



The Announcer



St Augustine's Catholic Church

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YEAR C

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26TH JAN 2025

Gospel: Luke 1: 1-4, 4: 14-2

Today this Scripture has been fulfilled.

Have you wondered why university professors have 'chairs', or where the word cathedral comes from? It's all to do with teaching. In the ancient world teachers sat down to teach, and a bishop would teach from his chair (*cathedra* in latin), placed in the principal church of his diocese. In the synagogues of the first century AD this was also the practice for the rabbis. At Nazareth Jesus stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him, and he read from the sixty-first chapter, but then he sat down to teach. He said that this scripture was fulfilled in their hearing. In other words, that he was the subject of the passage. He had not long returned to Galilee from the Jordan '*in the power of the Spirit*'. Reports had spread about him across the countryside and now people had come to hear him at his home town of Nazareth. What Jesus presented them with was in effect his mission statement. He announced that the Spirit had anointed him to proclaim good news to the poor and liberty to captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, to free the oppressed and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. His mission statement was a jubilee manifesto. Although he announced '*the year of the Lord's favour*', his good news opened the door to a perpetual jubilee, for all years. At the heart of God's relationship with his chosen people was the notion of jubilee, which had profound implications for the created order as well as humanity. In Leviticus, the law of God laid down that every seventh year was a year when the land was to rest from agriculture so that it could recover. After seven of these seven years (ie 7X7+1) came the 50th year, called the jubilee year, a special year not just for the land but for all the people. If any land or property had been sold during the previous fifty years it was to be returned to its original owner. At the same time all debts were to be cancelled, and prisoners and slaves to be set free. No other legal code has ever enshrined such a radical means of ensuring social reform or of levelling up social inequalities. Nor has it been equalled since. The jubilee year was all about mercy, restoration, restitution and recovery. Now we can understand the singular note of freedom which is at the heart of Jesus' kingdom message. The Word of God brings about a freedom which affects not just our soul but one which calls for a profound change in our social relationships and of the nature of society. Jesus' gospel confronts today's besetting cult of individualism by reminding us that our proclamation of the good news should change not just ourselves but the ways in which we live and operate. It fleshes out Jesus' summary of the law that love of God is like love of our neighbour. The end of the jubilee passage in Leviticus lays down this precept, '*You shall not wrong one another, but you shall fear your God, for I am the Lord your God*'. So significant was the Jewish event in the history of the west that it gave us the word jubilee. The jubilee year commenced with the blowing of the ram's horn, and in Hebrew the word for ram is '*yobel*' from which we get 'jubilee'. As the year of jubilee was consecrated to the Lord, it was known as a holy year. In 1300 the Church adopted the idea of the Holy Year of Jubilee to be celebrated every hundred years. Later it was changed to every fifty years, akin to its biblical counterpart, and then more recently to every twenty-five years. While the revamped Holy Year highlighted mercy, the radical social nature of the Jewish jubilee was lost. Something of its breadth underpins Pope Francis' vision. He declared this year as a Year of Jubilee, and chose for its motto, Pilgrims of Hope, seeking to restore hope and trust in troubled times as a prelude to renewal and rebirth. He has invited us to recover '*a sense of universal fraternity*', so that we refuse '*to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people, and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity*'. The original heart of jubilee of seeking rest for the land has an echo in his plea that as '*pilgrims on this earth, which the Lord has charged us to till and keep, may we never fail ..to contemplate..care for our common home*'. There is much else to celebrate as Pilgrims of Hope in this year of Jubilee, but none of it is possible without the guidance of God's Word and the Holy Spirit's continual anointing. Finally we must never forget that Jesus is the end and fulfilment of all jubilee aspirations, the bringer of good news and the one in whom we find true liberty, or as our collect intimates, '*Almighty ever-living God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works*'.



Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Butacu Dominic -Mihai who will be baptised this week.



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

COMBONI MISSIONARIES will be talking about their work and making a Mission appeal in the parish on the **1st and 2nd February**.

