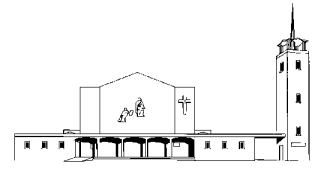




The Announcer



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 (Chaplain to Knanaya community)
Safeguarding parish rep: Kathryn Hall – hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

YEAR A

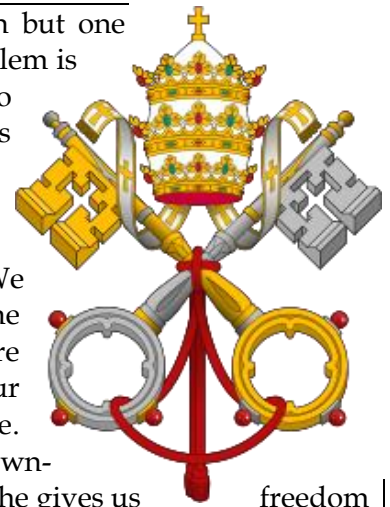
ST AUGUSTINE'S PATRONAL

27TH AUGUST 2023

Gospel: *Matthew 16: 13-20*

You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

The one city guaranteed eternity is Jerusalem, not the city manufactured by man but one fashioned by God. In the Apocalypse the language used to describe this New Jerusalem is identical to the bridal language used of the Church elsewhere in Holy Scripture. It also says that the walls of the New Jerusalem are raised on the twelve apostles. In today's gospel we see that Jesus singled out one of twelve, Peter, as the one upon whose shoulders this responsibility would primarily rest... 'You are Peter and, on this rock I will build my Church'. We might think this is a bit of a gamble. Would we trust Peter, knowing his desertion and prevarications, to be the chief executive of our plans? We probably wouldn't, but Jesus did. Jesus chose him not for who he was, but for what he would become. It's the same for all of us if we work on God's building site. We are apprentices learning our trade, assured that God knows his architecture. Christ is our master builder, and we are his workmanship, knit together for the good of the whole. He delights in us and knows we are a work in progress. We make mistakes. Much down-sizing and polishing has to take place. We can't dictate to God our own plans. While he gives us freedom to express the gifts and graces he has gifted to us, his designs are not ours. If we start building ourselves, by doing our own thing, then we are jerrybuilders. Throughout history disenchanted members of the Church have attempted to draw up their own constructions by replicating the materials of the building. The lean-to constructions built around national identities, state enforcement or prominent personalities will not survive the test of time. Stones we may be, but we will be less than living the life if we cut ourselves off from our apostolic foundations. The rock of Peter will not fall because it is divinely chosen. It may often need reformation and renewal but not redesigning. It may go through rough times and face betrayal from within, but as Jesus says, the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. Peter would eventually become rocklike, fulfilling the name that Jesus gave him. It's a name which quickly stuck among the apostles, as Paul, a relative outsider to the apostolic circle, would call Peter, Cephas, (the Aramaic equivalent for 'the rock') on several occasions. Perhaps Jesus was thinking of another rock also. For the Jews Jerusalem was the centre of the world, the place where God's favour particularly rested. In the centre of the city, at its very heart, in its Temple, was a rock, which the Jews believed was central to the creation of the world. You can still see it today. The Dome of the Rock, with its golden cupola, covers it. Emblazoned with Islamic inscriptions, the cupola advertises a koranic verse which denies the historical death and resurrection of Jesus, and also his incarnation... 'it is not befitting to the majesty of Allah that He should take himself a child'. Nothing expresses the difference between Islam and the Christian faith as much as this. It strikes at the heart of what we hold dear. 'Who do you say that I am'... this is the question Jesus put to his twelve disciples, just as he puts it to us today, people of faith or none. It was Peter who spoke up first. 'You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God'. To know the Son is to know the Father. Jesus told Peter that in knowing His Sonship he was blessed indeed. Such knowledge came not from any human understanding, but from 'my Father in heaven'. Revelation revealed it. The One, Catholic, Apostolic Church which our creed professes is built not on the shifting sands of public opinion, popular culture, political correctness, or privatised belief but the unadulterated truth of revelation. On which and whose building site are we building?



Fr Julian

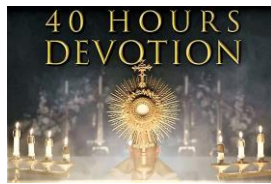
PRAYER & LITURGY

FIRST FRIDAY MASS will be on **Friday 1st September** at 7pm.

