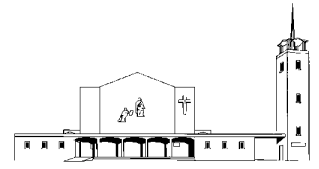




The Announcer



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

YEAR A

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

3RD SEPTEMBER 2023

Gospel: *Matthew 16: 21-27*

If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.

Famously, in answer to a question in the Times, 'What is wrong with the world?' G.K.Chesterton wrote 'Yours sincerely, I am'. He did not blame others or objectivise his culpability, but recognised that he was implicated. The resolution to the world's problems lies within each of us. It's not the world which is at fault but the people in it, you and me. Some might ask the same question of the Church. What's wrong with the Church? The answer is the same...'Yours sincerely, I am'. We are its living stones. We have no existence beyond ourselves, so judgement and renewal begin with us. If we reflect

with honesty on the history of the Church, then we see so much wondrous grace but also, we have to admit, episodes of the deepest darkness. Did Jesus not say that wheat and tares grow together? On occasions, much inhumanity and evil has been done in the name of Christ, by those professed to be Christians, even by those in the highest positions of trust and responsibility. Judas has had many disciples, who like him, have been blinded by their own sense of rectitude or deception and in so doing betrayed our Lord to death. Today's gospel reading is a pertinent reminder of the subtlety of evil. Last week Jesus called Peter the rock on which he would build his Church. This week he gives him a stern rebuke. Why was Jesus so severe, considering that Peter, we may assume, only had Jesus' interest at heart? Peter's thinking was along the lines of... That kind of thing doesn't happen to the Messiah. It's unworthy of the Son of God. You will be welcomed in Jerusalem. Your ascendancy will be easy. The religious authorities clearly have a difference with you, but they won't do that kind of thing. It is preposterous to say that You will have to suffer grievously and be put to death. Anyway, we disciples will try to prevent that taking place. We would not allow it.... Why was such thinking so offensive to Jesus, so offensive, in fact, that he calls Peter, Satan? Peter was not Satan, but what Jesus heard were words which belonged more to the devil than to one of his followers. Peter did not realise the depths of depravity to which humanity can descend. The religious leaders would rather see Jesus dead than welcome the good news of God's kingdom. They had no room for repentance in their heart. They wanted Christ only in as much as he confirmed them in their self-complacent, self-perpetuating existence. Holding onto power was more important for them than welcoming God's truth. They would, of course, play their crucial part in the unravelling drama of salvation. It was Jesus's destiny to die at Jerusalem. He told his disciples that '*he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes*'. His ignominious death, which would open the floodgates of salvation, was God's way of saving humanity from the clutches of Satan and establishing the kingdom of God. Peter's way of thinking was evil because his thinking was not God's way. Man's mind, if not redeemed, is open to Satan's influence. Modern man has seriously misinterpreted and underestimated God. He has little reference or reverence for God. He thinks he has no need for salvation because he sees no need to repent and has lost his moral compass. This kind of thinking so prevalent today might influence us also. Are we self-serving or Christ serving? Do we model the world's behaviour, or Christ? Have I chosen the cross or have I decided that I would rather invincibly walk into the dark? Have we forgotten God's merciful love?



Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Savannah Michael and Evangeline Jose who will be baptised this weekend.

MASS on Tuesday at 9.15am will be with St Augustine's School.

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

RITA BORG of Rainsborough Court died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Monday 18th September at 11am.**

VINCENZO GIARDINA of Fairfield Road died recently. His Requiem will be on **Monday 25th September at 11am.** *May they rest in peace.*

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Martin Rooney, Vincenzo Giardina, Gino Leccacorvi and Rita Borg and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Francesca Cicchirillo, Giuseppe Lomanto, Philomena Robb, Francesca Crimauo, Alice Warden, Francesco Acquisto, James Magee, Neville Alles, Antonino Di Leo, Patrick Malone & Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*



HOLY FAMILY SISTERS OF THE NEEDY is a religious institute founded in Nigeria in 1983 by late Rev Fr Denis Mary Joseph Ononuju (CSSP). The religious institute has different missions in several parts of the world. In their mission, they dispense God's love among the needy and the marginalised in the society. The Sisters will be making an appeal on the weekend of the **16th/17th September.**

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING will take place on **Saturday 30th September at 11.30am** for all servers and anyone who is in year 3 and above who would like to become a server. If you are interested, please contact the presbytery.

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.**

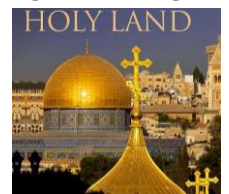


DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM Saturday **23rd September.** We have the chance to go on pilgrimage to Walsingham with Cardinal Vincent and the Auxiliary Bishops. The theme of the Pilgrimage is 'Mary, Mother of the Home.' The theme is not dissimilar to the one for the Pilgrimage to Lourdes this year, 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. **There are now only 4 spaces left** on the coach. To book a place, 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.**

'**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.

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 the register for parents and candidates to sign starts this weekend.



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.

SCHOOLS

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 headspa@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

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.



BACON/SAUSAGE ROLLS will be served after the 9.15am Mass on Sunday in the crypt. All are welcome.

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.



CRYPT: There is now a new lock on the crypt outer door. If you have an old crypt key, please contact the presbytery.

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.

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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.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Prayer to Our Lady of England for Our Lady's birthday, 8th September

O Glorious and blessed Mary, our Mother and our queen, we gladly acclaim you as Our Lady of England. We thank you for all the graces which you have obtained for this country in times past, and ask you to obtain still more.

Grant, that this nation of ours which once worshipped God through one Church, so by your intercession, may all Christians be reunited in the one service of your Son, and may all our fellow countrymen come to the knowledge and love of this same Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 2nd September Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Pat McGrath RIP	Page 122 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7-9 <i>The word of the Lord has meant insult for me.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Patrick Malone RIP	Ps 62 — For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.
Sun 3rd September 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass For the Parish 11.15am Mass Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP	2nd Reading: Romans 12: 1-2 <i>Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.</i>
Mon 4th September St Cuthbert, Bishop 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Simon Bird RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!
Tues 5th September 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Giuseppe Grippi RIP with St Augustine's School 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27 <i>If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.</i>
Wed 6th September 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Martin Rooney RIP followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)</p>
Thurs 7th September 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass Sheila Hanly RIP NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	1st Reading: Ezekiel 33: 7-9 2nd Reading: Romans 13: 8-10 Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20
Friday 8th September THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Thanksgiving for all God's blessings 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
Sat 9th September St Peter Claver, Priest 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Everyone's intentions	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</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>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Elizabeth Linane RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</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> <p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
Sun 10th September 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass Stanley Abrahams RIP 11.15am Mass For the Parish	
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Tues 5th 1pm Lunch club, crypt	Tues 5th 2.30pm Tuesday club, 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*