



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

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

22ND OCTOBER 2023

Gospel: *Matthew 22: 15-21*

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.

Our gospel today is Jesus' encounter with the Pharisees when they try to trap him by asking Jesus whether it was right to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Jesus asks for a coin and asks them whose head and name was on it. Caesar, they reply, to which Jesus then says, 'Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's'. Unfortunately, the lectionary leaves out the most important verse, the last one, which provides the key to the whole episode: 'When they heard this, they were amazed. So, they left him and went away'. Jesus' response had clearly amazed his opponents. Yet there is nothing amazing about Jesus' response, if we take at face value the usual way of interpreting this verse. The interpretation runs like this. Jesus had avoided implicating himself as a roman collaborator, while not denying Caesar his dues, and not explicitly answering the question. Yet Jesus didn't need to show them a coin in order to make this



point. Everyone knew that Caesar claimed his dues. What is so amazing about that? The point is surely this. The Pharisees who posed the question prided themselves on being upholders of the Torah. They had planned to trap Jesus into undermining the authority of Rome. Instead Jesus trapped them into the self-confession that they were undermining an altogether higher authority, as was evident from both their answers. Roman coinage was covered with bombastic claims of Caesar's divinity. No man, however exalted, had any right to them. They belonged only to God. In saying that the titles were Caesar's, they cast themselves as blasphemers. At the same time the Pharisees had forgotten their Genesis. Man is made not in his own image but in the image of God. The coin did not have Caesar's inscription and image on it because the copyright of both belonged to God, not to Caesar. Rather than being a discourse over imperial taxation, Jesus had recalibrated it, so that it was now about the source and use of authority. The usual interpretation tells us that Jesus' answer shows that he upheld a carefully balanced division of powers and a clear demarcation between the political and religious realms. Hardly. While not denying the secular right to tax, Jesus made it clear that that right is not absolute, for the right to taxation is God's. Taxation therefore should be ordered in the interest of God and his creation. Again, Caesar exists, and he might make a claim to his office from God, but the office itself belonged to God, and the exercise of it had to accord with God's interest. Jesus' remarkable response had left Caesar with little leg to stand on. As Jesus would say to Pilate in his trial, you would have no power if it were not given to you from on high. The angelic praises in Revelation remind us that all power belongs to God, and to his plenipotentiary on earth and heaven, Jesus. Through God's dispensation, the political and religious spheres exist, but they cannot always be clearly demarked. Issues will arise where both spheres are obligated to uphold the interest and authority of God for society and the world, and this sometimes will lead to tension and even opposition. As Christians we exist in both spheres, but we must always remember that our first allegiance is to love God and our neighbour. Christians who over domesticate the faith, have forgotten that truth is not conditioned by what is private or public on the one hand, or what is conveniently defined as political or religious, on the other. When Jesus said my kingdom is not of this world, he meant that his kingdom does not originate from the values of this fallen world, not that we shouldn't seek to see those values worked out in the world. Otherwise why should his incarnation make manifest what is hidden and why did he teach us to pray, that God's kingdom should come upon earth as it is heaven?

Fr Julian

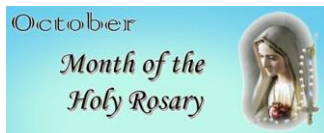
PRAYER & LITURGY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
will not take place on **Friday evening**.

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

MARIA CALVINO of Bevil Court died recently. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 15th 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.



missio
Today. Tomorrow. Together.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY is being celebrated in every single Catholic parish around the world today! It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Sr Mary who has given her whole life to bring the love and hope of Jesus to situations of extreme poverty and injustice. Please give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. **The envelopes are attached the newsletter and will be collected next Sunday, 29th October.** You can also give online at mission.org.uk or scan the QR code.



PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Maria Calvino and Ronald Elliott and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Francesca Marino, Patrick Walsh, Angela Oranye, Guerino Santaniello, Carlo Di Maria, Ignazia Tagliavore, Wanda Marino, Vincenzo Graffato, Geraldine and Robert Ellis, Eva Farthing, John Shanley and Francesca Di Maria. *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.

