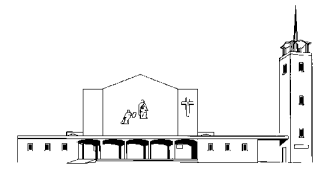




# The Announcer



## 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 B**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024**

Gospel: *The Passion according to St Mark.*

It might be useful to explain what is going to happen over the next few days in the life of our church, as I frequently encounter even Catholics who haven't the faintest idea. Today on Palm Sunday we are entering upon the most holy week in the Church's annual calendar, the events leading up to the Death and Resurrection of our Lord. We mark the start of Holy Week by remembering Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, after which we will hear the passion narrative from one of the Synoptic gospels (this year Mark). This passion narrative covers the events of the last three days of Jesus' mortal life, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. These three days are given a special name, the Triduum, meaning the three days. On each of the days we relive the unfolding events of Jesus' betrayal, death and resurrection. On Maundy Thursday we mark Jesus' last supper with his friends, during which he left us the Eucharist and washed his disciples' feet, and then went out to the Mount of Olives. Here he entered into the deep prayer, known as the Agony in Gethsemane, where he wrestled with his divine calling to lay down his life. Jesus' journey out from the upper room to Gethsemane is marked by the procession after Mass to a specially prepared garden, where we will hold our own vigil before the Lord. Then on the following day, on Good Friday we will gather to hear the passion narrative from John's Gospel, which relates Jesus' betrayal by Judas, the desertion of the disciples, our Lord's trials before Herod and Pilate, his condemnation, his journey to the cross and his crucifixion. Then we have the veneration of the cross, acknowledging Jesus' sacrificial death upon the cross for our pride and rebellion. Good Friday is the only day when there is no Mass anywhere in the world, though we can receive Communion from the reserved sacrament to remind us that it is only through his saving death that we are his family. On the following evening of Holy Saturday, we hold the Vigil of Easter, in which we will welcome the first light of resurrection (symbolically represented by the lighting of the fire and the Easter candle) and be reminded of God's faithfulness throughout history. The Mass follows, with the sacraments of baptism and confirmation, during which our catechumens and candidates who have been preparing over the last year will enter into the full communion of the Church. The Easter Vigil is the first Mass of Easter, but not everyone will attend, some preferring to attend one of the Sunday morning Masses. The Church lays down that as a bare minimum, every Catholic should receive Communion at least once a year. To receive Holy Communion, one should examine one's conscience, and if there is any sin which hasn't been confessed, especially mortal sin, then this should be done before receiving Communion. The Church recommends that at least once in the year (and recommends Easter as a suitable time) every Catholic should confess. On Monday morning and evening, therefore, we will offer a parish penitential service, where several priests will hear confessions. The obligation to receive the Communion and Confession at least once a year seems incredibly light, but remember it is seen as the bare minimum of our observance. However, if Catholic, we are expected to attend Mass every Sunday (or Saturday evening, the Saturday evening being recognised as a Sunday Mass) as well as on the few days of obligation, but that is hardly onerous considering how few weeks there are in the year. It goes without saying that Jesus expects all believers to cultivate a Christian lifestyle, loving God above all else and working out that love in treating others like ourselves. Through his love, Jesus invites us to a free assent. We are under no compulsion to honour Him, but please remember that through His passion He has opened for us the way to salvation, a joy-filled wholeness now, whatever befall us, and life in the world to come. Many choose to reject Him, go their own way and turn aside. Will we? Will we be like Judas who betrayed him, Peter who denied him, the disciples who deserted him and the crowd who hungered for his death. From the cross he forgave them. He forgives us also. God is love and doesn't condemn us. We condemn ourselves by putting ourselves first.



Fr Julian

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**CARMINA MARTUCCI** of Thurgood Road died recently. Her funeral will be on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon**.

**FRANCESCA PROVENZANO** of Rodney Crescent died recently. Her funeral will be on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 1.15pm** with Don Antonio.

