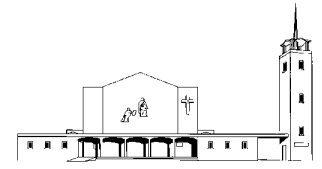




# The Announcer



## 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**

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**

Gospel: *John 15: 9-17*

*A man can have no greater lover than to lay down his life for his friends.*

*'They shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more'.* These words from Isaiah's prophecy are inscribed outside the United Nations. The irony of the inscription is not lost given that the former USSR paid for it and given the present conflicts in Eastern Europe, Gaza and elsewhere. Isaiah's vision of a Messianic reign of peace and justice seems a long way off, yet in the Church that vision becomes a present reality. Through the Church's mission, as today's psalm proclaims, *'the Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations....All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God'.* It was God's intention from eternity that his chosen people would bring the knowledge of God's reign to the nations. Where Israel failed, Jesus comes as



the perfect representative of the Jewish people to accomplish what they could not. At the Presentation, Simeon, taking Jesus into his arms, proclaims the child not only Israel's glory, but the Light to the Nations. In the death and resurrection of Christ, and the consequent outpouring of the Holy Spirit, God has acted decisively to bring to conclusion the divisions and hostilities of the world. Through the ministry of the Church he provides the means to reconcile former enemies and to integrate them into the new life of the kingdom. The outpouring of the Spirit upon pagan Romans convinces Peter that *'God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him'.* Peter's words challenge our beleaguered insular perspectives and threaten our denominational ghettos. The beauty of the Church is that it draws into communion the myriad nationalities and races of the world, and in so doing proclaims the signs and truth of God's coming kingdom. Through the sacrificial death of Jesus, God who is love, disarms our hatreds and reconciles our differences. He calls into loving relationship people who by nature are not very loving and who look different. That love challenges and changes us in the very depths of our being... *'this is the love I mean'*, St John says today in his first letter, *'not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes away our sins'.* The proof of that love is whether or not we keep Jesus' commandments. His commandment to love goes further than loving those like ourselves. It goes further than loving our neighbour as ourselves. It is to love one another, as He loves us. *'This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends'.* Jesus shows true love for us by laying down his life for us. Therefore, we have to do the same, laying down our life for him and putting the needs of others first before ourselves. Confronted by the cross we are all aliens, in desperate need of friendship. Jesus died for all without exception regardless of our differences. In accepting his saving death for ourselves, and living sacrificially as he requires, we are divinely befriended by him. This divine friendship is so much greater than anything that human friendship can offer. Human friendship is based upon needs, shared values and interests, what gives us pleasure, what is useful and genetic similarities. How friendly would we consider a friend who told us that before we could become friends we would need to follow their commands? Outrageous. Yet this is what Jesus asks of us. Following what He wants, makes us friends with him. *'You are my friends if you do what I command'.* We are either offended or totally disarmed by this. Offended because we reject Jesus, or disarmed because Jesus' command is totally orientated to love. Not a fleeting, emotional, bargained for, conditional love which so often passes for love in our world but divine, unconditional love-agape-which puts the other first. It is this love which gives access into heaven (*'I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father'*), which transforms the conflicted human heart and leads to lasting peace between mutual enemies. The freedom of humanity depends upon it. As our antiphon says. *'Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia'.*  
Fr Julian

## PRAYER & LITURGY

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS SUNDAY'S FIRST COMMUNICANTS:

Harry Bennett, Herbie Biles, Coby Brown, Lia Brown, Stella Bowen, Finley Byrne, Anastasia Camfield, Sofia Castiglione, Matteo Giardina, Pixie Hallissey, Conor Hankins, Charlotte Jacquez Alvarez, Ezichi John-Nwosu, Lois Joseph, Tamika Moyo, Oliver Pledger, Chloe Smith, Joshua Smith and Verity Spires.



**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Mary Hindley, Luciana Gianfrancesco and Gilda Teoli, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Timothy O'Brien, Francesco Tona, Karl Schuster, Linda Tuzzeo, John McElroy, Liberato Reveglia, David Hale, Joan Hiscock, Patrick Danagher, Wendy Pyper, Pasquale Re and Francesco Borelli. *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, 2nd, 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> June 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. Next date: **5<sup>th</sup> May.**

### AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY

will be on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May** and the coach will leave at 9am. There will be Mass at 12 noon and opportunities for the Rosary and other devotions in the afternoon. You can either bring a packed lunch or buy lunch there. **Please note the coach is now full although there is a reserve list.**



**PRAYER GROUP** will be held in the crypt on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Please note there will be no meeting in June.

