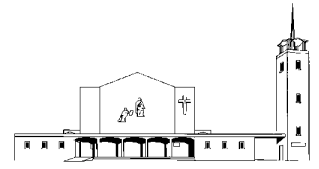




# The Announcer



## 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 (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**

**28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

Gospel: *Matthew 22: 1-14*

*Invite everyone you can find to the wedding.*

Regardless of whether we are single or married, separated or divorced, ultimately there is only one vocation. It is marriage. The whole of biblical testimony points to this, as does our mass. The penultimate chapter of the bible talks about the appearance of the bride adorned for her husband. The name of the last book of the bible, the Apocalypse, even takes its name from the act of unveiling of the bride (the *apocalypsis*) in a marriage ceremony. Otherwise known as Revelation, the book is about the final triumph of the Church, finally revealed in all her splendour as the bride dressed in preparation for her bridegroom, the husband, for whom she has long awaited.

Throughout his teaching ministry Jesus used the imagery of the bridegroom for himself. Israel, the chosen people, would recognise the allusion. In the Old Testament God had wished to enter into a close relationship with his people so that they would become a partner fit for his affections. Though they prevaricated and wandered away, God was always true to his side of the covenant and the prospect of marriage never nullified. Consequently, the theme of the marriage banquet frequently appears in Jesus' teaching, as it does today. In the gospel today, Jesus invites us to consider ourselves, not as the bride, but as the guests invited to the wedding. *'The wedding is ready, but those invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding'*. Originally addressed only to Israel, the invitation is now universal. In a different wedding parable, Jesus invites us to identify as the attendants, waiting for the return of the bridegroom. Some are ready and others are not. Whether attendants or guests, having the necessary accoutrements.... the wedding garment or sufficient oil...is essential. The wedding invitation is freely given, and has to be accepted, but entering into its spirit is all important. What marked out the wedding guest was ultimately the wedding garment, not the acceptance of the invitation. Perhaps we can see in the wedding garment an allusion to the white baptismal robe in which we are vested after our baptism. In the early church people would take off their clothes, enter the font of immersion, come out the other side and be vested in a new white garment, to show that their baptism into Christ means death and resurrection, changed priorities and the re-orientation of their lives. The wedding garment then is like the robe of righteousness, not our own righteousness, but Christ's righteousness, given to all who take their baptism promises seriously, worked out in lives of repentance and cooperating with God, rather than working against Him. As the baptismal liturgy alludes, this spiritual investment should be kept unsoiled, through the continuous cleansing power of grace. Receiving forgiveness and extending it, through partaking in regular communion and reconciliation, allows Christ's cleansing power to work. To reject our baptismal promises, is to reject Jesus and to deprive ourselves of a seat at the marriage banquet. The guest who becomes the bride is yet to be revealed, but in holy mass we see how the transformation is being realised. Through our communion, we participate in the foretaste of Jesus' marriage banquet and the prospect of much more. For who can understand, as St Paul says, what God has in store for those who love him? What groom and bride stay in the banqueting hall? Are they not to become one and enjoy life together for ever? This is why we pray at the offertory and after the communion today, that our participation in Jesus' body and blood will open to us not only the glory of heaven and but our sharing in His divine nature. That surely is the consummation of eternity.

Fr Julian



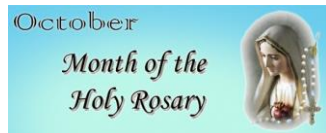
## PRAYER & LITURGY

**MARK WIPPERMAN** of The Knowle, died recently. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** at 11am at Woollensbrook Crematorium.

**RONALD ELLIOTT** of Richardson Crescent died recently. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 12 noon.**

**MARIA CALVINO** of Bevil Court died recently. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** at 1pm.  
*May they rest in peace.*

**ROSARY:** As October is the month of the holy rosary, there will be a decade of the rosary recited before each Sunday Mass.