GINO LECCACORVI of Ashview Nursing Home died recently. His Requiem will be on **Wednesday 13th September at 11.30am** *May he rest in peace.*

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Vincenzo Giardina, Gino Leccacorvi and Rita Borg and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Gaetana Conti, Isabella Bennett, Bridget Hegarty, Nora Warren, Laura Cacciatore, Giuseppe Palminteri, Mary McCarthy and Francesca Cicchirillo. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

Leading up to St Augustine's Day, **FORTY HOURS' DEVOTION** continues in church. 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 come along as this is a wonderful opportunity to pray for the church.**



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 **10th & 24th September**.



WORLD YOUTH DAY SUMMER PICNIC: Westminster Youth Ministry is bringing a taste of Lisbon to London for youth (12-35) who were unable to attend World Youth Day this year. You are invited to join them for a day filled with fun, prayer, testimonies and Mass with Bishop Paul McAleenan on **Saturday, 2 September** (11 am – 4 pm) at SPEC Retreat Centre, 125 Waxwell Lane, Pinner HA5 3EP. To sign up, please visit the link at <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/world-youth-day-summer-picnic/>



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

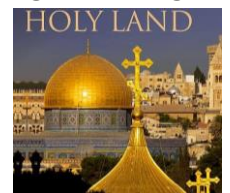
Priory shrine. Please note there will be two collections during the day: one during the Mass which goes towards the upkeep and development of the Walsingham Shrine and a retiring collection after Benediction which also goes towards the cost of the day. We have a 49-seater coach, with a toilet. To book 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. **The cut off date is the 9th September, so if you would like to go, please contact the presbytery to let us know.**



MARCH FOR LIFE UK will be held on the **2nd September** and will start with Mass at 10.30am at Westminster Cathedral with Bishop John Sherrington. The day starts with a pro-life family friendly festival at the Emmanuel Centre SW1P 3DW and the march is at 1.30pm. All are welcome.

'**THE YEAR OF THE COUNCIL**' is the autumn faith-sharing booklets from the diocese. It focuses on the Four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. The resource comprises of five sessions, each containing a reflection on Sacred Scripture, on the Constitutions, and on our own experience of being Catholic today. There are questions for faith-sharing and suggested opportunities for putting faith into action. If you would like a booklet for £4, please contact the presbytery by the **14th September**, so an order can be made.

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/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 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.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

SEPARATION SUPPORT

GROUP: The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wed 27th Sept 4.30pm** in the presbytery. If you need support and would like to join the group, please do contact the presbytery.

Separated & Divorced Support Group

ST. AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL OFFICE VACANCY: To apply for this position, please follow the link: 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 are warmly welcomed. Please email headsipa@staugustines.herts.sch.uk and/or admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk to arrange a visit.

ST CROSS SCHOOL is looking for a Lunchtime Playleader -Monday to Friday 12-1:30pm. Playleaders support children at play, or on the field, to play games and develop friendship skills. If you are interested please contact admin@stcross.herts.sch.uk

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.



FIRST AID COURSE: We are hoping to run First Aid Course in the crypt which will be held over 2 evenings from 6-9pm. The course is for basic first aid and is £40 per person and you will receive a certificate on completion. If you are interested in attending, please contact the presbytery.



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

----- cut ✂ here -----

PILGRIMAGE DAY TO WALSINGHAM ON 23RD SEPTEMBER

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 £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 26th August Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Gaetano Alfieri RIP</p>	<p>Page 120 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 22: 19-23 <i>I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.</i></p> <p>Ps 137 — Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Romans 11: 33-36 <i>All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20 <i>You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.</i></p>
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Margaret Murphy RIP</p>	
<p>Sun 27th August ST AUGUSTINE PATRONAL/21ST ORD TIME 9.15am Mass Bill Pollard RIP 11.15am Mass For the Parish</p>	
<p>Mon 28th August St Augustine, Bishop & Dr 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass John Burke RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Tues 29th August The Passion of St John the Baptist 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Hughie Coffey's intentions 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)</p> <p>1st Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7-9 2nd Reading: Romans 12: 1-2 Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27</p>
<p>Wed 30th August Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Giuseppe Distefano RIP followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm 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>ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</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>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>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
<p>Thurs 31st August St Aidan, Bishop 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass Doloras Hall NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Friday 1st September World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Dawn's 20th anniversary as Parish Secretary 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass Michael Whyton RIP</p>	
<p>Sat 2nd September Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Pat McGrath RIP</p>	
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Patrick Malone RIP</p>	
<p>Sun 3rd September 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass For the Parish 11.15am Mass Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP</p>	
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
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 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.*