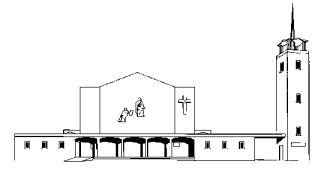




The Announcer



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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 6TH OCT 2024

Gospel: *Mark 10: 2-16*

What God has united, man must not divide.

The Church is a family made up of members baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As in a human family, so in the Church there can be differences and separations among its members. True catholicity recognises what we have in common as well as our differences and our obligation to seek the unity of all Christians in Christ. Every Friday we pray for our separated brethren that we and they be brought into visible unity. Marriage is an area where until recently, differences (whatever they were across the denominational divide) have considerably widened. Alas our separated brethren in the established Church have entered deep waters over the doctrine of marriage, because of the desire of some, not least in its leadership, to alter the definition of marriage. Those who hold to a traditional understanding of marriage draw support from Our Lord's words today, that marriage involves the coming together of male and female. Those of a more liberal bent want to expand the definition of marriage to include the recognition



(though not necessarily the conducting) of marriage of people of the same sex. The heart of the problem however goes much deeper than definitions and rituals. It goes back to the way in which the established Church defined itself against the Mother Church of Rome, when the crown in parliament established it. Catholic teaching is that marriage is one of the seven sacraments instituted by Christ himself. The established Church recognises marriage as a sacrament but says that it was instituted not by Christ but by the Church. Now we can see the fault-line. If marriage is instituted by the Church then what is stopping the Church from altering its definition, if the Church so wills it? At this point some will say that marriage is simply contractual and that the Catholic Church did not regard it as one of the seven sacraments until quite late. Even so throughout the ages the Church has always upheld our Lord's teaching that from eternity marriage has been between a man and a woman. It has also sought to be loyal to what our Lord says about the issue of divorce in today's gospel, and also in St Matthew's gospel, where by implication he recognises divorce in the case of adultery by one of the parties. It is important to state that while our Lord sees divorce as a concession, at no point does our Lord disallow divorce. In today's gospel, Our Lord recognises that divorce is permitted under the Mosaic law, and that it takes place. Unfortunately, two assumptions are made, based upon what our Lord never said, which has increased the pastoral difficulties of the more innocent party who have undergone divorce, or who are undergoing divorce. It is the assumption that Catholics never divorce civilly or that those who are simply divorced cannot receive the eucharist. The Church has never taught this, and divorcees are as welcome to participate as much as any-one else. The real issue which Jesus highlights today is the case of someone who divorces in order to marry someone else. He says that if they do this they are committing adultery. In Matthew's gospel this is tempered by the fact that Jesus says that if one of the parties have committed adultery in the marriage then there are grounds for the innocent party to seek divorce and remarry. So, the Church seeks to be faithful to our Lord's teaching to uphold the traditional understanding of marriage, which is sacramental, covenantal and not contractual. It recognises only one marriage at any one time, and if and when marriages break down, it evolves ways of ascertaining (should one of the parties wish it) whether the marriage was valid in the first place. If it wasn't valid then that first marriage can be annulled (as if it never existed) and another marriage entered into. Reasons for this might be that one of the two withheld crucial evidence from the other, that a marriage was forced, involving constraint against the will of one of the parties, or that one party had no intention to be fruitful or faithful. St Paul in his first Letter to the Corinthians makes clear also that divorce and remarriage can follow where a nonbeliever effectively leaves the marriage due to incompatibility on the grounds of the believing faith of the other. It is out of love for our Lord, and his very clear teaching, that the Church seeks to be faithful to what he says in today's gospel, and what the tradition of the Church has evolved. We are also true to his teaching when we seek to accompany those who are going through the unexpected problems that life throws up and help to bring them into a place of forgiveness, healing and restoration.

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will take place on **Monday from 6-6.45pm**, due to the Confirmation meeting at 7pm.

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

ESTHER LYNCH of Cedar Green died recently. Her Requiem will be held on **Friday 11th October at 12 noon**.

JOANNA DESILVA of Taylors Avenue died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Friday 25th October at 1.30pm**.
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.



POPE'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER is for a shared mission. Let us pray that the Church continue to sustain a synodal lifestyle in every way, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, communion and mission shared by priests, religious and laity.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Joanna Desilva, Esther Lynch and Marina Morris for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Richard Pyper, James Dignan, Anna Gianfrancesco, Ronald Elliott, Richard Norman, Monica Hunter, Bernadette Field, Margherita Diesi, Maria Calvino and Francesco Pizzo. *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 **13th & 27th October at the 9.15am Mass**.

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

PRAYER GROUP will be meeting on **Thursday 7th November** at 7.30pm in the crypt and will continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month.



