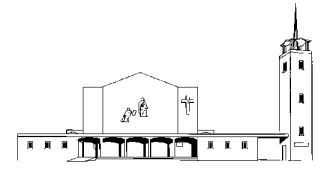




The Announcer



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

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

16TH JUNE 2024

Gospel: *Mark 4: 26-34*

It is the smallest of all the seeds; yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all.

Looking at the horizon is not the limit of our sight. Viewing the setting of the sun does not negate the dawn on the morrow. The greatest discoveries of humanity have come about by people looking beyond their natural sight. Trusting in the experience and findings of others, and working with the received laws of nature, they helped to bring into reality something far greater than what they had even envisioned. Perhaps it's a secular version of having hope and faith, although interestingly many discoverers have been religious people. We are wired as human beings to look beyond our immediate circumstances, to think of a better world. If we consider the cultures of the world, most human beings envisage some form of existence beyond death. For Christians, all endeavours to look beyond our immediate circumstances are ultimately



directed to God, who is the answer to all our hopes and faith. There is within each of us a dissatisfaction with the way things are, because we are searching for realities as yet unattainable. Only God can satisfy these yearnings and desires. St Augustine of Hippo, after whom our church is named, said that the human heart is restless until it finds its rest in God. God wants to re-orientate our desires. Desire can become disordered, if our desire is for mere material things, since desire is satisfied only when those things are transcended by the spiritual. St Paul tells us today that we can never feel at home in visible things, but only in the things of heaven which we cannot see. We are exiles in search of the far greater than the transitory tangible or momentary pleasurable. This is similar to what St Peter says, that we are refugees seeking God's eternal city. Therefore, we exercise faith and hope. We embark upon a journey of discovery, led by the Spirit, realising the limitations of our senses. Our natural habitat is to be exiled from our bodies of frailty since we long for our glorious resurrected bodies. Yet our natural bodies are to be honoured, since they are God-given, and we have a duty of care their wellbeing, for, *'we are intent on pleasing him'*. Our bodies, and how we treat them, and indeed the bodies of others, St Paul says, will call us to account. Christ, who was born for us as a physical body, is concerned for our material as well as our spiritual welfare. He nourishes us with the good things of creation but above all the transforming grace of his own body and blood. Through his real presence in Word and Sacrament our bodies are fed. The open book of creation reveals the abundance of God's providence and signs of his providence. Jesus regularly drew spiritual truths about God's kingdom from the world around us. In today's gospel, he invites us to consider the growth of a seed. We do not cause the hidden seed to grow, yet it appears, first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. In a similar way, once the seed of God's word has been received, God's kingdom grows. It grows imperceptibly, yet inevitably. We are not the instrumental causes of its growth, though we have a role to play in the process. The parable reminds us that the appearance of God's kingdom takes us by surprise. It is God alone who transforms us and the world, through the activity of his Word and Holy Spirit. If we focus on what is only visible then we will miss the deeper, hidden truth. As in the natural world, so in the supernatural, what is dismissed of no consequence can turn out to be of the greatest significance and implication. Long established prejudices and presuppositions will be overturned. We should never despise the day of small things and what may appear to be inconsequential. Today, Ezekiel's prophecy proclaims, *'every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low one grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green'*. Our bodies might be frail but in Christ they have an eternal destiny. We must never become so fixated upon the circumstances that we see, as to forget the circumstances that we cannot see. Faith is endlessly hopeful and hope is endlessly faithful. On this Day for Life let us give thanks for precious life, held in frail and fallible bodies, which through God's grace can be transfigured and touched, and ultimately changed from glory into glory.

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

FATHER'S DAY: Let us pray for all fathers and all those called to be fathers to others.

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Benjamin Grosicki-Çapur and Oliver Ramsey who will be baptised this weekend.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Luciana Gianfrancesco, Maria Nugara and Giuseppe Morreale and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Gabrielle Cook, Gaetano Bondi, Giuseppe Diesi, Margery Davies, Ann Brien, John Kelly, Francesco & Francesca Pizzo, Michael Sherman, Bill Pollard, Aldo Mariotti, Jack Gilbert, Patricia Leach, Salvatore Santaniello and Domenico Provenzano. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

LUCIANA GIANFRANCESCO of Rustle Court died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Tuesday 25th June at 12 noon.** *May she 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 16th & 30th June at the 9.15am Mass.** Adults also welcome.

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: **23rd June.**

DAY FOR LIFE: This Sunday, we celebrate the Day for Life. This year we focus on the theme of compassion and hope at the end of life as well as the reasons why the Church opposes the proposal to introduce assisted suicide or euthanasia. The Bishops' Conference has a dedicated section of their website on this topic. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/> <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/life-issues/>. **There will be a retiring collection this weekend to support this.**



ST ANTHONY'S PROCESSION will take place on **Saturday 29th June at 3.45pm** in the church. All are welcome to attend.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM will be on **Saturday 21st September.** We have the chance to go on pilgrimage to Walsingham with Cardinal Vincent and the Auxiliary Bishops. The theme of the Pilgrimage is



'Be it done unto me according to thy word', echoing Our Lady's words at the Annunciation.

