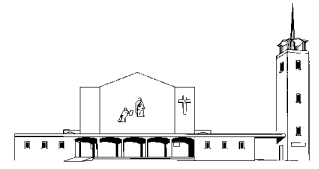




The Announcer



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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

28TH JULY 2024

Gospel: *John 6: 1-15*

Jesus gave out as much as was wanted to all who were sitting ready.

The feeding of the five thousand, recounted in our gospel today, is the only miracle which we find in all four gospels. I wonder what happened to the small boy with the five barley loaves and two fish? Holy Scripture is silent about many things but it would be interesting to know what became of him. How did the remarkable feeding which is the subject of today's gospel impact him? Did he live long to tell the story or did he succumb to an early death like so many of his age? Did he join the ranks of the Jesus movement, and follow Jesus to Jerusalem? It wasn't the quantity of his offering which counted but its quality. It was relatively small, but through its free gift, Jesus was able to make an abundance of provision. We like to think that he unselfishly offered his meal to Jesus. It is not unusual for children at an early age to show remarkable signs of altruistic love and faith. Lacking our cynical hesitancy and innocent of so often hedging bets, we adults should learn from their example. You hear it said that they are the church of tomorrow, but this is so wrong. They are the church of today as much as anyone else. To see them as any other is to be patronising. This is why the catholic tradition has always recognised the importance of covenantal baptism, which admits children to baptism on the basis of the faith of their parents and godparents, on the basis that they will create an environment conducive to faith within the family. Our



baptism service reminds parents of their duty to bring children up to receive first holy communion and then confirmation. Some parents are negligent, but sometimes through the faith of their child, they themselves come to faith. Think of Carlo Acutis, who died of leukaemia aged 15. Through the remarkable witness of her young son, shortly to be canonised, his mother was brought back to the faith. Simple faith is what Jesus looks for. St Bonaventura, one of the finest minds of the Church, whose feast we celebrated last week, taught that a person of simple faith could love God much more than a doctor of theology. There is an immediacy about the faith of children which is why Jesus holds it up as the standard by which we enter the kingdom of God. In 1910 Pope Pius X lowered the age of children's communion from 12 to 7 years, the age of discretion. I don't know whether the little shepherds of Fatima, Francesco, Jacinta and Lucia regularly received holy communion before their angelic and Marian apparitions, but what is certain is that afterwards they eagerly desired it. When the angel of peace appeared to them with a host above a golden chalice, bright red drops of the Precious Blood fell into the chalice from the host. Shortly afterwards they were given the communion. 'Take and drink the body and blood of Jesus Christ, horribly outraged by ungrateful men! Make reparation for their crimes and console your God'. The little shepherds' reception of the chalice, reminds us that children should not be denied the chalice nor anyone else for that matter. How could we think any other when our Lord tells us 'take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood...'. St John Paul II reminds us that receiving in both kinds is a fuller representation of communion. Who can doubt it? The feeding of the five thousand was a different kind of feeding from holy communion though it clearly has sacramental overtones, not least in the taking, the giving thanks and the giving. Both remind us that Jesus feeds us in ways beyond our human understanding. Both remind us of the miraculous gift of sustenance from heaven. Whenever we offer to our Heavenly Father what we have received, we find that grace magnifies. As our prayer over the offerings today says, 'Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most scared mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness'.

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

FIRST FRIDAY MASS will be held on **Friday 2nd August at 7pm.**

FILOMENA MONACHELLO of Penton Drive died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Wednesday 31st July at 12 noon.** May she rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Filomena Monachello and Francis Kimani and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Susannah Fitzpatrick, Margaret Johns, Silvia Cracchiolo, Enzo Alio, Carmela Ruggiero, Fergal Lawlor, Larry O'Neill and Mary Beary. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY feast is on **Thursday 15th August and is a Holy Day of Obligation.** Mass will be at 9.15am, 12 noon and 6pm.



Altar servers are needed for the Masses. If you can assist, please contact the presbytery.

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 **11th, 18th and 25th August 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.

'**CALLING PEOPLE OF GOODWILL**' is the Diocesan faith sharing book for the autumn, which contains 6 short Bible passages with reflections, questions and prayers to prompt discussion and action. **The cost of the book is £4.** If you would like to order one or be part of a discussion group, please contact the presbytery by the end of August.

