



The Announcer



St Augustine's Catholic Church

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Also in residence: Fr Mathews Valiyaputhenpura Joy (Chaplain to Knanaya community)
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Year A

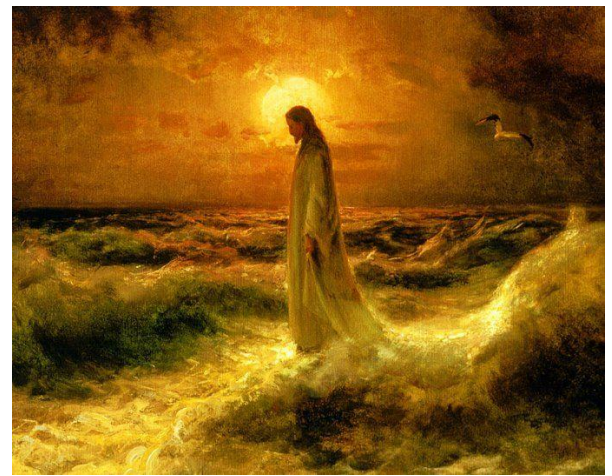
19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

13TH AUGUST 2023

Gospel: *Matthew 14: 22-33*

Tell me to come to you across the water.

Today's readings have something of the symphonic about them. They are full of movement and sound. In the first reading Elijah hears in succession a violent wind, an earthquake and a fire. In his letter to the Romans St Paul recounts the crescendo of Israel's favoured past, through their adoption, glory, covenants, law, ritual, promises, culminating in the coming of Christ. Finally, in the gospel reading we have the counterpoint of a boat dramatically battling a forceful headwind on a rough sea, followed by the discordant reaction of the terrified disciples. In each of our readings the music has a diminuendo. The first decreases to the sound, not of silence, but a gentle breeze. In the second, the descent of the Jews from the patriarchs is narrowed to a focus on one all-important descendant. In the third, the disciples



are stunned to silence, as Peter responds to Jesus' invitation to walk towards him on the water. In the three readings the musical resolution comes through the harmony of worship and faith. Elijah hears the sound of the gentle breeze, recognises the presence of God and covers his face. In the second, St Paul grieves that his fellow Jews do not share his faith in Christ... in whom all the Jewish religion finds its fulfilment, the true subject and object of their worship, 'who is above all'. In the gospel reading, Peter finds that that his faith gives way to the force of the wind. 'Man of little faith, why did you doubt', Jesus asks him. The revelation of Jesus' body, not bound by normal physical forces, drives the disciples to worship. They prostrate themselves, acknowledging, 'Truly, you are the Son of God'. What a scenario. As Jews they were taught to worship no one but the one and only true God. Here they bow down in worship before Jesus and acknowledge that they see in Him the one and only true God. This may have been the very first time that the disciples acknowledge Jesus' divinity rather than just his messiahship. In each of readings the broad perspective of God's creation is the backdrop for the enactment of faith and worship: the rocky landscape of Horeb in the first reading, the destiny of the Jews throughout history in our second, and the open sea-scape of Galilee in the third. Spaciousness indeed, but a greater spaciousness comes through listening to and receiving God's word, above in the recognition of the word made flesh Jesus, divinely human and humanly divine. St Paul reminds the Church that Christ is the hope of the Jews, as of all, because he has come not only from heaven but 'from their flesh and blood'. 'Christ who is above all', perfect man and perfect God. St Paul acclaims Jesus also as 'God, for ever blessed'. The only other person similarly called blessed forever in holy scripture is his mother Mary. She is the penultimate pinnacle of the flesh and blood of the Jews, the true daughter of Zion. This coming week sees the Feast of the Assumption, when we celebrate her entry into heaven. Last week on the Transfiguration we saw how the two main representatives of God's loving faithfulness to Israel -Moses and Elijah- were visibly and audibly communicating with Jesus. If they have been assumed into heaven, how much more of Mary, who in her flesh brings Jesus into the world. Alive, the saints are focused on the revelation of God's purposes. This week we celebrate several, among them Maximilian Kolbe, Stephen of Hungary and Jean Eudes. TS Eliot's words from *Little Gidding* seem apposite as we rejoice in our communion with them: 'what the dead had no speech for, when living, they can tell you being dead: the communication of the dead is tongued with fire beyond the language of the living'.