PARISH RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM will be from **Tuesday 29th October-Thursday 31st 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 before Wednesday. Cost of transport is being arranged.

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING will take place on **Saturday 16th 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 8th 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 7th October from 7-8pm** in the crypt.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The next meeting will be on **Sunday 6th October**.



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 23rd 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.

JUSTICE & PEACE & PRO-LIFE



CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY was on **Friday 4th October** and the Fast-Day envelopes will be collected this weekend. 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, or scan the QR code.



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 7th November at 2pm** in the presbytery.



Separated & Divorced Support Group

SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP: The next meeting for those undergoing separation or divorce will be held on **Wednesday 23rd October from 4.30-6pm** in the presbytery. Participants should be attending Mass.

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP will be held on **Saturday 26th 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 11th 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.



RETRouvaille: Are you frustrated or angry with your spouse? Do you argue ... or have stopped talking all together? Retrouvaille helps married couples through difficult times. Register now for programme starting **8th - 10th Nov.** Call 0788 7296983 or Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com.

200 CLUB WINNER for October is no 78, Mr E Devine. Congratulations!

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

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:

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.



HARVEST PRAYER 2024



Praise be to you, O God, source of life and goodness. You fill the earth with abundance and love all that you have made. As we join creation in singing your glory, teach us to care for our common home.

Praise be to you, O God, revealed in Jesus, God with us. We hear the call of the Carpenter, to carve a path to a better future. Guide our hands to repair what's broken, to build a just and peaceful world. Praise be to you, O God, who enfolds us with the Spirit, to call us deeper into the heart of love, to comfort and disturb. Give us strength and courage to work with you to make all things new. Amen.

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy												
Saturday 5th October St Faustina Kowalska, Virgin 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Thomas Murphy RIP</i>	<p align="center">Page 140 in the Mass books</p> <p>1st Reading: Genesis 2: 18-24 <i>They become one body.</i></p> <p>Ps 127 — <i>May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.</i></p> <p>2nd Reading: Hebrews 2: 9-11 <i>The one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock.</i></p> <p>Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: Mark 10: 2-16 <i>What God has united, man must not divide.</i></p> <p align="center">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)</p> <p>1st Reading: Wisdom 7: 7-11 2nd Reading: Hebrews 4: 12-13 Gospel: Mark 10: 17-30</p>												
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Stefano & Margherita Diesi RIP</i>	<p align="center">SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)</p> <p align="center">Saturday 10.30 – 11am & 5.30 – 6.15pm Sunday 8.45 – 9am & 10.45 – 11am or ask Fr Julian at any other time.</p> <p align="center">ROSARY</p> <p>The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p> <p align="center">SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK</p> <p>Any parishioner sick, frail, or going into hospital for major surgery, can ask Fr Julian for the Sacrament of Anointing at any time.</p> <p align="center">SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE</p> <p>Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p> <p align="center">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>												
Sun 6th October TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN O.T 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Francesca & Francesco Pizzo RIP anniv</i>	<p align="center">REGULAR EVENTS</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="831 1738 1098 1771">Mon 7th</td> <td data-bbox="1098 1738 1543 1771">7pm Confirmation, crypt</td> <td data-bbox="831 1738 1098 1771">Tues 8th</td> <td data-bbox="1098 1738 1543 1771">7.30pm Come & See, crypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="831 1771 1098 1805">Tues 8th</td> <td data-bbox="1098 1771 1543 1805">1pm Lunch Club, crypt</td> <td data-bbox="831 1771 1098 1805">Wed 9th</td> <td data-bbox="1098 1771 1543 1805">6pm Brownies, crypt</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="831 1805 1098 1836">Tues 8th</td> <td data-bbox="1098 1805 1543 1836">2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Mon 7th	7pm Confirmation, crypt	Tues 8th	7.30pm Come & See, crypt	Tues 8th	1pm Lunch Club, crypt	Wed 9th	6pm Brownies, crypt	Tues 8th	2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt		
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Mon 7th October Our Lady of the Rosary 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>In Thanksgiving</i> 6-6.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament													
Tues 8th October 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Winifred & Patrick King's intentions</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament													
Wed 9th October ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Priest 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Marina Morris RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament													
Thurs 10th October St Paulinus of York, Bishop 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Leonard Johnson's intentions</i> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament													
Friday 11th Oct St John XXIII, Pope (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Funeral Esther Lynch RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament													
Saturday 12th October St Wilfrid, Bishop 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Zulu's Birthday intentions</i>													
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>For the Parish</i>													
Sun 13th Oct TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN O.T. 9.15am Mass <i>Maureen O'Neill RIP anniv</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Domenico Guarino RIP</i>													
* Vigil Mass of Sunday													

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 parrochiani 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