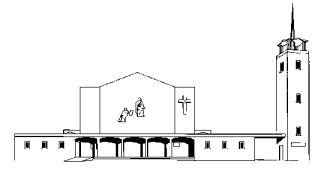




The Announcer



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 TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1ST SEPT 2024

Gospel: *Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.

Whilst a student, I used to like a stage sketch of a woman who goes to her medical practice and asks for a new heart. There is a complete misunderstanding between doctor and patient because she is not talking of a physical heart but of her spiritual heart. Physical transplants are mercifully few, less so than other cardiac problems, requiring open surgery, or intervention to resolve issues such as arrhythmias, congenital defects, coronary artery disease, valve problems and aneurysms. Not everyone will need work done on their physical heart. In contrast, everyone needs surgery on their spiritual heart. Indeed, the two may be related, for not infrequently physical disease can be related to our lack of spiritual ease. This is especially so, when our human hearts are in a desperate state. The gospel tells us that humanity's spiritual problem is more pervasive than any physical heart disease, and calls for urgent attention. Our hearts are the seat, Jesus tells us today, of evil intentions: 'fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly'. Often society explains these vices away in environmental, educational, social or psychological terms. No such explanation excuses our personal responsibility in fostering them. Jesus places them squarely at our feet. Sin is the working out of what rests in the very depth of our being, and its resolution is not cosmetic, but the conversion of our hearts. Through the cross, God has provided the remedy. When we surrender ourselves to Christ, when we die to our old self, accept his saving work on our behalf, and embrace his risen life, with all its implications for ourselves and for others, we find that his power works within us changing us inside out. While the eradication of spiritual disease is on-going, the root cause of our disaffection-sin -has been dealt with once for all through the cross of Christ and the pouring out of his Spirit. This is what God had always intended. Did not Ezekiel prophesy? 'And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules'. The changing of our inner-man enables us to obey what God wants, so that the outer man changes as well. At the heart of God's covenantal relationship was the laws which he asked his people to obey. In our first reading from Deuteronomy, Moses tells the people: 'Now Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life'. Jesus never abrogated those laws. He fulfilled them in his person, and he enables those who live in him to fulfil them as well. The laws become a battle ground between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders because they had evolved ways of interpreting them, known as the oral tradition or the 'tradition of the elders'. They accuse Jesus and his disciples of not observing these 'traditions'. Moreover, since the religious leaders regard these traditions as boundary markers for who was religiously pure or not, they regard those who do not observe them as sinners. Jesus completely demolishes their fabrications. Religious purity does not depend upon observing unbiblical traditions but upon the conversion of the heart by following what God wants, and rooting out the vices of the heart. It is a salutary warning for ourselves. Do we observe the commandments of God and the godly tradition handed down to us? Or do we place alongside them as of equal importance what is merely customary resulting in our unfounded sense of religious superiority over others, forgetting that God looks at the heart, and not outward appearances? Are we outwardly religious but inwardly diseased with vices? We need open-heart surgery, and there is help at hand. The Heart Surgeon has a hundred percent success rate in his operations. Even so it is good practice to wash our hands before eating, though it will not make us pure.



Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS to Tony Moretto and Rosie McIntyre who will be married this weekend. May God bless them in their married life.

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Sonny Ferraro who will be baptised this weekend.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS will be held on **Friday 6th September at 7pm.**

PAOLO FERRARO of Paddick Close died recently. His Requiem will be on **Monday 16th September at 11am.** *May he rest in peace.*



POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER is for the cry of the earth. Let us pray that each of us listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and

the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Paolo Ferraro, Patricia Coughlan and Ciriaco Forgione and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Mary McCarthy, Francesca Cicchirillo, Giuseppe Lomanto, Philomena Robb, Francesca Crimaudo, Linda and Vincenzo Tuzzeo and Alice Warden. *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 **8th & 22nd September at the 9.15am Mass.**

