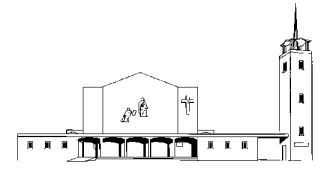




The Announcer



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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18TH AUGUST 2024

Gospel: *John 6: 51-58*

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Statistics show that a major reason for the shortage of available accommodation is the break-up of the family and the erosion of marriage. Separation means that you need more than one dwelling. Having a place to live that one can call home is a natural human desire. Life however is a matter of building more than bricks and mortar. Converting a house into a home depends upon the moral and spiritual life within. A poor house where there is much love is infinitely preferable to a manor where there is none. Our collect today reminds us that God has prepared for those who love him good things that go beyond what is structural or material. It asks God to *'fill our hearts with the warmth of your love'*. A house which has no spiritual warmth can never aspire to be a home. Spending time in non-owned accommodation but lived in the presence of God is actually preferable to owning one's home, yet living outside of God's will. Just as you can feel lonely in a crowd, so you can feel homeless in one's own home, cut off from God. The psalmist knows how priceless is this awareness of God's presence. Our entrance antiphon takes up his words, *'one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere'*. Knowing God's presence is crucial to our sense of our wellbeing. We can build and extend as much as we like, but we will never feel secure, contented or centred unless we cultivate and know the presence of the Lord. In our first reading today, Wisdom builds *'herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars'*. Wisdom needs no architect because wisdom is God's wisdom. Her house has open walls welcoming to all. She seeks to attract all, especially those who try to build their lives without reference to her ways, those whom she calls fools or ignorant. Wisdom's house is a banqueting house because she offers what alone can fill the deepest satisfaction human needs. *'Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared'*. She is not talking of course of natural food and drink, but what is necessary for life: having God on the inside. In the light of the gospel, such imagery has its fulfilment in the words of Jesus who describes himself as the bread of life, and who gifts himself to us through the sacramental offering of bread and wine. This is why the mass is the feast of wisdom, where we understand above all that God has made foolish the wisdom of the world through the cross. Through the broken body of Christ, through his blood poured out, shared in communion by those who have repented of their sins and turned away from the false wisdom of the world, the mass makes available the benefits of Christ's saving death and resurrection. Jesus could not be clearer. The benefits of his saving death and resurrection have to be received through participation. We are called to communion. It was God's intention from the beginning: to call us into communion so that, created for relationship, we can enter into the reality of true communion, the very life of heaven. Jesus uses the language of consumption, not the consumption of passing material riches, but the consumption of lasting wealth. Six times he tells us that we need to consume his bread or flesh, and three times he tells us that we should drink his blood. This is participation is in his very life, through which we mortals receive eternal life, not just ultimately, but now, by drawing, as he says, from Him. Infinite resources, infinite wisdom, infinite love, which give the assurance of an eternal habitation and inheritance...indeed co-heirs of Christ in heaven itself, as our last prayer says.



Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

COLUMBAN FATHERS: We welcome Fr Tom Ryan who will be making a Mission Appeal **this weekend**. The Columbans are international and their missionary work of evangelisation includes outreach to poor and marginalized peoples, building bridges between faiths and cultures and supporting emerging local Churches.



POPE'S INTENTION FOR AUGUST is for political leaders. Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking caring of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

CIRIACO FORGIONE of Carnaby Road died recently. His Requiem will be on **Monday 19th August at 12 noon** with Fr Antonio.

May he rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Les Atkins and Ciriaco Forgione and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Mary Reidy, Mary McNaughton, Luigi Masucci, Danielle Fitzpatrick, Liam Fitzpatrick, Owen Gould, Pasqualina DiChiara, Thomas Casey, Rita Borg, Christopher Ambury, Maria Cannatella, Giovanni D'Ambrosio, Lina Cuffaro, Maria Insalaco, Vincenzo Genuardi, Orsola Scibelli and Gino Leccacorvi.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

THIRTY HOURS' DEVOTION will be held in church on **Monday 26th-Tuesday 27th August from 7am-10pm**. The sign-up sheets to offer to pray for some of the 30 hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament are now available on the blue board at the back of the church. Please do fill in your name for the half hour slots.