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 complete the tear off slip and return it to the presbytery with the money.** The cost of the day will be £35 (£30 coach and £5 pilgrims' levy fee).

WORTH ABBEY: We are hoping to have a parish trip to Worth Abbey, an English Benedictine Monastery in West Sussex on **MONDAY 12TH AUGUST - please note change of date.** The coach will leave the church at 9am and stop off somewhere where you will have time to have a walk and get lunch. We will then travel onto Worth Abbey where you will have the chance to visit the gardens and also the Abbey. We will stay for the Monastic Mass and then leave at 6.30pm. The price of the coach will be £27. If you would like to go, please fill in the tear off slip and return it to the presbytery, together with your money.



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



RCIA: ('Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) will resume in September. This is for those who want to learn more about the Catholic church, if you missed one of the Sacraments or if you simply want to renew your faith.



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.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Wednesday 11th September from 7.15 – 8.15pm** in the church. The course must be completed before a Baptism can be arranged. To enrol on the course, please contact the presbytery.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PARISH PICNIC will be held in the Presbytery Garden on **Sunday 11th August 12.30-4pm in the presbytery garden and the band will be playing.**



Parishioners are asked to bring food to share with others, and it doesn't have to be finger food. Please do bring your own drink and glasses, but paper plates and plastic cutlery will be provided. **There are now lists on the blue board at the back of church for you to fill out, so everyone can see what food is being brought to share, so we don't end up with too much of the same thing.** If you would like to attend, can you please fill out the tear off slip and return it to the presbytery, so that we have a rough idea of numbers. **Raffle prizes are needed for the raffle, so if you can donate something, please do hand it in at the presbytery - only new items please. Please do not bring the prizes on the day as the raffle does need to be organised before the day.** As we don't have many gazebos, if you would like to bring your own gazebo to put up on the day, please do so. If you can help put out tables and chairs on Saturday morning, please do contact the presbytery.

SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting date for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 31st July** 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.



NATIONAL WEEKEND FOR MEN will be held from **13th-15th September** at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire. This is a great way to grow in Christian faith! Eucharist, sport (for the more able), relaxation and a bar are included. Relax, recharge & renew. For more information and to book see www.harvesters.org.uk and/or contact Tony Barrell : 01992 442430.

COOKED REFRESHMENTS will not be served in the crypt on **Sunday 4th August**. However, there will still be tea and coffee served.

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:

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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**PILGRIMAGE DAY TO WORTH ABBEY
ON MONDAY 12TH AUGUST - £27**

Name:

Contact no.:

Email address.....

Next-of-kin name & contact number:
.....

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.

**PARISH PICNIC
SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST 12.30-4pm**

Name:

Contact no:

Email address.....

How many people attending.....

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.

**PILGRIMAGE DAY TO WALSINGHAM
ON 21ST SEPTEMBER - £35**

Name:

Contact no.:

Email address.....

Next-of-kin name & contact number:
.....

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.

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Saturday 27th July Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Vic Lowe RIP</i>	Page 112 in the Mass books 1st Reading: 2 Kings 4: 42-44 <i>They will eat and have some left over.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Fr Julian's Ordination Anniversary</i>	Ps 144 — You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.
Sun 28th July SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN O.T 9.15am Mass <i>Isabella & Stanley Abrahams RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	2nd Reading: Ephesians 4: 1-6 <i>One Body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism</i>
Mon 29th July Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Private intention</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!
Tues 30th July Saint Peter Chrysologus 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Larry O'Neill RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel: John 6: 1-15 <i>Jesus gave out as much as was wanted to all who were sitting ready.</i>
Wed 31st July Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Brian Walsh RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 12 noon Funeral Filomena Monachello RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)</p> 1st Reading: Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15 2nd Reading: Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24 Gospel: John 6: 24-35
Thurs 1st August Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Antoniette Cox's intentions</i> 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 2nd August Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Ann Waddingham RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass <i>John & Emer's intentions</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Saturday 3rd August Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Eugene Martin RIP</i>	<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 <i>For the Parish</i> Sun 4th August EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN O.T 9.15am Mass <i>Gwyn Davies RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Brendan O'Sullivan RIP</i>	<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	

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