*May they rest in peace.*

**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Maria Cimino, Francesca Provenzano and Carmina Martucci and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Rosalind Needham, Calogero Bellanca, Susan Harwood, Robert Cullen, Baby Angelina Rodia, Maria Di Stefano, Antonino Martorana, Luciano Ricotta, David Madsen, Salvatrice Castronovo, Rosalia Castagna and Antonino Cuffaro. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** those who will be received into full communion at the Easter Vigil: Rosa Muller Moreno, Gail Hunsworth Fox, Jenna Upson, Janet Cornelius, Angel Jaquez de Jesus, Maria Caruso & Chiara Caruso.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** Gabby Hanley will be running the Children's Choir at the 9.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. The children choir will be on **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> April at the 9.15am Mass.**

### Children's Liturgy of the Word Volunteers

**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 on **24<sup>th</sup> March**.

**MARRIAGE THANKSGIVING MASS:** The Cardinal will be celebrating the annual Mass for Matrimony at the Cathedral on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm**. All couples who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024 are invited. If you would like to attend, please contact the presbytery **by the 11<sup>th</sup> April** with the husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).



**AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY** will be on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May** and the coach will leave at 9am. The price of the coach is £17 and you can either bring a packed lunch or buy lunch



there. If you would like to go, please contact the presbytery. **There are now only 9 spaces left.**

**PRAYER GROUP** will be held in the crypt on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Next date will be on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April**. All are welcome!

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> July 2024** - Registration for the

Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April.



**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** will be on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September**. More details to follow.

### LENT

**LENTEN ALMS: Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024** Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. You will find the box throughout Lent in the church.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be prayed in church each Friday (12.30pm after Mass) and Saturday (9.30am before Mass.) Exposition of the blessed Sacrament will take place at 9am on Saturday mornings in Lent.



**PENITENTIAL SERVICE** for the parish will be on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am and 7.30pm**.

**HOLY WEEK POSTERS** are now available at the back of the church. Please do take one to display in your window at home.

### HOLY WEEK

**MAUNDY THURSDAY MASS:**

During the Mass, there will also be a Rite of Re-commissioning and commissioning for the Ministers of Holy Communion, so if you are a Minister, please attend the Mass at 8pm.



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY ON GOOD FRIDAY:** Children should be taken straight to the crypt before the service and collected from the crypt.

**HOLY WEEK – advanced notice of times:**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March CHRISM MASS at Westminster Cathedral at 12 noon.



**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** 28<sup>th</sup> March  
8.30am Exposition 9am Morning Prayer  
9.15am-9.45am Confessions  
7-7.30pm Confessions  
**8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
9.30pm-Midnight: praying at Altar of Repose.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** 29<sup>th</sup> March  
9.00am Morning Prayer  
9.30am-10.30am Confessions  
11 Churches Together Act of Witness (clock tower)  
12-3pm Prayer before the Cross  
**3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion**  
6.30pm-7pm Confessions  
7pm Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY:** 30<sup>th</sup> March  
9.45am Morning Prayer  
10-11am Confessions  
**9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil**

**EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15am and 11.15am Mass**

**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**



**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024:**  
The next meeting will be on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm** in the church for the Lent Penitential Service.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024:**  
The next meeting for children in year 3 will be on the **14<sup>th</sup> April.**

**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next course will be held on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm** in the church. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.



**SCHOOLS/UNDER 5'S**

**ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL** have nursery tours available. Please contact the school office on 01992 463549 or [admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@staugustines.herts.sch.uk) for further details.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S 200 CLUB** renewals are now due. Please see Lynn O'Bryan after the 6.30pm Mass, Theresa Casbard after the 9.15am Mass or Mary Briggs after the 11.15am Mass.

**SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS**

**SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:** The next meeting date for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** from 4.30-6pm in the presbytery.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** If you've experienced a bereavement please feel welcome to come to the parish support group. The next meeting will be on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm** in the presbytery.



