



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 B

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

21ST JANUARY 2024

Gospel: *Mark 1: 14-20*

Repent, and believe the Good News.

In today's gospel, Jesus proclaims, *'the Good News from God. The time has come and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent and believe the Good News'*. Whatever has passed for good news is nothing in comparison to this. It has lost its lustre. The good news is Jesus. With him, the medium really is the message. Believing the good news is giving way to Him. To follow him is to embark upon the most wonderful adventure of discovery, discovery about God, oneself and the world, to see with new eyes everything and everybody. While Jesus envisaged that the whole of humanity should be 'caught' by the good news, those involved in the 'catching' had a specific



calling to follow. We cannot separate Jesus' command to follow from his promise to re-make those who follow. It will not be human wisdom or ingenuity which makes us into fishers of men but Jesus himself. *'I will make you into fishers of men'*. This is divine activity, not a human make-over. God's spirit reaches out to our spirit and changes us from the inside. When Jesus said *'follow me'* he meant much more than a turning of the head. First, it's a command not an invitation. Acknowledging his rights as chief executive changes the command structures and strategic planning of our lives. It may mean a change of location, though following Jesus did not always mean that one had to leave one's 'home'. For some, it meant returning 'home' to bring the people the good news, as we see with the man from Gergesa. The fishermen brothers, Andrew and Peter, James and John, left their family business and home, though they did not cut themselves off completely from fishing or their families. The Sea of Galilee featured prominently in their lives. Jesus was often around the shores of the lake and used Peter's house at Capernaum as a base. These fishermen had already been dislocated through the ground-breaking work of John the Baptist. Several of them were disciples of John before they became disciples of Jesus. Of the wider group of disciples (such as the 72 that Jesus sends out on mission, the larger group of 500 denoted by Paul after the Resurrection, or the more exclusive 150 together at Pentecost) few had been involved in the fishing trade. Even among Jesus' inner most circle, not all of the twelve disciples were fishermen. One of the twelve Matthew, was a professional tax collector. If Jesus addressed him in the same way as he addressed the fishermen, he might have said follow me and I will make you into a collector of men. Whatever their profession or experiences, Jesus was doing a new thing in their lives. Whatever our profession or experiences, Jesus is doing a new thing in our lives when we repent and believe the good news. This week we celebrate the conversion of St Paul. If God can change the fanatical, murderous Saul into the greatest apostle Paul, he can change anyone. No one is beyond redemption. Another saint whom we commemorate this week discovered this. He was convinced that he was damned but then discovered that Jesus had taken the damnation upon himself. St Francis de Sales underwent several conversions, which can only be described as succumbing to the overtures of divine love. How he had been caught by Jesus' love affected the ways in which he caught others for the kingdom. He coined the phrase, *'a spoonful of honey attracts more flies than a barrelful of vinegar'*. No wonder why he is accredited with bringing thousands of lapsed Catholics back to the faith.

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Luca Norton who will be baptised this weekend.

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



JOHN GRIFFIN of White Stubbs Lane died recently. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 31st January at 11.30am.**

ONOFRIO MANISCALCO of Murchison Road died recently. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 7th February at 12 noon** with Don Antonio.

ANN DANAGHER of Woodside Court died recently. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 7th February at 2.30pm.** *May they rest in peace.*

CRIB APPEAL: Our Crib offerings are donated to the Catholic Children's Society. The Society is helping local families in crisis who are struggling to put food on the table, keep warm and provide a safe home for their children. You can donate at the Crib or via the CCS website www.cathchild.org.uk/crib.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including John Griffin, Onofrio Maniscalco and Ann Danagher and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Giuseppe Tambuzzo, Baby Marie Hounslow, Giuseppa Rotondo, Francesca Gaiteri, Martin Graham, Giuseppe Ricotta, Angelo Barile, Keith Newell, Mary Nolan, Elsie Phipps, Jill Logsdail, Angela Coffey, William Collins, Albert Coleston, Sr Mary Bergard, Lorna De Joodt, Giuseppa Grippi and Peter Gillow. *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. The children choir will resume on **Sunday 4th February at the 4pm Mass and 11th February at the 9.15am Mass.**



HELPERS FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY at the 9.15am Mass are needed. **If you can help, please do contact the presbytery immediately.** Without more volunteers, children's liturgy may not be able to continue. Children's Liturgy will take place at the 9.15am Mass **this Sunday, 4th & 18th February.**



PRAYER GROUP will be held in the crypt on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Next date will be on **Thursday 1st February.** All are welcome!



CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE will be held **this Sunday 21st January at 6pm** at Hoddesdon Baptist Church on behalf of Churches Together in Hoddesdon.



