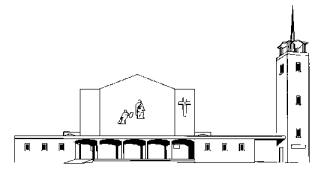




# The Announcer



## 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 TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 2024**

Gospel: *Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48*

*Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.*

What good is a body without a soul? St John Paul II reminds us that we do not have a body, we are our bodies. We are embodied souls. Our bodies are the visible signs of the invisible reality within and the sacraments of our souls. This is why we respect the body even after death. Death is difficult because it means that there is a parting of our body and our soul, which up to that time have been inseparable. Whereas our physical bodies die, the soul can never die, unless God wills it. Resting in the promises of God, the soul of the believer longs for its resurrected body (glorified like Jesus' resurrected body) and its complete union with God. After death we will all know the reality of how much we have been



loved and how we have loved God and others. Those who have acknowledged Jesus as their crucified and risen Saviour and lived according to his word, have already faced judgement through his cross. Only by acknowledging his saving death can we receive undeserved mercy and our passport to heaven, for as our collect says, God's power is revealed 'above all by pardoning and showing mercy'. This is why God's overture of love through the cross of His Son and its summons to repentance and belief should not be rejected. Dare we turn our backs on God's word and his love? We say that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. We can say also that the road to heaven is so paved. The difference is that those heading for heaven not only have good intentions but have sought to put those intentions into practice, by walking in the shadow of the cross and by showing pardon and mercy themselves. Our readings today prompt us all to examine our hearts and redress our lives. First comes the honest reality check. The opening words of our mass today that remind us, that 'we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments'. The psalmist warns us against presuming that we are in a healthy state... 'from presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule over me'. He reminds us further that our sense of wellbeing comes from observing God's word. It is the precepts of the Lord which 'gladden the heart' and the perfect law of the Lord which 'revives the soul'. The revival of our soul and the gladdening our heart seem like good remedies for our wellbeing. Only in God's health spa can we feel both divinely resourced and uplifted. Recognising that from God alone comes assistance, our collect asks the Lord to pour down upon us abundant grace, so that we are heirs to the promises of heaven. In our first reading we hear of Moses eagerly desiring that all of the people of the old covenant would receive God's Spirit. We, the people of the new covenant need the Holy Spirit in abundance as well, not forgetting that such grace will not come without our participation in Jesus' body and blood. Our offertory prayer reminds us that receiving the real presence of the Lord we find the 'wellsprings of all blessing'. St James puts in opposition heavenly riches with the paltry rags of what is deemed earthly treasure. What is the state of our heavenly investments? What is our eternal insurance? How weak is our portfolio? How goes not the living, but the life? How contemptuous are we of Jesus' love, not least that we should be present at mass and partake in Him? Have we idolised someone or something else, other than God? St James overturns our worldly values, and reminds us that God is a God of justice, ever on the side of those who have been defrauded. In the gospel, Jesus' words remind us that he is the gospel, central for the life of the world. It is his name which drives back the forces of evil and invokes the miraculous, and it is belonging to Him which is the key to heaven. Acknowledging him, if even indirectly by acknowledging his followers (the Church) draws dividends. 'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward'. Jesus presents us with a clear choice. We are either for him or against him. Where do I stand? What radical steps do I need to take in my life to acknowledge his claims over my life. He calls us to be utterly ruthless in turning away from anything which could prevent us from entering into His God's kingdom and being thrown into hell. In conclusion, in this age of political correctness and illiberal intolerance, we would do well to note that these are his words and not mine.

Fr Julian

## PRAYER & LITURGY

**WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH** Fabio Cacioppo and Diego Martinez who will be baptised this weekend.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Alex Hinton who will be making his First Holy Communion this weekend.

**MASS** will be held on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October** at 9.15am with both schools. There are also Masses at 12 noon and 7pm and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 6pm.

**MARINA MORRIS** formerly of this parish died recently in Manchester. A Mass will be offered for Marina on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 9.15am.**

**ESTHER LYNCH** of Cedar Green died recently. Her Requiem will be held on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon.**  
*May they rest in peace.*

**ROSARY:** As October is the month of the Holy Rosary, there will be a decade of the rosary recited before each Sunday Mass.



**PLEASE PRAY** for all those who have died recently including Luigia Mariconda, Esther Lynch, Marina Morris and Alice Carrubba for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Pasquala Orlandi, Nicholas Stevenson, Michael Kenny, Nora Campkin, Lilian O'Sullivan, Desiree Ponambalum, Kathleen Jones, Carmela Scaffidi, William Askew, Adua Nolan, Vincenzo Guddemi and Bill Anthony.  
*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 **13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October at the 9.15am Mass.**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** will be held at the 9.15am Mass on **29<sup>th</sup> September, 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October.** Helpers are still needed. **If you can help, please do contact the presbytery.**

**A DAY WITH MARY** is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 12 October** (9.45am to 5.00pm). For more information visit <https://www.adaywithmary.org/> <https://eventcatholic.com/>

**PRAYER GROUP** will be meeting on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** at 7.30pm in the crypt and will continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month.



**MASS** will be celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan on

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 1pm**, at the Church of Holy Apostles, Winchester St, Pimlico, SW1V 4NZ. All Red Box holders and all Missio supporters are invited. Please RSVP to [redbox@missio.org.uk](mailto:redbox@missio.org.uk).



**PARISH RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM** will be from **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October-Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October** and we will stay at the Catholic Retreat House. If you are interested, please drop off the accommodation price of £124 (B&B & evening meal) to the presbytery this week. Cost of transport is being arranged.

**ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING** will take place on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am** for all servers and anyone who is in year 3 and above who would like to become a server. You must be attending Mass on a regular basis to qualify. If you are interested, please contact 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

**COME AND SEE** will be on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm** for all who want to learn more about becoming a Catholic, or if you missed one of the Sacraments or if you simply want to renew your faith.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2025:** A letter has now been emailed to parents regarding the course. Please contact the presbytery if you have not received the email. The first meeting will be on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October from 7-8pm** in the crypt.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** The next meeting will be on **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September.**



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2026:** If your child is in year 2 and is interested in making their First Holy Communion in 2026, please do contact the presbytery to register your interest.

**BAPTISM COURSE:** The next course will be held on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 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

#### **GOVERNOR VACANCIES:**

St Augustine's School are looking for two Foundation Governors. Training is provided to help Governors fulfil their very important role. If you are a practising Catholic and are interested in giving something back to your local Catholic school, please let Fr Julian know. More information can be found at [www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/serving-as-a-governor](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/education/governors/serving-as-a-governor).



### JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE



**CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY is on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October** and the Fast-Day envelopes are attached to the newsletter and will be collected on the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> October. Daniel, a young man in Democratic Republic of the Congo, is carving a better future for his family with carpentry skills he learned in a CAFOD-funded training centre. If you can give to CAFOD, you'll fund training, tools, equipment and safe spaces so more people like Daniel can learn new skills and fulfil their God-given potential. You can use the envelope in or give online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope), or scan the QR code.



### SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

**HOUSE/FLAT** is needed for a parishioner and his family. It would need to have 2 bedrooms at a rent of £1,000-£1,450 per month. If anyone can help, please contact the presbytery, or speak to Fr Julian.

#### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 2pm** in the presbytery.



#### **SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP:**

The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October from 4.30-6pm** in the presbytery. Participants should be attending Mass.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP** will be held on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October** at 8.30am in the crypt. There will be a short talk at 9.00am (Bishop Robert Baron), Mass at 10:00. An opportunity for men to share and

get together. Do join us at any time, when and if you can.

**QUIZ NIGHT** in aid of The Daniela Ruggiero Scholarship Fund will be on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October** 7.00pm in the crypt. £5 per head, payable on the night. Welcome to bring your own refreshments, nibbles and brains. Please contact Luisa on 07968 332274 to reserve a table. It would be great to see many of you there to support a local charity.

#### **CARE FOR CALAIS CHARITY**

**CARE 4 CALAIS**

have asked if anyone can donate any spare umbrellas for the asylum seekers at the Delta Hotel, Cheshunt? If you can help, please drop off the umbrellas to the presbytery. Thank you.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Pat Kavanagh, Sue Alvey & Val. Thank you for your help.

**DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES** can be viewed online <https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs>.

### FINANCE

**FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 2023** are now available to view on the notice board at the back of the church, by the newspapers. During 2023, we did not cover our daily running costs and had an average deficit of £194 per week. Even though our total offertory has gone up by 14.3% over the last 3 years, the average weekly donation per person was £3.48. If you are in a position to give more, it would make a real difference. If everyone had gift-aided their donations, we would have received an extra £1,329 this year. If you do pay tax, please sign up for Gift Aid so that we can add 25% to everything that you give – at no cost to yourself. You will find gift aid forms by the newsletters.

**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.





Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept St Wenceslaus, Martyr</b> 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Lucio Miragliotta RIP</i>	<b>Page 138 in the Mass books</b>  <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Numbers 11: 25-29 <i>Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets!</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Vincenzo Guddemi RIP</i>	<b>Ps 18 — The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.</b>
<b>Sun 29<sup>th</sup> Sept TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN O.T</b> 9.15am Mass <i>Bill Anthony RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> James 5: 1-6 <i>Your wealth is all rotting.</i>
<b>Mon 30<sup>th</sup> October St Jerome, Priest &amp; Dr</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Margaret Whelehan RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Gospel Accl.</b> Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!  <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48 <i>Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.</i>
<b>Tues 1<sup>st</sup> October St Thérèse of the Child Jesus.</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Phyllis Bunting RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS</b>  <b>TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>  <b>(YEAR B)</b></p>
<b>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> October Holy Guardian Angels</b> 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Paddy Delaney RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> Genesis 2: 18-24 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> Hebrews 2: 9-11 <b>Gospel:</b> Mark 10: 2-16
<b>Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b> 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Richard Pyper RIP</i> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</b>            Saturday 10.30 – 11am &amp; 5.30 – 6.15pm            Sunday 8.45 – 9am &amp; 10.45 – 11am            or ask Fr Julian at any other time.</p>
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Oct St Francis of Assisi HARVEST FAST DAY</b> <b>(abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)</b> 9.15am Mass with both schools in church <i>Care of Creation</i> 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Phyllis Bunting RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass <i>Filomena Monachello 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.  <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.
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October St Faustina Kowalska, Virgin</b> 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Thomas Murphy RIP</i>	<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.
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Stefano &amp; Margherita Diesi RIP</i>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</b></p>
<b>Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Oct TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN O.T.</b> 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Francesca &amp; Francesco Pizzo RIP anniv</i>	
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
<b>REGULAR EVENTS</b>	
<b>Tues 1<sup>st</sup></b> 1pm Lunch Club, crypt	<b>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup></b> 6pm Brownies, crypt
<b>Tues 1<sup>st</sup></b> 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	<b>Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup></b> 2pm Bereavement group

**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 parrocciani 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