The coach will leave the church at 8am, to get to Walsingham in good time for the 12 noon Mass. After lunch, we will walk the Holy Mile and conclude with Benediction in the grounds of the Anglican Shrine. We have a 35-seater coach. To book a place on the coach, please contact the presbytery. The cost of the day will be £35 (£30 coach and £5 pilgrims' levy fee. Payment is not required yet.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS: The next rotas for the period July - October will be drawn up shortly. Please therefore advise of any dates that you are **NOT** available during this period by **23rd June AT THE**



LATEST to Pat Kavanagh for 9.15 am Mass (telephone 07485 284007 or 01992 449282 or email patandcarolkav@btinternet.com) and Dawn Bates for 6.30pm and 11.15am Masses (tel 440986 or email hoddesdon@rcdow.org.uk). Please also advise of any changes in personal contact details e.g. address, telephone number etc. Once drawn up, all rotas will be dispatched by email unless requested otherwise. Thank you.

'INSTRUCTIONS FOR MY FUNERAL MASS' leaflets are available beside the newsletters at the back of church, if you wish to complete one. Please hand the completed copy into the presbytery

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

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Wednesday 19th 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 **18th June 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.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2025: Application forms for the Confirmation programme for young people in Year 9 or above, or going into Year 9 in September are now available to collect from the presbytery either by email or in person. Entry to the Confirmation programme depends on regular attendance at Mass. More details will follow in due course.

JUSTICE & PEACE

GENERAL ELECTION: With the UK general election due on Thursday, 4 July, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility to use our vote to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty, injustice and human dignity. The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) offer a guide to issues for the election www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/ as do CAFOD together with the Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) www.cafod.org.uk/encounter These sites provide information on a range of topics from a Catholic Christian perspective to help us ask key questions of local candidates and parties who need our votes. Please ensure you are registered to vote by 18 June and have suitable Photo ID, which you will need this year for the first time.



Broxbourne Hustings

BROXBOURNE HUSTINGS: Churches Together will once again host Hustings for the forthcoming election. All major parties are being invited, and local secondary school students asked to contribute questions for the candidates to give their views on. The Hustings will be held at Wormley Community Centre on **Sunday 30th June**. Doors open 7pm and the Hustings will start at 7.30 and end at 9pm. Questions for the candidates should be sent to hustings@cthbw.org.uk by 26th June.

ASYLUM SEEKERS at the Delta Hotel, Cheshunt are in need of toys and colouring books for 2-8 year olds. Any contributions can be taken to the church office at St Catherine and St Pauls Church (upstairs in the Hunt Room) on a weekday morning.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PARISH PICNIC will be held in the Presbytery Garden on **Sunday 11th August 12.30-4pm**. In order to get an idea of numbers, if you would like to attend, please fill out the slip and return it to the presbytery.



SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting date for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 26th June** 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 5th September at 2pm** in the presbytery.

CHURCH CLEANING: Michele & Pelle De Luca, Sophie & Angelo Lenguito & Alex Thomson. 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

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.



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<p>PARISH PICNIC SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST 12.30-4pm</p>
Name:
Contact no:
Email address.....
How many people attending.....
<p>PROTECTING YOUR PRIVACY Your personal details will be held on file until the picnic & will then be destroyed. You can read the full privacy policy on rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy.</p>

<p>PILGRIMAGE DAY TO WALSINGHAM ON 21ST SEPTEMBER</p>
Name:
Contact no.:
Email address.....
Next-of-kin name & contact number:
.....
<p>PROTECTING YOUR PRIVACY Your personal details will be held on file. After the Pilgrimage day, your details will be securely destroyed. You can read the full privacy policy on rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy.</p>

Liturgy this week		Today's Liturgy	
Saturday 15th June Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>McGrath Family intentions</i>		Page 95 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Ezekiel 17: 22-24 <i>I make low trees grow.</i>	
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i>		Ps 91 — It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.	
Sun 16th June ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass <i>Bill Pollard RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Francesca & Francesco Pizzo RIP anniv</i>		2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10 <i>Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.</i>	
Mon 17th June 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Idris Jones RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		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!	
Tues 18th June 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Jack Gilbert RIP anniv</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		Gospel: Mark 4: 26-34 <i>It is the smallest of all the seeds; yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all.</i>	
Wed 19th June Saint Romuald, Abbot 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Sina's 60th birthday intentions</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		NEXT WEEK'S READINGS TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)	
Thurs 20th June Saint Alban, Martyr 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Kathleen Callanan RIP</i> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		1st Reading: Job 38: 1, 8-11 2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 14-17 Gospel: Mark 4: 35-41	
Friday 21st June Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Laura & Mary O'Carroll RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		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.	
Saturday 22nd June SAINTS JOHN FISHER, Bishop & THOMAS MORE, Martyr 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Giuseppe Cognata RIP</i>		ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.	
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Michael Whyton RIP</i>		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.	
Sun 23rd June TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass <i>Barbara Murphy RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>		SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.	
* Vigil Mass of Sunday		Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699	
REGULAR EVENTS			
Tues 18th	1pm Lunch club, crypt	Tues 18th	7.30pm RCIA, crypt
Tues 18th	2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	Wed 19th	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