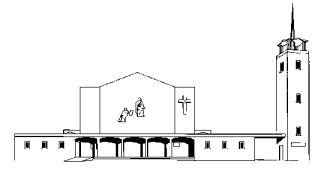




The Announcer



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 THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 3RD NOV 2024

Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34

This is the first commandment. The second is like it.

In today's gospel, a lawyer asks Jesus which is the first of the commandments, to which Jesus replies with his summary of the Jewish law as a command to love: 'Listen Israel, the Lord your God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength'. The second is this: you must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these'. But how can love for God or another, be love, if it is commanded? What would we say of a husband who commanded love of his wife, or a wife of her husband. In the covenant of marriage, we



assume that freedom to enter into the consensual love of marriage is an essential basis for marriage, without which marriage cannot exist. Is our relationship with God or neighbour any different? Each of the covenants between God and the chosen people, are entered into freely, and not forced, on the basis of a promise to be loyal and faithful. So, how can love for God be love if it is commanded, rather than freely consented to? Might it be that we have a distorted idea of God and love? It is very easy to objectivise God, to make him into a proposition, rather than the God who is our loving Creator and Father. At the heart of our faith, indeed through his own sacred heart, Jesus reveals God as 'Abba', the most intimate, loving word for Father. It is the same word that a child might use of its father-Dad or Papa. This relational understanding of God breaks down any cold objectivising of God, which makes him into an object of our curiosity or of exacting demand. Recently some of us were on retreat at Walsingham. Walsingham is all about how God draws us into consensual love through the incarnation. God who created us in love, for love of us further, enters fully into his creation. 'God is with us', because of the child-bearing of Mary, who gives birth to Jesus who reveals to us the Father's heart.' *If you have seen me, you have seen the Father*', Jesus says. The barrier of religion has been broken down. The veil of the Temple has been torn from top to bottom. Jesus the bridge allows us access into the heavenly place. As Hebrews reminds us today, he is the One High Priest who has offered himself, in contrast to the priests of religion, who are imperfect because of their sinfulness, and whose sacrifices are inferior, compared to the eternal sacrifice of his own precious blood. Jesus however goes further than merely revealing to us to the God who identifies with us in our human flesh. God wants to be on our inside, to dwell within us. Father, Son and Spirit-the three persons of the Trinity want to set up home within us, making us spiritual temples, working within us the fruits of their sacrificial living. That God should be known in such intimacy completely overthrows any idea of God as cold commandant. Our St Augustine of Hippo, (like all who undergo the inner conversion of heart and life) concluded that we can objectivise God so much that we look for Him in the wrong place: *'too late have I loved you, O Beauty so ancient, O Beauty so new. Too late have I loved you. You were within me but I was outside myself and sought you there...You were with me, and I was not with you'*. Like Augustine we so often objectivise and push God away. We objectivise and isolate love also. Love is not a concept and it cannot exist in isolation, but can only as it is shared with others. And the greatest love is not that which is merely shared, but which involves laying down our lives for our friend. This is what Jesus has done for us, and this is what we are called to do for him, even to the point, if not of shedding our own blood, of certainly dying to false ideas of God and love. We have short-changed both God and love. When Jesus said we must love God in totality of our being, and our neighbour as our self, it was an invitation to recognise God for who he truly is, to enter into the truth of his love. Jesus' 'command' is a relational act of responding to and of cooperating with overwhelming grace, an act of falling into consensual love, not an imposition from an isolated, command centre. It is the compulsion of the law of love as the apostles call it, feely given to God who is Love. Such love we see worked out in all the saints and it is the aspiration of all holy souls. May we welcome such love and may we with the psalmist today, say, *'I love you Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour'*.

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY



WE PRAY for our departed relatives and friends from the past year: Antonio Albanese, Paolino Amico, Anna Amodeo, Ernest Beades, Giuseppe Cannatella, Maurice Cattini, Alice Carrubba, Luigi Calvino, Maria Cimino, Maureen Crotty, Ann Danaher, Johanna Desilva, Francesco Distefano, Anthony Donati, Paolo

Ferraro, Antonio Fiondella, Ciriaco Forgione, Luciana Gianfrancesco, Teresa Giannattasio, John Griffin, Maureen Harris, Esther Lynch, Onofrio Maniscalco, Eugene Martin, Carmina Martucci, Dario Minichiello, Filomena Monachello, Giuseppe Morreale, Brendan O'Sullivan, Francesca Provenzano, Maria Ricotta, Giovanni Siracusa and Antonietta Tagliarini. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.

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

ANNA AMODEO of Highbury Avenue died recently. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 20th November at 12 noon.**

GIUSEPPE CANNATELLA of Glenester Close died recently. His funeral will be on **Monday 25th November at 1.15pm.**

LUIGI CALVINO of Bevil Court died recently. His funeral will be on **Monday 2nd December at 11am.**
May they rest in peace.