POPE'S INTENTION FOR JANUARY: For the gift of diversity in the church. We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the

Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY: The Cardinal will be celebrating the annual Mass for Matrimony at the Cathedral on **Saturday 25th May at 2.30pm.** More details to follow in due course.

ANNUAL MASS OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES will be held in the Cathedral on Saturday 10th February at 2.30pm.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK At the 7pm Mass on **Friday 2nd February,** Fr Julian will offer the anointing of the sick.



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 23rd January at 7.30pm** in the crypt.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024: The next meeting will be on **Monday 22nd January 2024 from 7-8pm** in the crypt.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2023/2024: The next meeting for children in year 3 will

be on the 28th January.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 'PRAYER PARTNERS' are needed for all the children on the First Holy Communion programme. A prayer partner prays for a child at least twice a day, whilst they are preparing to make their First Holy Communion. If you would like to become a prayer partner, please print your name in capital letters on the blue sheets on the blue board at the back of the church.



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 apply for an application form as soon as possible.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE

CAFOD are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, inspiring our church to help build a better world or by visiting our local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the area? Could you support local volunteers or share your admin or people skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support is provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with brozycka@cafod.org.uk Or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? cafod.org.uk/walk



SCHOOLS/UNDER 5'S

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL: Open days for Nursery dates are: Mon 22nd January @9:15am, Mon 29th January @9:15am and Mon 5th February @9:15am. c

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S - a Registered Charity. The Under 5s is a friendly, busy and thriving early years setting. As a charity trustees are needed to help to continue to provide a valuable service for our parish and the community. If you are interested in helping and would like to find out more, please call the Under 5s on 01992 460614.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

SEPARATION

SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting date for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 24th January 2024** from 4.30-6pm in the presbytery.

*Separated & Divorced
Support Group*

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: If you've experienced a bereavement please feel welcome to come to the parish support group. Details of the next meeting will be advertised in next week's newsletter.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO: A photo presentation of the pilgrimage route (500 miles / 790 kms) will be held on **Friday 26th January at 7pm in the crypt.** This will be accompanied by wine and nibbles at a cost of £5 per head to support church funds.



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: Pat Kavanagh, Sue Alvey and Val. Thank you for your help.

FINANCE

FINANCE: This weekend, Matt Morrissey, the Chair of the Finance Committee will be giving a talk after all Masses to update the parish on our financial situation.



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



PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES:

We are now preparing to order new sets of offertory envelopes. If you no longer use your envelopes or would like to move to a standing order, please contact the presbytery.

COLLECTION TO SUPPORT THE LATIN PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM: Thank you to everyone who donated to the collection. The total amount raised was £429.72.

NO CASH? You can make your offering here by scanning the QR Code with your smartphone. Alternatively, there is a contactless device at the left-hand exit door of the church. If you are a Tax Payer, please complete the Gift Aid Declaration.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Sat 20th January St Sebastian, Martyr 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Gaetano Alfieri & Costanza Teoli RIP	Page 129 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Jonah 3: 1-5, 10 <i>The people of Nineveh renounce their evil behaviour.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Giuseppa Grippi RIP	Ps 24 — Lord, make me know your ways.
Sun 21st January THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass Keith Newell RIP anniv 11.15am Mass For the Parish	2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31 <i>The world as we know it is passing away.</i>
Mon 22nd January St Vincent, Deacon and Martyr 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Sr Leonard Azzopardi 5-6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News. Alleluia! Gospel: Mark 1: 14-20 <i>Repent, and believe the Good News.</i>
Tues 23rd January 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass The Conway Family intentions 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)</p>
Wed 24th January St Francis de Sales, Bishop 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Maria Teresa Distefano RIP followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18: 15-20 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7: 32-35 Gospel: Mark 1: 21-28
Thurs 25th Jan CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass The Harran Family intentions NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am or ask Fr Julian at any other time.
Friday 26th January Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament /11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass John & Joan Coughlan RIP & Americo Sanniti RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Sat 27th January St Angela Merici (Holocaust Memorial Day) 9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Tino Necchi RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> Any parishioner sick, frail, or going into hospital for major surgery, can ask Fr Julian for the Sacrament of Anointing at any time.
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass Mary O'Donovan RIP Sun 28th January FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass For the Parish 11.15am Mass Giuseppe Tambuzzo RIP anniv	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> 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
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Mon 22nd 7pm Confirmation, crypt Tues 23rd 1pm Lunch club, crypt Tues 23rd 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	Tues 23rd 7.30pm RCIA, crypt Wed 24th 4.30pm Separated Support Group Wed 24th 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*