TO ANYONE INTERESTED IN SINGING: We are creating a supplement for our hymn book, with worship songs which we would like to introduce to the church. To get the ball rolling, we would like to hold a workshop session for anyone interested in singing. The emphasis will be teaching the melodies and to get everyone enjoying singing together. Our first session will be held on **Saturday 28th September in the crypt 1.30-3.30pm** with a break for tea and coffee. Gabby Hanley.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY will be held at the 9.15am Mass on **1st, 15th and 29th September.** Helpers are still needed. **If you can help, please do contact the presbytery.**



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 14 spaces left. The cost of the day will be £35 (£30 coach and £5 pilgrims' levy fee).



'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.

SYNODAL CONVERSION FOR THE SAKE OF MISSION: A multi-parish day of reflection, discernment, and action to prepare for the October 2024 Synod in Rome will be held on **Saturday 14th September** at the London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street W1K 3AH 10am for 10.30-4pm. Tea and coffee will be available but please bring and share lunch. Registration is before 12th September at farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk. For further info, please contact 020 8986 0807.

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 on 24th September at 7.30pm. 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.

SCHOOLS

ST CROSS SCHOOL will be holding a Summer Fair on **Saturday 14th September from 12-3pm**. There will be stalls, bouncy castle, food and much more. Donations on entry.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:

If you've experienced a bereavement please feel welcome to come to the parish support group. We are not a counselling service, but can always point people in that direction, if it is necessary. 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 on **Wednesday 25th September from 4.30-6pm** in the presbytery. Participants should be attending Mass.

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: Pat Kavanagh, Sue Alvey and 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

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 GREGORY THE GREAT
3RD SEPTEMBER



Pope Gregory I, better known in English as Gregory the Great, was pope from 3rd September 590 until his death in 604. Gregory is well known for his writings, which were more prolific than those of any of his predecessors as pope. Throughout the Middle Ages he was known as “the Father of Christian Worship” because of his exceptional efforts in revising the Roman worship of his day. He was the first of the popes to come from a monastic (Benedictine) background. Gregory is a Doctor of the Church and one of the Latin Fathers. For us in England he is remembered most especially as the Pope who sent St Augustine (of Canterbury) from Rome to England to convert the English tribes, which he successfully did. As a result, Pope Gregory is sometimes referred to as the ‘Apostle of the English.’ The image above is part of the decoration in the chapel of the Benedictine saints in Westminster Cathedral. Immediately after his death, Gregory was canonized by popular acclaim. He is the patron saint of musicians, singers, students and teachers.

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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](https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy) on rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy.

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Saturday 31st August Saint Aidan, Bishop 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>For the re-conversion of Britain</i>	Page 126 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8 <i>Add nothing to what I command you, keep the commandments of the Lord.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	Ps 14 — The just will live in the presence of the Lord.
Sun 1st Sept TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN O.T 9.15am Mass <i>Francesca Crimauo RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Linda & Vincenzo Tuzzeo RIP</i>	2nd Reading: James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27 <i>You must do what the word tells you.</i>
Mon 2nd September 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Philomena Robb RIP anniv</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 3rd September ST GREGORY THE GREAT 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Mary O'Connor's intentions</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel: Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23 <i>You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.</i>
Wed 4th September St Cuthbert, Bishop 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Simon Bird RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)</p> 1st Reading: Isaiah 35: 4-7 2nd Reading: James 2: 1-5 Gospel: Mark 7: 31-37
Thurs 5th September St Teresa of Calcutta 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Neville Alles RIP</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 6th September (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Sam Johnston RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass <i>Angelo Ciccarelli RIP</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 7th September Blessed Virgin Mary 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Marietta Pini 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>	<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 8th September TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN O.T 9.15am Mass <i>Stanley Abrahams RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Thanksgiving Nsonwah Family</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Thurs 5th 2pm Bereavement group, presbytery	Thurs 5th 7.30pm Prayer group, 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