POPE'S INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER is for those who have lost a child. Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community, and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Luigi Calvino, Anna Amodeo and Giuseppe Cannatella for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including John McNaughton, James Higgins, George Buhagiar, Quintino Mazziotta, Vincent Byrne, Antonino Cuffaro, Luigia Ereddia, Giuseppe Rubino and Peter Dredge. *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 **10th & 24th November at the 9.15am Mass.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY will be held at the 9.15am Mass on **3rd & 17th November.**

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.

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.



NOVEMBER LIST OF THE DECEASED: Lists for you to write the names of your departed relatives and friends are beside the newsletters. Please return the lists to the presbytery, along with any Mass offering. During November, the lists will be kept on the altar and at least one Mass a day will be offered for the Holy Souls. Therefore, few other Mass intentions can be taken for November.

NOVEMBER PRAYERS AT CEMETERY: Fr Julian will lead the annual visit to the Woollensbrook cemetery on **Saturday 9th November at 11.30am** to pray the Rosary for the deceased members of the parish



PARISH TRIP TO ST ALBANS ABBEY will be on **Friday 13th December.** The coach will leave the church at 9am and leave St Albans at 3pm. We will have Mass at the Abbey at 12 noon.

The price of the coach is £13 per person. If you would like to come, 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 continue on **Tuesday 5th November 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.



YOUTH CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2025:
The next meeting will be on **Monday 4th November** from 7-8pm in the crypt.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The next meeting will be on **Sunday 3rd November**.



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.

SCHOOLS

ST CROSS SCHOOL - RECEPTION INTAKE 2025/26 ADMISSIONS:



If your child reaches five years old between 1st September 2025 and 31st August 2026, you should apply for a place within 2025-2026 Primary Admissions. Prospective parents are invited to come and join a small group of other parents for a tour and insight into the life of our school. During your visit you will be made welcome and be able to talk to the Executive Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. If you would like to book a tour, please call the school office (01992) 467309.



ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL will be holding Open Days for prospective parents for children applying for a place in nursery or reception for September 2025. The dates are: **Monday 18th November at 10am**, Wednesday 20th November at 2pm, Monday 2nd December at 10am and Wednesday 4th December at 2pm. To book a viewing, please contact the school office on 01192.463549.



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL - VACANCY FOR FOUNDATION GOVERNORS: We are seeking Foundation Governors for our school. You would need to be a practicing catholic and also **not** have children currently attending the school. Our Governors are highly committed, talented and aspirational and form a Governing body which sees its purpose as one of service to our School community and wider community. For information contact Rebecca Faulkner HeadsPA@stmarys.net

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

Brownies 5TH HODDES DON BROWNIES will be celebrating their 50th Birthday Party on **Wednesday 13th November**. There will be a Thanksgiving Service at 7pm in church, followed by tea and cake in the crypt. Everyone is welcome.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: If you've experienced a bereavement please feel

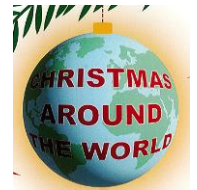


welcome to come to the parish support group. We are not a counselling service, but can always point people in that direction, if it is necessary. The next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th November at 2pm** in the presbytery.



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

BROXBORNE COMMUNITY CHOIR & ST AUGUSTINE'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR will be presenting "Christmas Around the World" musical tour on **Sat 7th December at 3pm** at Christ Church Ware. Adults £10 and children under 16 free. Tickets are available from Gabby 07875221543.



CARE FOR CALAIS CHARITY have asked for umbrellas, winter coats, toys/stationery for the children for the asylum seekers at the Delta Hotel, Cheshunt. If you can donate, please take it to the church office at St Catherine's & St Pauls on a weekday morning.

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

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.



Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Saturday 2nd November ALL SOULS DAY 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>	Page 152 in the Mass books 1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6: 2-6 <i>Listen, Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Deceased of the past year</i>	Ps 17 — I love you, Lord, my strength
Sun 3rd November THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN O.T 9.15am Mass <i>Vincent Byrne RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Parish & Holy Souls</i>	2nd Reading: Hebrews 7: 23-28 <i>Because he remains for ever, Christ can never lose his priesthood.</i>
Mon 4th November St Charles Borromeo, Bishop 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> 6-6.45pm 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 5th November St Elizabeth and St Zechariah 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34 <i>This is the first commandment. The second is like it.</i>
Wed 6th November The Saints of Ireland 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)</p> 1st Reading: 1 Kings 17: 10-16 2nd Reading: Hebrews 9: 24-28 Gospel: Mark 12: 38-44
Thurs 7th November St Willibrord, Bishop 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Holy Souls</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 8th November The Saints of Wales (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12 noon Mass <i>Holy Souls</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY</p> The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.
Saturday 9th Nov DEDICATION OF LATERAN BASILICA 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Holy Souls</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>Holy Souls</i> Sun 10th November THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN O.T. 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Holy Souls</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.
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	<p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
REGULAR EVENTS	
Mon 4th 7pm Confirmation, crypt Tues 5th 1pm Lunch Club, crypt Tues 5th 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt Tues 5th 7.30pm Come & See, crypt	Wed 6th 4.30pm Separation group, presb. Thurs 7th 2pm Bereavement group, presb Thurs 7th 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 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