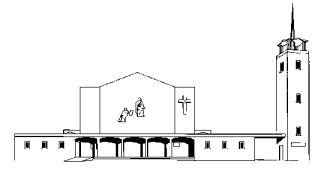




# The Announcer



## 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 EASTER**

**7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023**

Gospel: *John 14: 1-12*

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.*

One of the delights of spring is being able to sense the freshness of creation bursting into new life. For Solzhenitsyn, the smell of rain-drenched apple tree in blossom, in the well of his tiny garden, hemmed in by five stories, was life-giving. Contrasted to prison, this was freedom. *'I believe ...the single most precious freedom that prison takes away from us'* is *'the freedom to breathe freely as I now can'*. When you have been imprisoned or forced



to work on labour camps for eight years, as he was (simply for criticising Stalin), it goes without saying that you value your basic freedom more. There are of course different kinds of prisons, and one does not need to be physically imprisoned to feel imprisoned. Sometimes we imprison ourselves, by our inability to be ourselves or to love others as ourselves. These prisons can be a lot more confining than the walls of a gaol. If we do not know inner freedom, it doesn't matter how much outer freedom we have, we are not free. *'Bring my soul out of prison that I may praise your name'* said the Psalmist. Unforgiveness, bearing resentment or bitterness lock us up. Mandela said that *'As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I know if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison'*. Fear, low esteem and entertaining wrong ideas about ourselves also place us in detention. Crucially important are the life choices we make. *'I wear the chain I forged in life,'* said Marley's ghost to Scrooge. *'I made it link by link, and yard by yard; I girded it on of my own free will, and of my own free will I wore it. Is its pattern strange to you?'* God has given us free will, to respond to him freely, to make those choices in life which would most bring us into a place of liberty. In his graciousness, He provides the way to escape and break free. At the start of his ministry at Nazareth, Jesus proclaimed, *'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.'* Jesus' gift to his followers is infinite spaciousness, through the liberating love of the Father. God is not our enemy or stranger, but our loving heavenly Father. Jesus alone admits us into this wonderful freedom of knowing that we are infinitely loved. *'No one can come to The Father except through me'*. Jesus takes us further still into the heart of God. The effects of the *'wonderful exchange'* whereby he washes away our sins through his sacrificial death makes us as the offertory prayer today says, *'partakers of the one supreme Godhead'*. We become subjects rather than objects of God's love. Heaven is described as the spaciousness of the Father's house...a house of many rooms, in which we can feel at home. Feeling at home gives us the ultimate sense of freedom, where we are most ourselves. Jesus then tells his disciples that after preparing for them a place, he will return to take them with him. He is referring not just to his return three days after his death but his eventual return in the Second Coming, which we proclaim in every mass. It is proclaimed also in all coronations. A monarch receives the crown until Christ its rightful owner returns. To Christ alone belongs the crown, the coronation, the throne, the glory, the majesty, the abbey, the liturgy, the anointing, the nation, the world. *'God save the King!'*

Fr Julian

## PRAYER & LITURGY

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS SUNDAY'S



**FIRST COMMUNICANTS:** Ava Bernstone, Lucas Bolivar, Freddie Burke, Giuseppe Clemente, Ignazio Contato, Sofia D'Amato, Alessia Drago, Ryan Fairgrieve, Evelyn Fitch, Dario Gasparro, Nicholas Gomez

Bolivar, Dolly Rae Harrison, Tiago Ingraio, Helena Kozłowska, Siena O'Driscoll, Oliva Panayiotou, Oliver Raat, Vienna Rowe, Elena Simmons and Bonnie Thomson.

**VINCENZO VASILE** of Hoe Lane, Nazeing died recently. His funeral will be held on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 12.30pm.**

**CARLO FERRARO** of St Leonards Road died recently. His funeral will be held on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 11.30am.**

**MAURICE O'SULLIVAN** of Stoneleigh Drive died recently. His funeral will be on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm.**

**GIUSEPPE PIZZO** of Ferguson Close, died recently, His funeral will be on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 11.30am.**  
*May they rest in peace.*

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Maurice O'Sullivan, Giuseppe Pizzo, Carlo Ferraro, Franco Genuardi and Vincenzo Vasile and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including John McElroy, Liberato Reveglia, David Hale, Joan Hiscock, Patrick Danagher, Pasquale Re, Francesco Borelli, Elizabeth Coffey, Antonio Campaniello and Mary Wilson. *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 **4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June.** 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. There will be Mass at 12, and opportunities for the Rosary and other devotions in the afternoon. Please do bring a packed lunch with you, or there is a café there should you wish to buy something.

**MONTH OF OUR LADY:** During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed for before each Sunday Mass.



**ASCENSION DAY** is on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be at 9.15am with St Cross School, 2pm with St Augustine's School and 8pm.

**DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE** initiated by Pope Francis will be held on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May.** The Isaiah Journey group is promoting a week of online guided prayer for all who have been affected by clerical abuse in the Catholic Church. Find out more and book your place at [journeytogetherij@gmail.com](mailto:journeytogetherij@gmail.com).

**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.



## 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 9<sup>th</sup> May** at 7.30pm in the crypt.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023:** The next meeting in the crypt will be on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 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 as soon as possible.



**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next course will be held on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 11.30am** in the church. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

### 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 SCHOOL** are looking to employ a Mid-day supervisor. Would you enjoy spending a few hours a day helping children during their lunchtime?" If so, this is the right job for you! Please contact the Headteacher PA on 01992 463549.



**ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S** are holding a Table Top Sale on **Sat 24<sup>th</sup> June from 10-1pm**. If you would like to sell your unwanted children's clothes and toys, please reserve a table for £10 by contacting the Under 5's on 460614 [staugustinesunder5s@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:staugustinesunder5s@hotmail.co.uk).

### SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**'COME AND SEE':** Men who may be considering a vocation as a deacon are invited to attend an Introductory Morning on: **20<sup>th</sup> May, 10am-12noon:** Our Lady of Lourdes, 373 Bowes Road, N11 1AA. For further information please contact Deacon Colin Macken at [colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk).



**VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD** Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May St James, Spanish Place (tube Bond St/Baker St) Open Evening for any interested men. Mass is at 6pm which will be followed by a social gathering.

**PRIEST TRAINING FUND:** The total amount collected was £741.60. The fund is still open if you would like to donate. Please hand your donation in to the presbytery. Thank you.

**SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:** The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce

will be held on **Wed 24<sup>th</sup> May 4.30pm** in the presbytery. If you need support and would like to join the group, please do contact the presbytery.

**RETRouvaille** is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk).



**REFRESHMENTS** will be served after the 9.15am Mass **this weekend** in the crypt. Refreshments will also be served after the 6.30pm & 11.15am Masses.

**200 CLUB:** St Augustine's Under 5's still has some spare numbers. If you would like to join, please contact them on 01992 460614. The winner for May is no 192 Amy O'Bryan. Congratulations.



**EXHIBITION OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** The National Gallery is holding an exhibition from **6<sup>th</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> July** exploring the life and legacy of St Francis of Assisi. Admission to the exhibition is free

**10<sup>TH</sup> GOFFS OAK** is a guiding unit for girls with additional needs and disabilities aged 6 to 22 years, plus. The unit meet monthly on Saturdays and are based in Goffs Oak. They are looking for a new leader. If you can help, please email Lynn O'Bryan at [lynn\\_obryan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lynn_obryan@hotmail.co.uk).



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

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

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK

#### *Regina Coeli Prayer*

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia. Has risen, as he said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia. Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.





Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <b>Francesco Borrelli RIP</b>	<b>Page 265 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 6:1-7 <i>They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <b>For the Parish</b>	<b>Ps 32 — May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.</b>
<b>Sun 7<sup>th</sup> May 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9.15am Mass <b>Private intention</b> 11.15am Mass <b>David Hale RIP anniv</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Peter 2: 4-9 <i>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.</i>
<b>Mon 8<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <b>John Connors RIP</b> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel Accl.</b> Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.' Alleluia!  <b>Gospel:</b> John 14: 1-12 <i>I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.</i>
<b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup> May Day of Prayer for Victims &amp; Survivors of Sexual Abuse</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <b>Shirley Kennett RIP</b> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b>  <b>6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>  <b>(YEAR A)</b></p>
<b>Wed 10<sup>th</sup> May St John of Avila, Priest &amp; Dr</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <b>Daniela Ruggiero RIP</b> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 Peter 3: 15-18 <b>Gospel:</b> John 14: 15-21
<b>Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> May</b> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament NO 8am Mass <b>12.30pm Funeral Vincenzo Vasile RIP</b> NO 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>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May Ss Nereus &amp; Achilleus, Martyrs</b> (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <b>Franco Genuardi 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>
<b>Sat 13<sup>th</sup> May Our Lady of Fatima</b> 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <b>Private intention</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>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <b>Margaret Galligan RIP</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust</b>  <b>Registered Charity No. 233699</b></p>
<b>Sun 14<sup>th</sup> May 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9.15am Mass <b>For the Parish</b> 11.15am Mass <b>Ugochukwu Irechukwu RIP</b>	
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>	
<b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup></b> NO lunch club, crypt <b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup></b> 2.30pm Tuesday club, crypt	<b>Tues 9<sup>th</sup></b> 7.30pm RCIA, crypt <b>Wed 10<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.*