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 will resume again at the 9.15am Mass on 1st September. Helpers are still needed. **If you can help, please do contact the presbytery immediately.**



'**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.

PRAYER GROUP will resume again on **Thursday 5th September** at 7.30pm in the crypt and will continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month.

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.** There are now 17 spaces left. The cost of the day will be £35 (£30 coach and £5 pilgrims' levy fee).

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.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: A letter has now been emailed to parents regarding the 2024/2025 course. If you have not received the email, please contact the presbytery.

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 was a huge success last Sunday. Thank you to everyone who attended and brought food to share. Thank you to the band for playing and thank you to everyone who helped set up on Saturday morning, and to everyone who helped tidy away after the picnic. There are too many names to mention! The raffle raised £300.00 and this will be divided between two charities – Water Aid and HCPT. We still have 2 unclaimed prizes – pink tickets 245 and 302. Please contact the presbytery with the ticket to collect the prizes.

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.



SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held in September – date to be confirmed.

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.

CHURCH CLEANING: Elizabeth Nsonwah, Toni Iamarino, Penny Bengé and Antonia Di Piano. 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

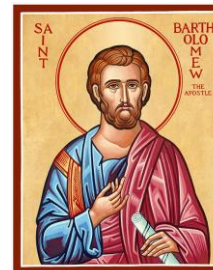
NO CASH? You can make your offering here by scanning the QR Code with your smartphone. Alternatively, there is a contactless device at the left-hand exit door of the church. If you are a Tax Payer, please complete the Gift Aid Declaration.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

ST BARTHOLOMEW

24TH AUGUST



All that is known of him with certainty is that he is mentioned in the Synoptic Gospels and Acts as one of the twelve apostles. His name, a patronymic, means "son of Tolomai" and scholars believe he is the same character as Nathanael mentioned in John's Gospel, who says he is from Cana and that Jesus called him an "Israelite incapable of deceit." The Roman Martyrology says he preached in India and Greater Armenia, where he was flayed and beheaded by King Astyages.

SOME THOUGHTS FROM ST JEAN EUDES WHO WE CELEBRATE THIS WEEK:

'I ask you to consider that our Lord Jesus Christ is your true head and that you are a member of his body. He belongs to you as the head belongs to the body. All that is his is yours: breath, heart, body, soul and all his faculties. All of these you must use as if they belonged to you, so that in serving him you may give him praise, love and glory'.

----- cut ✂ here -----

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

Saturday 17th August Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

10am Mass *Anna Beschizza RIP*

4.00pm Italian Mass*

6.30pm Mass *Ian Witham RIP*

Sun 18th August TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN O.T

9.15am Mass *For the Parish*

11.15am Mass *Orsola Scibelli RIP*

Mon 19th August Saint John Eudes

8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.15am Mass *Noel Charles RIP*

12 noon Funeral *Ciriaco Forgione RIP*

6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues 20th August Saint Bernard, Abbot & Dr of the church

8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.15am Mass *Lizzie Coyle's intentions*

6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wed 21st August Saint Pius V

8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9.15am Mass *Gino & Luisa Leccacorvi RIP* followed by coffee in the crypt

6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thurs 22nd August The Queenship of the B Virgin Mary

7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

8am Mass *Thomas Gilheaney*

NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 23rd August Saint Rose of Lima

(abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)

11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction

12 noon Mass *Matthew Breen RIP anniv*

6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 24th August SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle

9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

10am Mass *Tom Delaney's intentions*

4.00pm Italian Mass*

6.30pm Mass *Giuseppe Grippi*

Sun 25th August TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN O.T

9.15am Mass *For the Parish*

11.15am Mass *Alfonso Mula RIP*

* Vigil Mass of Sunday

Today's Liturgy

Page 120 in the Mass books

1st Reading: Proverbs 9: 1-6

Eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared for you.

Ps 33 — Taste and see that the Lord is good.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 15-20

Recognise what is the will of God.

Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 6: 51-58

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

1st Reading: Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 21-32

Gospel: John 6: 60-69

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.

ROSARY

The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.

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.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

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