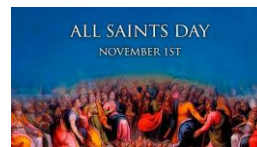
If your child would like to join the choir, Gabby will be playing on the **12th November**. The children will be signing at the Carol Service on the **17th December at 6pm** and also on **Christmas Eve Mass at 4pm**. They will also be performing at a Charity Carol Concert on the 2nd Dec 3pm at Christ Church, Ware. There will therefore be rehearsal dates for the children on: Sat 21st Oct 2-4pm in the crypt, Friday 27th Oct 2-4pm in the crypt, Sat 11th Nov, 11-12

noon in the crypt, Sun 19th Nov 5pm in church, Sun 26th Nov after 9.15am Mass, Friday 1st Dec 6pm Christ Church Ware, 2nd 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 **29th 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 **26th October AT THE LATEST** to Pat Kavanagh for 9.15 am Mass (telephone 07485 284007 or 01992 449282 or email patandcarolkav@btinternet.com) and Dawn Bates for 6.30pm and 11.15am Masses (tel 440986 or email 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 1st 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 are attached to the newsletter. 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 3rd 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 4th November at 11.30am. Please meet inside the main gate.** Fr Julian will attend Woollensbrook Cemetery on **Saturday 11th November at 11.30am.**



PRAYER GROUP will be held in the crypt on the first

Thursday of each month. Next meeting is on **Thursday 2nd November**. All are welcome!

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:

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.

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'Neil 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 **5th November**.



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.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

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

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. 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**.



CAFOD HARVEST DAST DAY was on Friday 6th October. The total collected came to £762.90.

MARCH FOR LIFE UK will be holding a Solemn Witness in Parliament Square on **27th Oct 12-2pm**, to commemorate the passing of the Abortion Act in 1967.



SCHOOLS/UNDER 5'S

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL has 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 463549. - <https://staugustines.herts.sch.uk/herts/primary/staugustines/site/pages/sign-upform>

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.

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S would like to thank everyone who attended the Quiz night last Saturday. £392 was raised, so thank you!



SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE WARE has invited us to visit on **Monday 13th November** in the afternoon (time to be confirmed.) If you would like to come, please let the presbytery know.

SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce is on **Wed 22nd Nov at 4.30pm** in the presbytery.

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

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Sat 21st October Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Gaetano Alfieri RIP</p>	<p>Page 143 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6 <i>I have taken Cyrus by his right hand to subdue nations before him.</i></p> <p>Ps 95 — Give the Lord glory and power.</p> <p>2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5 <i>We constantly remember your faith, your love and your hope.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-21 <i>Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.</i></p>
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Margherita Ferraro & Chris Reynolds – Thanksgiving for their Engagement</p>	
<p>Sun 22nd October 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass Geraldine & Robert Ellis RIP 11.15am Mass For the Parish</p>	
<p>Mon 23rd October St John of Capistrano, Priest 8.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Mary Hanley Birthday intentions 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Tues 24th October St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Speedy recovery of Angeli 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)</p> <p>1st Reading: Exodus 22: 20-26 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1: 5-10 Gospel: Matthew 22: 34-40</p>
<p>Wed 25th October 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Thanksgiving Nsonwah Family followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Thurs 26th October Ss Chad & Cedd, Bishops 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass Rosalia Dilena 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>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>Friday 27th October (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Francesco Borrelli & Family NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	
<p>Sat 28th October SS SIMON & JUDE, Apostles 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Pietro Perzia RIP anniv</p>	
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass For the Parish</p>	
<p>Sun 29th October 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass All Holy Souls 11.15am Mass Filippo Adamo RIP</p>	
<p>* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>	
REGULAR EVENTS	
<p>Tues 17th 1pm Lunch club, crypt</p>	<p>Tues 17th 2.30pm Tuesday club, crypt</p>

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*