**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Mark Wipperman, Maria Calvino and Ronald Elliott and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Maureen O'Neill, Catherine Stockwell, Helen Sherman, Christopher Ayerst, Daniela Ruggiero, Filippo Adamo, Luisa Di Palma, Danuta Patterson, Francisco Hernandez, Dan Beary, Francesca Ricotta and Baby Brooklyn Moore.  
*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

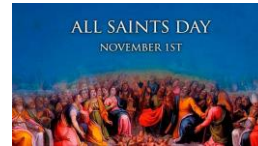
**CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** Gabby Hanley will be running the Children's Choir at the 9.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. If your child would like to join the choir, Gabby will be playing on the **12<sup>th</sup> November**. The children will be signing at the Carol Service on the **17<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm** and also on **Christmas Eve Mass at 4pm**. They will also be performing at a Charity Carol Concert on the 2nd Dec 3pm at Christ Church, Ware. There will therefore be rehearsal dates for the children on: Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2-4pm in the crypt, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Oct 2-4pm in the crypt, Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Nov, 11-12 noon in the crypt, Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 5pm in church, Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Nov after 9.15am Mass, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 6pm Christ Church Ware, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2pm, Christ Church Ware. If you have any queries, please do contact Gabby on 07875 221543.



**HELPERS FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY** at the 9.15am Mass are needed. **If you can help, please do contact the presbytery immediately.** The next children's liturgy will take place on the **15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October**. Without more volunteers, children's liturgy may not be able to continue.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS ROTAS:** The next rotas for the period November 2023 - February 2024 will be drawn up shortly. Please therefore advise of any dates that you

are **NOT** available during this period by **26<sup>th</sup> October AT THE LATEST** to Pat Kavanagh for 9.15 am Mass (telephone 07485 284007 or 01992 449282 or email [patandcarolkav@btinternet.com](mailto:patandcarolkav@btinternet.com)) and Dawn Bates for 6.30pm and 11.15am Masses (tel 440986 or email [hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk)). Please also advise of any changes in personal contact details e.g. address, telephone number etc. Once drawn up, all rotas will be dispatched by email unless requested otherwise. Thank you.

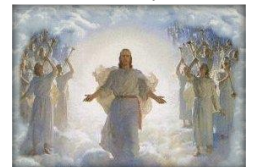


**ALL SAINTS' DAY** is on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be at 9.15am with St Cross School, 2pm with St Augustine's School and 8pm.

**NOVEMBER LIST OF THE DECEASED:** Lists for you to write the names of your departed relatives and friends will be attached to the newsletter **next weekend**. Please return the lists to the presbytery, along with any Mass offering. During November, the lists will be kept on the altar and at least one Mass a day will be offered for the Holy Souls. Therefore, few other Mass intentions can be taken for November.

**MASS FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PAST YEAR** **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 8pm (not 7pm)** will be a special Mass at which we remember and pray for the deceased of the past 12 months. Written invitations have been sent to the bereaved families of those whose funerals have been celebrated here in the parish, but all are welcome to attend.

**NOVEMBER PRAYERS AT CEMETERY:** Fr Julian will lead the annual visit to the Ware Road cemetery to pray the Rosary for the deceased members of the parish on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am. Please meet inside the main gate.** Fr Julian will attend Woollensbrook Cemetery on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am.**



**PRAYER GROUP** will be held in the crypt on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm, starting on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**. All are welcome!

**POPE'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER** is for the Synod. We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.



## FINANCE

**PARISH FINANCE:** Thank you to all who continue to give regularly by standing order, or by envelopes. 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.*

**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:** If you are considering becoming a Catholic or are an adult Catholic wishing to be confirmed our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 31st October at 7.30pm** in the crypt.



**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024:** The next meeting will be on **Monday 30th October from 7-8pm** in the crypt.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2023/2024:** The next meeting for children in year 3 will be on the **15th October**.



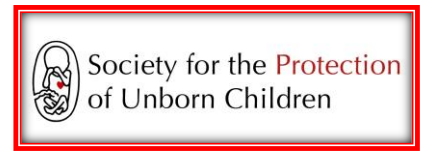
**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** If your child is in year 2 and is interested in making their First Holy Communion in 2025, please contact the presbytery to register your interest. The register has now started and can be found on the blue board at the back of church.

#### JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

**JUSTICE & PEACE** representative is needed for our parish. If you are interested, please do speak to Fr Julian.

**SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN (SPUC)** write to say that Abortion providers are again ramping up their attempts to decriminalise abortion ... The Abortion providers, '... are using the case of women who are being prosecuted for illegal late-term abortions to make their case. The trial of Carla Foster was the first to come to the public attention ... who was sentenced to imprisonment after it was found that she lied to abortion provider BPAS to obtain abortion drugs well

past the legal limit for abortion. Her daughter Lily was born dead



at 32-34 weeks' gestation.' There are now several other cases before the courts ... what all these cases have in common is that they have happened since abortion giants like BPAS started sending women abortion drugs in the post, without proper checks! SPUC have produced a postcard that makes it easy for people to send a message - **campaign calling on the Health Secretary to end this deadly policy**. At the back of church are the postcards and pens for you to sign, together with a box to post them in. All these will be collected up and sent off - return of postcards by **30th November 2023**.

#### SCHOOLS/UNDER 5'S

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** has prospective Open Day Tours for New Reception and Nursery Parents on **Monday 6th November @9.15am**, Wednesday 15th November @2pm Wednesday 22nd November @9.15am Monday 27th November @9:15am Please use this link to book a visit or call our office, 01992 463549. Click here to complete Sign Up Form: - <https://staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/sign-upform>

**GOVERNOR VACANCY:** St Augustine's School are looking for a Foundation Governor. Training is provided to help Governors fulfil their very important role. If you are a practising Catholic and are interested in giving something back to your local Catholic school, please let Fr Julian know. More information can be found at [www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/serving-as-a-governor](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/serving-as-a-governor).



**ST CROSS SCHOOL** have dates to view the school for prospective parents for Reception Intake 2024. Please call the office on 01992 467309 to book your preferred date.

#### SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:** The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wed 18th October 4.30pm** in the presbytery.

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



**CHURCH CLEANING:** Elizabeth Nsonwah, Toni Iamarino, Penny Benge and Antonia Di Piano. Thank you for your help.

## Liturgy this week

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> October St Callistus I, Pope & Martyr**  
9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
10am Mass **Canon Patrick Sammon RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniv**

4.00pm Italian Mass\*  
6.30pm Mass **For the Parish**

### Sun 15<sup>th</sup> October 28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.15am Mass **Dan Beary RIP**  
11.15am Mass **Daniela Ruggiero RIP 10<sup>th</sup> anniv**

### Mon 16<sup>th</sup> October

8.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
9.15am Mass **Justin Ighade's intentions**  
6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Tues 17<sup>th</sup> October St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop

8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
9.15am Mass **Dave Kersopp RIP**  
6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Wed 18<sup>th</sup> October ST LUKE, Evangelist

8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
9.15am Mass with St Augustine's School **Robert Cullen RIP**  
followed by coffee in the crypt  
6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> October Ss John de Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues

7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
8am Mass **Peg Nainthy's intentions**  
NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October

(Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)  
11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction  
12 noon Mass **Terence Coyne RIP anniv**  
6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Sat 21<sup>st</sup> October Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
10am Mass **Gaetano Alfieri RIP**

4.00pm Italian Mass\*

6.30pm Mass **Margherita Ferraro & Chris Reynolds –  
Thanksgiving for their Engagement**

### Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> October 29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9.15am Mass **Geraldine & Robert Ellis RIP**  
11.15am Mass **For the Parish**

\* Vigil Mass of Sunday

## Today's Liturgy

Page 140 in the Mass books

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 25: 6-10

*The Lord will prepare a banquet, and will wipe away tears from every cheek.*

**Ps 22 — In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20

*There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength.*

**Gospel Accl.** Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 22: 1-14

*Invite everyone you can find to the wedding.*

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5

**Gospel:** Matthew 22: 15-21

### 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.

### ROSARY

The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.

### 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.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust  
Registered Charity No. 233699

### REGULAR EVENTS

**Tues 17<sup>th</sup>** 1pm Lunch club, crypt

**Tues 17<sup>th</sup>** 2.30pm Tuesday club, crypt

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>** 4.30pm Support group, presb

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>** 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