this time when Thomas was present, he invited Thomas not only to touch the wounds on his hands but to thrust his hand into his side....and what a big wound that must have been. The point is this that Jesus was raised in his body.... a glorious, spiritual body unlike anything the world has seen, not subject now to time and space as it was in his incarnational ministry. Importantly his body still carried his wounds. It is this very fact of his bodily resurrection which glorifies those very wounds which we gave him and which were the price of our freedom through his atoning work on the cross. Without the bodily resurrection there can be no mercy, no forgiveness, no salvation. As the preface for The Passion of the Lord proclaimed *'his Resurrection has purchased our justification'*. The Resurrection rightly points to the *fount of life, unfathomable divine mercy* which gushed forth for souls through the wounds of Jesus Christ. Because of his sorrowful passion, vindicated by the resurrection, we can appeal to the *Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One to have mercy on us and the whole world*. It is only because the Eternal Father's dearly beloved Son has been raised from the dead that we can offer up his glorious spiritual body ...his complete *Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity...in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world*, and say with all the saints and the faithful departed, not only *my Lord and my God*, but *Jesus, I trust in You*.

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

LUCIANO RICOTTA of Church Lane, died recently. His funeral will be held on **Tuesday 18th April at 11.30am**. *May he rest in peace.*

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Carlo Ferraro, Vincenzo Vasile and Luciano Ricotta and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Rosario Quartararo, James Hussey, Elia Peduto, Antonio Minichiello, Anthony Willis, Mary Perllman, Giuseppe Conti, John Dempsey, Eileen Willing, Joan Molloy, Brian and Josephine Scanlon and Maura Hudson. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will take place from **5-6pm on Tuesday evening** due to the Confirmation meeting.

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 **23rd 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 11th 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.

MAY PROCESSION will be held on **Friday 5th May**. Mass will be at 6pm and the May Procession will be after Mass. More details to follow in due course.



MONTH OF OUR LADY: During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed for before each Sunday Mass. If you would like to volunteer to lead this, please contact the presbytery.

MASS INTENTIONS: There are many spare weekday dates for intentions for you to request Mass in the coming weeks. Mass can be offered not only for the deceased, but also for the intentions of the sick, for special intentions, for thanksgiving etc. Intention can be published as 'Private Intention' if you so wish.

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

[tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/westminster-lourdes](https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/westminster-lourdes).

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSHINGHAM will be on **Saturday 23rd September**. Mass that evening will therefore be at 8.30pm. More details will 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 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:

Account Name:	WRCDT Hoddesdon
Sort Code:	40-05-20
Account Number:	31264370

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 25th April** at 7.30pm in the presbytery.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023: The next meeting in the crypt will be on **Tuesday 18th April 7-8pm**. If you have not yet returned your completed blue sponsor form together with the sheet with your chosen Confirmation name, can you please return them to the presbytery.

CONFIRMATION: Sylvia Kelly will be received and Confirmed at the **6.30pm Mass this weekend**. There will be refreshments available in the crypt after that Mass and all are welcome.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

CAFOD word of thanks: Shukla is a mum in Bangladesh who has been very worried about her children's nutrition. After joining a community project in Bangladesh, which is supported by CAFOD, Shukla has a productive garden and can grow food for her son. People support us in so many ways – giving in church, giving to us by direct debit, or leaving us a gift in their will. This generosity and compassion reaches hard-working mothers like Shukla. Thank you. To read Shukla's story, go to cafod.org.uk/GiftInWill

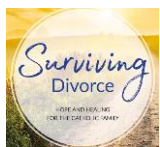


SCHOOLS

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

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S regret they won't be hosting the Friday coffee mornings in the future. Thank you to all those who did support it.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS



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

APF RED BOXES: The Spring magazine is now available. If you have a red box, can you please return it to the presbytery. Thank you. Ellen Bartlett.



CORONATION CEREMONY: We will be showing the King's Coronation on the large TV in the crypt on **Saturday 6th May**. All are welcome to come and watch.



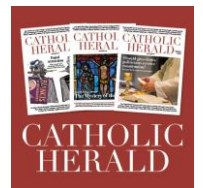
LENTEN COLLECTION: The Holy Places collection after the Passion Liturgy on Good Friday raised £392.10. Thank you to all who contributed.

KNITTING WOOL: Is there anyone who has spare knitting wool to donate to a pensioner who knits for charity? If so, please contact Margaret Byrne on 443351.



200 CLUB WINNER for April is Claire Hay no 38. Congratulations!

CATHOLIC HERALD: You can get full access to the regularly updated website for just £60 for the first year using the special promotion coupon code for our parishioners which saves you £5 on the usual price of £65. Simply go to the website at www.catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe select the annual plan and enter the coupon code **PARISH23** to subscribe to both the printed magazine and full website access for just £60 for the year. Order by 1st May and get 14 months for the price of 12. Alternatively, telephone 020 2082 6539 or 020 7155 1374 and quote the coupon code when placing your order.



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

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK

19th APRIL – ST ALPHEGE

He was born in 953 and became a monk. King Aethelred used his abilities in 994, sending him to mediate with invading Danes. The Danish chieftain Anlaf converted to Christianity as a result of his meetings with Alphege. Anlaf vowed never to lead his troops against Britain again. In 1005 Alphege became the successor to Aleric as the archbishop of Canterbury, receiving the pallium in Rome from Pope John XVIII. He returned to England in time to be captured by the Danes pillaging the southern regions. The ransom for his release was about three thousand pounds and went unpaid. Alphege refused to give the Danes that much, an act which infuriated them. He was hit with an axe and beaten to death, revered as a martyr.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 15th April SAT WITHIN OCTAVE OF EASTER 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Brian & Josephine Scanlon RIP</p>	<p>Page 255 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 2: 42-47 <i>The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common.</i></p> <p>Ps 117 — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love as no end.</p> <p>2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1: 3-9 <i>In his great mercy he has given us a new birth as his sons by raising Jesus from the dead.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: John 20: 19-31 <i>Eight days later, Jesus came.</i></p>
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Justin Ighade's intentions</p>	
<p>Sun 16th April 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) 9.15am Mass Richard Pyper RIP 11.15am Mass For the Parish</p>	<p>3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)</p> <p>1st Reading: Acts 2: 14, 22-33 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1: 17-21 Gospel: Luke 24: 13-35</p>
<p>Mon 17th April 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Suzie Kelly's intentions 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Tues 18th April 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Maura Hudson RIP anniv 11.30am Funeral Luciano Ricotta RIP 5-6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Wed 19th April St Alphege, Bishop & Martyr 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Private intention followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Thurs 20th April 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass Concetta Lercara RIP anniv NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Friday 21st April St Anselm, Bishop & Dr (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Fr Philip McMichael RIP anniv 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Sat 22nd April 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Julia & Ken Parker RIP</p>	
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Maureen Murphy RIP</p> <p>Sun 23rd April 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass For the Parish 11.15am Mass Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP</p>	
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	

REGULAR EVENTS

Tues 18th	1 pm lunch club, crypt	Tues 18th	7pm Confirmation, crypt
Tues 18th	2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	Wed 19th	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.*