



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

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8TH OCTOBER 2023

Gospel: *Matthew 21: 33-43*

He will lease the vineyard to other tenants.

Advances in technology have increased our ability to enter into immersive and interactive experiences. Recently the largest constructed sphere in the world opened in Las Vegas where moving and mesmerising images are projected within and outside, so that you have a heightened awareness of the real or imagined world around you. From the earliest time the Church Catholic was at the forefront of offering such immersive experiences. Church walls were covered with frescoes depicting stories from the bible and the saints, so that the onlookers could feel part of the narrative. Mystery plays were staged in our towns and cities which were totally interactive performances, staged not only by the locals but involving crowd participation. The rich liturgy of the Church itself presented a dramatic re-enactment of much of the Christian story, and involved the use of all the senses of the human body. Regrettably these, and other, immersive experiences were attacked by the Protestant reformers fearful of allowing the human soul the freedom to explore and express the faith in the fullness of God given creativity. But Protestantism could never suppress the human desire to imagine as much as it tried. The very hearing of the Word undermined it. In his Letter to the Philippians today St Paul encourages us to flights of more than fancy, and to ponder universal truths more than projected onto the mind's eye. *'Finally, brothers, fill your minds everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise'*. One wonders if anything has been left out of this totally immersive invitation. True immersion however, as Paul so often reminds us, is continual baptism into Christ. Our baptism cannot be repeated but our baptismal immersion into the things of God has to occur daily. *'Keep doing all the things that you have learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do'*. Being in Christ, through a process of godly alignment, through prayer and thanksgiving, immerses us into the peace of God. We cannot access this peace of ourselves or fully grasp it. It comes as gift and companion. Nor is this peace an augmented reality, in the language of today's immersive technology, for it comes from heaven, transcending our world and radically changing our perception rather than augmenting it. When Paul used the word peace he did not mean something added on our human nature nor did he mean our limited, negotiated understanding of peace (the absence of conflict). He meant rather, the breadth of the Jewish shalom-God's entire wellbeing that he wills to permeate every aspect of our lives. When we share the 'peace', we are asking God to bless our brother or sister with the wholeness of the blessing that we have received, rather than proffering a hesitant hand shake. This blessing of peace corresponds with the spirit filled and fruitful life that God seeks in his chosen ones. Jesus' story about the vineyard today is all about the rejection of that life and peace. The Jewish establishment of his day had failed to live lives of fruitfulness and to nurture the 'vineyard'... that place and relationship of God's favour...as they ought to have. Above all they had rejected Jesus, and wanted to kill him. Tenancies in God's kingdom are performance related. The message is for us. Is Jesus at the heart of our lives? Is he alive or dead to us? If we reject Christ the keystone, upon whom are we constructing our hopes and aspirations? Through His Son, Jesus, God opens to us the most immersive and interactive experience on offer, not virtual, mixed or augmented realities, as attractive as these may be, but Reality itself...Life in all its fulness. To paraphrase the prophetic words today, *this is the Lord's doing, and it is truly wonderful to see!* Who needs to go to Las Vegas?



Fr Julian

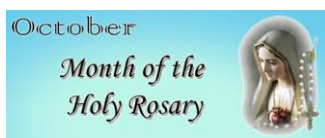
PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Ethan Orton who will be baptised this weekend.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be held on **Monday from 5-6pm** due to the Confirmation meeting.

MARK WIPPERMAN of The Knowle, died recently. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 18th October** at 11am at Woollensbrook Crematorium. *May he 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 and Maurizio Leccacorvi and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Anna Gianfrancesco, Richard Norman, Monica Hunter, Bernadette Field, Margherita Diesi, Francesco Pizzo, Patrick Morrissey, Anna Caruba, Richard Pyper, Enrico & Maria Rega and Francesco and Francesca Pizzo. *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 **15th and 29th October**. Without more volunteers, children's liturgy may not be able to continue.



PRAYER GROUP will be held in the crypt on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm, starting on **Thursday 2nd 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

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 2022 are now available to view on the notice board on the back of the church, by the newspapers. During 2022, we did not cover our daily running costs and had an average deficit of £663 per week. Even though our total offertory has gone up by 24.4% over the last 3 years, the average weekly donation per person was £3.67. If you are in a position to give more, it would make a real difference. Just 32% of our total offertory and donations were gift aided. If everyone had gift-aided their donations, we would have received an extra £26,036 this year! If you pay tax, please do sign up for Gift Aid so that we can add 25% to everything that you give, at no cost to yourself. You will find gift aid forms by the newsletters. 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'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 10th October at 7.30pm** in the crypt.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024: The next meeting will be on **Monday 9th 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.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Saturday 14th October at 11.30am** in the church. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.



JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE



CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY was on Friday 6th October and the Fast-Day envelopes will be collected this weekend. Dr

Nasha's mobile medical clinic gets life-saving help to where it's needed most, fast - so when her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed. Please donate to CAFOD today so that more families can get the expert help they need. Please use the envelopes provided, give online at cafod.org.uk, or scan the QR code.



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

CARITAS VOLUNTEER SERVICE: You can find your perfect volunteering opportunity on the Caritas Volunteer service website where new vacancies are listed regularly. This is free to use. Please visit www.caritasvs.org.uk.



SCHOOLS/UNDER 5'S

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S QUIZ NIGHT will be held in the crypt on Saturday 14th October, 7.30pm for 8pm start. £5 per head. Please contact the Under 5's on 460614 to book your table. Please bring your own drink and nibbles with you.



ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S 200 CLUB winner for October is no. 89 Denis Murphy. Congratulations!

NURSERY PLACES - ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL are welcoming applications to their Nursery starting September 2023. This process is for children who were born between **1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020**. Interested Parents & Carers are welcome to visit the school. For further info, please contact admin@staugustines@herts.sch.uk.

GOVERNOR VACANCY: St Augustine's School are looking for a Foundation Governor. The roll is a 4-year tenure and requires attendance at 3 meetings per term plus occasional visits to school to meet with classes and subject teachers. 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.



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.

Separated & Divorced Support Group

HERTS WELCOMES REFUGEES APPEALS FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS: There is considerable need, currently, for support for families and individuals in hotels in the Broxbourne area. There is a need for children's activities, English tuition, help sorting clothing and many other possibilities. Please contact Ruhena ruhena.akhtar@hwsf.org.uk for more info. Any support would be gratefully received.



FIRE WARDENS are needed for each weekend Mass. Training will be given. If you are interested in volunteering, please do contact the presbytery.



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

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

PRAYER OF THE WEEK **Prayer of Cardinal Newman** **Feast day 9th October**

May He support us all the day long, till the shades lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest and peace at the last. Amen.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy						
<p>Sat 7th October Our Lady of the Rosary 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Bernadette Field RIP anniv</p>	<p align="center">Page 137 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 5: 1-7 <i>The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel.</i></p> <p>Ps 79 — The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.</p> <p>2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 6-9 <i>The God of peace will be with you.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-43 <i>He will lease the vineyard to other tenants.</i></p> <p align="center">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)</p> <p>1st Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-10 2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20 Gospel: Matthew 22: 1-14</p>						
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass For the Parish</p> <p>Sun 8th October 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass Enrico & Maria Rega RIP 11.15am Mass Francesco & Francesca Pizzo RIP</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 align="center">ROSARY</p> <p>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 align="center">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>						
<p>Mon 9th October ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Priest 8.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Anna Gianfrancesco RIP 5-6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p align="center">* Vigil Mass of Sunday</p>						
<p>Tues 10th October St Paulinus of York, Bishop 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Maureen O'Neill RIP anniv 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p align="center">REGULAR EVENTS</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="60 1756 831 1794">Mon 9th 7-8pm Confirmation, crypt</td> <td data-bbox="831 1756 1530 1794">Tues 10th 7.30pm RCIA, crypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="60 1794 831 1832">Tues 10th 1pm Lunch club, crypt</td> <td data-bbox="831 1794 1530 1832">Wed 11th 6pm Brownies, crypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="60 1832 831 1861">Tues 10th 2.30pm Tuesday club, crypt</td> <td data-bbox="831 1832 1530 1861">Sat 14th 11.30am Baptism course, church</td> </tr> </table>	Mon 9th 7-8pm Confirmation, crypt	Tues 10th 7.30pm RCIA, crypt	Tues 10th 1pm Lunch club, crypt	Wed 11th 6pm Brownies, crypt	Tues 10th 2.30pm Tuesday club, crypt	Sat 14th 11.30am Baptism course, church
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<p>Wed 11th October St John XXIII, Pope 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass with St Augustine's School May Breary RIP followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<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: <i>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</i></p>						
<p>Thurs 12th October St Wilfred, Bishop 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass Private intention NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>							
<p>Friday 13th October ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Adoration of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Thanksgiving for Amy 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>							
<p>Sat 14th October St Callistus I, Pope & Martyr 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Canon Patrick Sammon RIP 1st anniv</p>							
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