Fr Julian

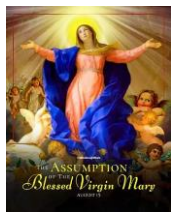
PRAYER & LITURGY

GAETANO ALFIERI of Beltona Gardens died recently. His Requiem will be on **Thursday 17th August at 1pm** with Fr Alberto Vico.

May he rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Gaetano Alfieri and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Margaret O'Sullivan, John Kelly, Franco Martorana, Joanne Perkins, Patricia Gudgin, Eva Mariotti, Mary Reidy, Mary McNaughton, Luigi Masucci, Daniella Fitzpatrick, Liam Fitzpatrick, Owen Gould, Pasqualina DiChiara, Brian Moore and Thomas Casey. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN



MARY feast is on **Tuesday 15th August** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be at 9.15am, 2pm and 8pm. **Please note that Exposition will be at 7pm, instead of 6pm.** Altar servers are needed for the Masses. If you can assist, please contact the presbytery.

FORTY HOURS' DEVOTION will be held in church from **Friday 25th August-Sunday 27th August.** The sign-up sheets to offer to pray for some of the 40 hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament are now available on the blue board at the back of church. **Please do fill in your name for the half hour slots.**



CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Gabby Hanley will be running 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 **this Sunday.**

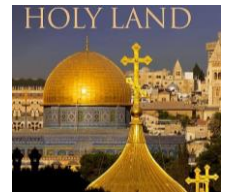
PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA is on Monday **23rd-Fri 27th October.** If you are interested in going, please do speak to Fr Julian as soon as possible.



DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM Saturday **23rd September.** We have the chance to go on pilgrimage to Walsingham with Cardinal Vincent and the Auxiliary Bishops. The theme of the Pilgrimage is 'Mary, Mother of the Home.' The theme is not dissimilar to the one for the Pilgrimage to Lourdes this year, focusing on Our Lady's call for a "Chapel to be built." In both senses, God is continually building up the People of God to journey with him on a pilgrimage of faith. The coach

will leave the church at 8am, to get to Walsingham in good time for 12 noon Mass. After lunch we walk the Holy Mile and conclude with Benediction at the old Priory shrine. Please note there will be two collections during the day: one during the Mass which goes towards the upkeep and development of the Walsingham Shrine and a retiring collection after Benediction which also goes towards the cost of the day. We have a 49-seater coach, with a toilet. To book a place on the coach, please fill in the slip at the bottom of the newsletter and give it in with the £29 (£24 coach + £5 pilgrims' levy) cost, either as cash or a cheque payable to 'St Augustine's Catholic Church,' to The Presbytery.

ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND



will take place from **11th to 18th March 2024** and will be led by the Diocese of Westminster with the Diocese of London. There are limited places available, and the deadline is 30th September 2023, so please book promptly to ensure your place. A payment of £600 deposit is required on booking. For further info & enquires, please visit <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/news/ecumenicalpilgrimage2024/>

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

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 Felix Adiele 01279-973183.

CATECHETICS

'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: The next

meeting will be in September. Further details to follow.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Saturday 2nd Sept 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.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024: Application forms for the Confirmation programme for young people in Year 9 or above, or going into Year 9 in September are now available to collect from the presbytery either by email or in person. Entry to the Confirmation programme depends on regular attendance at Mass. The programme will begin in early October and more details will follow in due course.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: A letter has now been emailed to parents regarding the 2023/2024 course. If you have not received the email, please do contact the presbytery.

