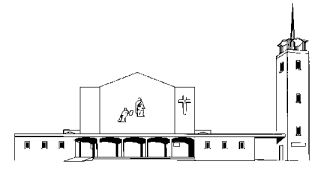




The Announcer



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 B

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

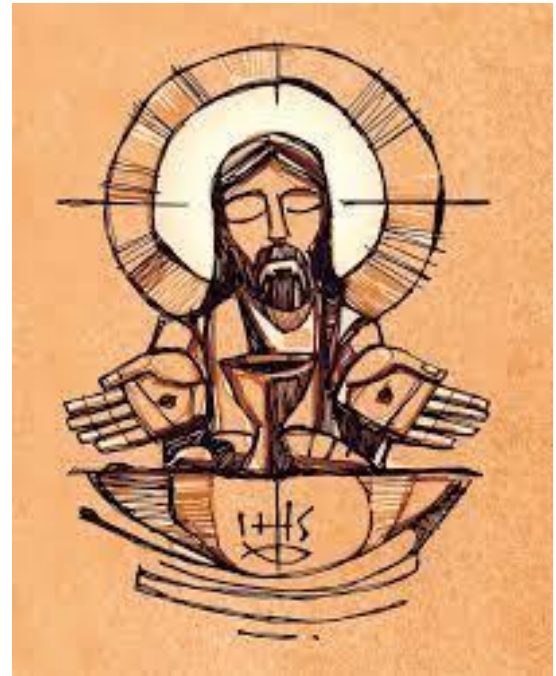
14TH APRIL 2024

Gospel: Luke 24: 35-48

So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.

Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed! Without the resurrection of Christ there is no faith, no Church and no good news. It is the defining mark of the believer. St Paul says that *'if you confess that 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead you will be saved'*. Pope Benedict wrote, *'The Resurrection of Christ is central to Christianity. It is a fundamental truth to be reasserted vigorously in every epoch, since to deny it, as has been, and continues to be attempted, or to transform it into a purely spiritual event, is to thwart our very faith'*. Scripture leaves us in no uncertainty as to the nature of Jesus' risen body. He was not an ethereal, disembodied spirit. In fact, Jesus Christ was raised not as a spirit, but as a spiritual *body*. His body was both spiritual and physical. Indeed, he told the disciples that he had flesh and bones to counter the idea that they were seeing a ghost. He invited them to touch him, and to prove his physicality further, he asked them for something to eat. His glorious body was and is unlike any body known. It could even materialise and immaterialise. If we say that that is impossible, then we have limited the God of the possible. In Jesus the God of the infinite became finite, to bring us into an infinity unimaginable to our human understanding. Belief leads the way. As St Anselm said, we don't understand in order to believe, but believe in order to understand. In our Apostolic Creed, we affirm our belief *'in the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting'*. From eternity, God's plan for us, is not our extinction but our eternal life. This is good news for a desperate humanity, living under the cloud of its ultimate contradiction, for although we aspire to live beyond death, we are faced by the contradiction that we all die. In the midst of grief, there can be no better comfort than to know that, because of the resurrection of Christ, death is not the end. *As in Adam all men die, so in Christ shall all be made alive*, in St Paul's words. Death is offensive to the modern mind. We cannot side-step it by thinking that we become angels, stars or diffuse into the ether when we die. Christ's resurrection has put such fantasies to flight. Christian belief has even changed the language of death. Christians bury their dead not in a pagan necropolis (a city of the dead) but in a cemetery which means a place of sleep. We rest with the Lord and are with the Lord, until that day when we are raised in a body like his. Physical death could not destroy him, nor will it destroy those who believe in him. Jesus told Martha that whoever believes in him shall live, regardless of their mortality. Living in Jesus is to know, even now, something of the eternal life of heaven. What blocks us from accessing this life is the pervasive disease of sin-the desire to go it alone, to turn our back on God, and to wilfully break our relationship with Our Father. The offense is so great that our relationship (and we ourselves) can only be restored by heaven not by us. This is what Christ has done on the cross. Once and for all He has taken away the sins of the world and thrown us a life-line. In raising Jesus from the dead, God validates the saving work of His Son. All we need to do is receive in repentance what he has done. Jesus' cross and the empty tomb are the interpretative keys of my life. Reject them and I reject life. How foolish! *'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem'*.... Jesus' words to his disciples and to us today. Repent and believe the gospel!

Fr Julian



PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Leonardo Intraiva who will be baptised this weekend.

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

FRANCESCA PROVENZANO of Rodney Crescent died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Monday 15th April at 1.15pm** with Don Antonio.

EUGENE MARTIN of Monks Close died recently. His Requiem will be on **Friday 19th April at 2.30pm**.

BRENDAN O'SULLIVAN of Hill Cross Farm died recently. His Requiem will be on **Friday 26th April at 2.30pm**.
May they rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Eugene Martin, Brendan O'Sullivan, Francesca Provenzano and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Caterina Lo Monaco, Eugenio Morreale, Carlo Ferraro, Rosario Quartararo, James Hussey, Elia Peduto, Antonio Minichiello, Antony Willis, Keith Walters, Mary Perllman, Giuseppe Conti, John Dempsey, Eileen Willing and Joan Molloy. *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 be on **Sunday 21st April at the 9.15am Mass**.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Volunteers

not be able to continue. Next date: 28th April.

AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY will be on **Thursday 16th 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 and complete the tear off slip at the bottom of the newsletter. **There is now only 1 space 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 2nd May**. All are welcome!

MONTH OF OUR LADY: During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed for before each Sunday Mass. If you would like to volunteer to lead this, please contact the presbytery.

MAY PROCESSION will be held on **Friday 3rd May**. Mass will be at 6pm and the May Procession will be after the Mass. This will be a service of the rosary, hymns and prayers in honour of our Blessed Lady. Tea and cakes will be available afterwards. **Volunteers are needed to help make the refreshments - if you can help, please contact the presbytery.**

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 19th- 26th 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 by Tuesday 30th April.



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

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 15th April at 7pm** in the crypt. Please do return your sponsor & nomination forms as soon as possible.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024: The next meeting for children in year 3 will be on the **14th April**. The First Reconciliations will be on Saturday 13th and 27th April at 10.45am in church.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Wednesday 24th 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.



RCIA: ('Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): The new programme will take place on the **23rd April at 7.30pm in the crypt**. This is for those seeking full communion with the Church and those who wish to renew their faith. Please do come along.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE



ST AUGUSTINE'S JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP, linked to the Justice and Peace Commission of the diocese has been launched, headed by Martin Coleston and Ann Hussein. Watch this space for further details about events and programmes.

THE SANTA MARTA GROUP was established in 2014 by Pope Francis to combat human trafficking and modern slavery. SMG is now delivering 'Awareness and Guidance for Communities' to encourage local action and to prevent human trafficking and modern slavery taking place in our midst. **On Thursday 2nd May the Santa Marta Group will hold a meeting at the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and St Joseph 1, King Edward's Road, Ware, SG12 7EJ from 6.45pm - 9.30pm.** Kevin Hyland, the UK's first Independent anti-slavery Commissioner and currently chief advisor to the Santa Marta Group will lead the meeting. All are welcome to come to learn more about the prevalence of human trafficking and modern slavery in our communities and the steps we can take to prevent it.

SCHOOLS/UNDER 5'S

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S are fundraising by collecting good quality items for re-use by the company Bag 2 School. These can include men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts and accessories. Please donate your bag to the Under 5's by **Friday 26th April**. Please note the playgroup is closed until Monday 15th April.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PRIEST TRAINING FUND: Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place **next weekend**. There

**Good Shepherd Sunday
21 April 2024**



are currently **49** men studying at Allen Hall seminary, **13** of whom are from our own Diocese. Last year **3** deacons were ordained for Westminster Diocese. The Priest Training Fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. **Donation envelopes are attached to the newsletter and will be collected next weekend.** Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.



'COME AND SEE': Men who may be considering a vocation as a deacon, or for those wanting to know more about the Permanent Diaconate are invited to attend an introductory meeting on **Saturday 20th April at 10am** at the Potters Bar parish. There will be another similar event on **Saturday 1st June** in Harpenden. For further info please contact Canon Roger Taylor, vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk

SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting date for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 24th April** 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 2nd May at 2pm** in the presbytery. (Please note the change of date)

FLOWER LADIES are looking for more volunteers to join their team. No experience is necessary as training will be given. If you are interested, please contact Gemma Castle on 01992.462215.



CHURCH CLEANING: Pat Kavanagh, Sue Alvey & Val. Thank you for your help.

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

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

GIFT AID: We will soon be putting in a Gift Aid claim asking the Inland Revenue to give us the tax that you have paid on your donations. If you have stopped paying tax, please contact the presbytery so that we can update our records.

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
Saturday 13th April Saint Martin I, Pope 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Ugochukwu Irechukwu RIP	Page 258 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19 <i>You killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass For the Parish	Ps 4: 2, 4, 7, 9 — Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.
Sun 14th April 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass Bill Anthony RIP 11.15am Mass Carlo Ferraro RIP 1st anniv	2nd Reading: 1 John 2: 1-5 <i>He is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's.</i>
Mon 15th April 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Tony's intentions 1.15pm Funeral Francesca Provenzano RIP 5-6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!
Tues 16th April St Bernadette 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Justin Ighade's intentions 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel: Luke 24: 35-48 <i>So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.</i>
Wed 17th April 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass Maria-Teresa Distefano RIP followed by coffee in the crypt RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B)</p> 1st Reading: Acts 4: 8-12 2nd Reading: 1 John 3: 1-2 Gospel: John 10: 11-18
Thurs 18th April 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass Private intention 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 19th April Saint Alphege, Bishop & Martyr (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass Eddie & Celine Smith In Thanksgiving 2.30pm Funeral Eugene Martin 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.
Saturday 20th April 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass Rosalia Grana 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 For the Parish	<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.
Sun 21st April 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9.15am Mass Florence & Albert Smith RIP 11.15am Mass Antonino & Giuseppa Cannatella RIP	<p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Mon 15th 7pm Confirmation, crypt Tues 16th 1pm Lunch club, crypt	Tues 16th 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt Wed 17th 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