**MONTH OF OUR LADY:** During May, a decade of the Rosary will be prayed for before each Sunday Mass.



**ASCENSION DAY** is on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be at 9.15am with St Augustine's School, 2pm with St Cross School and 8pm. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 8.30am and 7-8pm.**

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

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS:** If you have ever felt there could be more to being Catholic than you are currently experiencing, then consider the online or in person Life in the Spirit Seminars designed for those who want to come closer to Christ and live life filled with the Holy Spirit. There are several ways to participate. To find out more please visit [rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/mission-and-discipleship/life-in-the-spirit-seminars/](http://rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/mission-and-discipleship/life-in-the-spirit-seminars/)



**POPE'S INTENTION FOR MAY** is for the formation of men and women religious, and seminarians. Let us pray that men and women religious, and seminarians grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

### 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

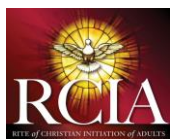
#### CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024:

The rehearsal will be on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm.** It is necessary that you attend the rehearsal with your sponsor. If your sponsor is not available, then please attend with a parent who will clearly explain to the sponsor afterwards the procedure.



**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next course will be held on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June from 7-8pm** 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) continues on the **7<sup>th</sup> May 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,



In his reflection for Friday of the Passion of The Lord (Good Friday) a few weeks back, Pope Francis wrote: "Lord Jesus, help us to see in your Cross all the crosses of the world...the cross of people thirsty for justice and for peace." Who wouldn't want a more just and peaceful world in which to live? Thankfully, our own Diocese of Westminster has its Justice and Peace (J and P) Commission which "exists to promote action and reflection on peace and social justice in the Diocese of Westminster, in the light of the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching.". It works closely with other organisations, including CAFOD and CARITAS. Carrying on from the previous work of several parishioners (thank you, you know who you are!) we are re-launching the St. Augustine's J and P Group. As part of the J and P Network within the diocese and together our voices will be heard; we can and will make a difference! The campaigns that the Commission run are varied and currently include: Cancel the Debt; Environmental Justice; Fairtrade; Housing & Homelessness; Israel & Palestine; Migrants & Refugees and UN Global Ceasefire. The role of Ann and myself is to acquaint parishioners with the aims and activities of the Commission and to help coordinate our parish's response. Please do not leave participation to the usual few; this is YOUR opportunity to promote Catholic Social Teaching and make a real difference that, as individuals, would be difficult to achieve. We want to hear from our younger parishioners and from parents of young and teenage children who are concerned about the world in which their children will grow up in. Indeed, anyone who has an interest in the social teaching of the Catholic Church and wants to see a more just and peaceful world is welcome. Please do not let work/family/leisure commitments prevent your participation; time commitments will be down to the individual and minimal. Please drop us an email to say that you are interested in finding out more or if you have any particular questions. In peace,  
*Martin and Ann*  
[HoddesdonJandP@proton.me](mailto:HoddesdonJandP@proton.me).



**CAFOD'S SUDAN CRISIS APPEAL:** Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis - extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal). Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers. You can also text CAFODSUDAN to 70450 to donate £10 or donate using the QR code.

## SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S 200 CLUB still has 40 spare numbers. If you would like to join, please contact them on 01192.460614. The winner for May is number 185 Moira Rossi. Congratulations!

## SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:** The next meeting date for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May** 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 6<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm** in the presbytery.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Elizabeth Nsonwah, Tina Pegna, Sophie & Angelo Lenguito. 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:

<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.



## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

### *Regina Coeli Prayer*

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia. Has risen, as he said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia. Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May THE ENGLISH MARTYRS</b> 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>David Hale RIP</i>	<b>Page 266 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48 <i>The Holy Spirit has been poured out on the pagans too.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	<b>Ps 97 — The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.</b>
<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup> May 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Friends, staff &amp; Volunteers of Marie Curie</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Linda &amp; Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> 1 John 4: 7-10 <i>God is love.</i>
<b>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <b>HM King Charles III intentions</b> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel Accl.</b> Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said; 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him'. Alleluia!
<b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Wendy Pyper RIP 1<sup>st</sup> anniv</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel:</b> John 15: 9-17 <i>A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.</i>
<b>Wed 8<sup>th</sup> May</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Francesco Borrelli &amp; Family</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b>  <b>7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>  <b>(YEAR B)</b></p>
<b>Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> May THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b> <b>8.30am</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass with St Augustine's School <i>Ron &amp; Margaret Lampard RIP</i> 2pm Mass with St Cross School <i>Mary Hindley RIP</i> <b>7-8pm</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8pm Mass <i>Michael O'Connor RIP</i>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> John 4: 11-16 <b>Gospel:</b> John 17: 11-19
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May Saint Damien of Molokai (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</b> 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Daniela Ruggiero RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b></p> Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am or ask Fr Julian at any other time.
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Gaetano Alfieri RIP &amp; Costanza Teoli RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROSARY</b></p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Margaret Galligan RIP</i>  <b>Sun 12<sup>th</sup> May 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Daly Dowlings RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</b></p> Any parishioner sick, frail, or going into hospital for major surgery, can ask Fr Julian for the Sacrament of Anointing at any time.
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</b></p> Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.  <b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</b>
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>	
<b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup></b> 1pm Lunch club, crypt <b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup></b> 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	<b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup></b> 7.30pm RCIA, crypt <b>Wed 8<sup>th</sup></b> 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