JUSTICE & PEACE

CAFOD are looking for volunteers to visit schools to lead assemblies and workshops in the next academic year. Full training & support will be given. For more info contact Chris Driscoll on 07776493162 or email westminsterschools@cafod.org.uk.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PARISH PICNIC: We are holding a Parish picnic this Sunday from 12.30-3pm in the presbytery garden and the band will be playing. **Please do bring your own drink and glasses**, but paper plates and plastic cutlery will be provided. **As we don't have many gazebos, if you would like to bring your own gazebo to put up on the day, please do so.** We look forward to seeing you!



TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB will resume again on **Tuesday 5th September.**

SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:

The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wed 23rd August 4.30pm** in the presbytery. If you need support and would like to join the group, please do contact the presbytery.



ST. AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL OFFICE VACANCY:

Please follow the link if you would like to apply: <https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view/school-office-manager-and-headteacher-pa-86622.htm> to access further details and a school application form. Visits and an informal chat with the Headteacher, Mrs Napier are warmly welcomed. Please email

headspa@staugustines.herts.sch.uk or call 07766 819392 to arrange a visit.

MARY'S MEALS would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency* There are envelopes at the back of church for you to take home and put all your foreign coins and notes into. **Please return the envelope with the money to the presbytery.** Currently the charity feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education. Because of low costs they can do this for as little as £19.15 per child per year! *They will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender.



VOLUNTEERING: We are very grateful to Gabby and Sarah when they play the organ for us on a regular basis. Sometimes they cannot be with us. If you can play the **organ or keyboard** which you could offer up in worship, please let us know. If you would like to help in the **parish garden**, such as weeding and cutting the large lawn please let us know.

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

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK
FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION
15TH AUGUST

O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of God and Mother of humanity, we believe with all the fervor of our faith in your triumphal Assumption, both body and soul, into heaven, where you are acclaimed as Queen by all the choirs of angels and all the legions of the saints. And we unite with them to praise and bless the Lord who has exalted you above all other pure creatures, and to offer you the tribute of our devotion and our love. Pope Pius XII

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PILGRIMAGE DAY TO WALSINGHAM
ON 23RD SEPTEMBER

Name:

Contact no.:

Email address.....

Next-of-kin name & contact number:
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Please return to the presbytery in an envelope with your name on together with the £29.

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.

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 12th August St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Edward Brien RIP</p>	<p>Page 114 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: 1 Kings 19: 9, 11-13 <i>Stand on the mountain before the Lord.</i></p>
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass For the Parish</p>	<p>Ps 84 — Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.</p>
<p>Sun 13th August 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass Mooney Family intentions 11.15am Mass Brian Moore RIP</p>	<p>2nd Reading: Romans 9: 1-5 <i>I would willingly be condemned if it could help my brothers.</i></p>
<p>Mon 14th August St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Declan Coyne RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!</p>
<p>Tues 15th August THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Eileen Stow RIP 2pm Mass Tony Casey RIP anniv 7pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8pm Mass Luigi Masucci RIP</p>	<p>Gospel: Matthew 14: 22-33 <i>Tell me to come to you across the water.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)</p>
<p>Wed 16th August St Stephen of Hungary 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Justin Ighade's intentions followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>1st Reading: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7 2nd Reading: Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32 Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28</p>
<p>Thurs 17th August 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass In thanksgiving 1pm Funeral Gaetano Alfieri RIP NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am or ask Fr Julian at any other time.</p>
<p>Friday 18th August (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Rosaria Quartararo RIP & Grazia & Carmelo Di Piazza RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
<p>Sat 19th August St John Eudes 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Private intention</p>	<p>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK Any parishioner sick, frail, or going into hospital for major surgery, can ask Fr Julian for the Sacrament of Anointing at any time.</p>
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass For the Parish</p>	<p>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p>
<p>Sun 20th August 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass Ian Walters intentions 11.15am Mass Orsola Scibelli RIP</p>	<p>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
<p>* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>	
REGULAR EVENTS	

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 parroccchiani 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.*