**MARY'S MEALS** are inviting us to collect any unwanted foreign currency\*. There are envelopes at the back of church for you to take home and put all your foreign

coins and notes into. Please return the envelope with the money to the presbytery. \*They will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender.

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

**FINANCE**

**PLANNED GIVING:** Boxes of envelopes for the new financial year are available from the back of the church this weekend.

**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>        |

**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  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> March St Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop</b><br/>           9.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br/>           9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Mass <i>Anne Hennelly RIP</i></p>  | <p><b>Page 176 in the Mass books</b></p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Isaiah 50: 4-7<br/> <i>I did not cover my face against insult, I know I shall not be shamed.</i></p> <p><b>Ps 21 — My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Philippians 2: 6-11<br/> <i>He humbled himself; but God raised him high.</i></p> |
| <p>4.00pm Italian Mass*<br/>           6.30pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i></p>   |  |
| <p><b>Sun 24<sup>th</sup> March PALM SUNDAY</b><br/>           9.15am Mass <i>David Madsen &amp; Salvatrice Castronovo RIP</i><br/>           11.15am <i>Luciano Ricotta RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniv</i></p>  | <p><b>Gospel Accl.</b> Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!</p> <p><b>Gospel:</b> Passion according to Mark 14: 1-15: 47</p>                                 |
| <p><b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b><br/>           8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br/>           9.15am Mass <i>Robert Cullen RIP</i><br/>           6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b><br/>           8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br/>           9.15am Mass <i>Feni Necchi-Ghiri RIP</i><br/>           6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>   | <p><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS<br/>           EASTER SUNDAY<br/>           (YEAR B)</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Wed 27<sup>th</sup> March WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK</b><br/>           8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br/>           9.15am Mass <i>Margaret Delaney RIP anniv</i> followed by coffee in the crypt<br/>           6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>   | <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 10: 34, 37-43<br/> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Colossians 3: 1-4<br/> <b>Gospel:</b> John 20: 1-9</p>  |
| <p><b>Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March MAUNDY THURSDAY</b><br/>           8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br/>           9am Morning Prayer<br/>           9.15am-9.45am Confessions            7-7.30pm Confessions<br/>           12 noon Funeral <i>Carmina Martucci RIP</i><br/> <b>8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper For the Parish</b><br/>           9.30-Midnight Praying at the Altar of Repose</p> | <p><b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b><br/>           Saturday 10.30 – 11am &amp; 5.30 – 6.15pm<br/>           Sunday 8.45 – 9am &amp; 10.45 – 11am<br/>           or ask Fr Julian at any other time.</p> <p><b>ROSARY</b><br/>           The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>                |
| <p><b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March GOOD FRIDAY</b><br/>           (Abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)<br/>           9am Morning Prayer    9.30am-10.30am Confessions<br/>           11am Churches Together Act of Witness<br/>           12-3pm Devotions before the Cross<br/> <b>3pm CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION</b><br/>           6.30pm-7pm Confessions    7pm Stations of the Cross</p>     | <p><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b><br/>           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><b>Sat 30<sup>th</sup> March HOLY SATURDAY</b><br/>           9.45am Morning Prayer<br/>           10-11am Confessions<br/>           6pm Italian Easter Vigil<br/> <b>9pm Mass of the Easter Vigil Priest's intentions</b></p>   | <p><b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b><br/>           Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p><b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered<br/>           Charity No. 233699</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Sun 31<sup>st</sup> March EASTER SUNDAY</b><br/>           9.15am Mass <i>Vincent Byrne RIP</i><br/>           11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i></p>  |  |
| * Vigil Mass of Sunday   |  |
| <b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>  |  |
| <p><b>Tues 26<sup>th</sup></b>            1 pm Lunch club, crypt<br/> <b>Tues 26<sup>th</sup></b>            2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt</p>   | <p><b>Wed 27<sup>th</sup></b>            6pm Brownies, 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 parrochiani 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