CRIB APPEAL: Our Crib offerings are donated to the Catholic Children's Society. The Society provides a range of services to help disadvantaged children and families including mental health support, early years education and emergency grants for families in crisis. You can donate at the Crib or via the CCB website www.cathchild.org.uk/crib.

MARIA MESSINA of Fairfield Road died recently. Her funeral will be on **Monday 27th January at 3pm**.

SANTE TORO formerly of Crossfield Road died recently. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 29th January at 10am**. There will therefore be no 9.15am Mass that day.

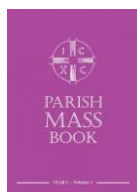
JOAN MARTIN of Monks Close, Broxbourne died recently. Details of her funeral will follow in due course. *May they rest in peace.*

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Joan Martin, Sante Toro and Maria Messina and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Angela Coffey, William Collins, Albert Coleston, Sr Mary Berngard, Peter Gillow, Francesco Ciraolo, Teresa Giannattasio, Paolo Guacci, Salvatore Orlando, Maria Gonzalez, Giovanni Siracusa, Patricia Hume, Giuseppe & Onofria Maniscalco and Giuseppa Tamburello and Alice Carrubba. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*



POPE'S INTENTION FOR JANUARY is for the right to an education. Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected

MASS BOOKS: We are looking into the possibility of ordering a set of new Mass books, to save printing the readings each week. We would like to know as a parish whether this is something you would like us to do?



The cost for 100 books would be £3.95 each, and to

order the 6 sets would cost £2,370.00.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Gabby Hanley will be running the Children's Choir at the 9.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. The children choir will resume on the **26th January**.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY will be held at the 9.15am Mass on **9th February**.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 17th May 2025 at 2:30pm The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025 their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and any year over 60 wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage. Please contact the presbytery with these details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email).



MEN'S BREAKFAST will be held on **Saturday 8th February** at 8:30am in the crypt. There will be a short talk at 9:00am and Mass at 10:00am. This is an opportunity for men to share and get together. Do join us at any time, when and if you can.



PRAYER GROUP will not be meeting in January, but will resume again on **Thursday 6th February** at 7.30pm in the crypt and will continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month.

CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE will be held on **Sunday 26th January** at St Augustine's

Broxbourne, at 7pm on behalf of Churches Together in Hoddesdon. All are welcome.



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 28th January 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 held in the crypt on **Monday 27th January at 7pm.**



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The next meeting will be on **Sunday 9th February** at 5pm in the crypt.

If you have not yet paid the £8 for the book for the children, can you please drop it off to the presbytery.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 'PRAYER PARTNERS' are needed for all the children in year 3 on the First Holy Communion programme. A prayer partner prays for a child at least twice a day, whilst they are preparing to make their First Holy Communion. If you would like to become a prayer partner, please print your name in capital letters on the blue sheets on the blue board at the back of the church.



SCHOOLS/UNDER 5'S

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S are looking for enthusiastic early years practitioners. Applicants need to be qualified to level 2/3 in Early Years Childcare and Education or equivalent. Please email staugustinesunder5s@hotmail.co.uk or call on 01992 460614. Apply with covering letter and CV to St Augustine's Under 5s Charlton Close Hoddesdon EN11 8DR. **CLOSING DATE 7th February.**

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

PARISH MAGAZINE in full colour, 60 pages is now available to buy from the presbytery during the week. The magazine is also available to buy from the repository after Mass at the weekend. The price is £5 to cover the cost of printing.

CHURCH CLEANERS: Two more cleaners are needed to join the Wednesday group for one hour per month. If you can help, please contact the presbytery.

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 held in the presbytery on **Thursday 30th January at 2pm.**



MARRIAGE CARE is a charity that runs marriage preparation courses for couples marrying in a Catholic church, and is looking for new course facilitators. Please call Karen on 0800 389 3801 or visit <https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/mpcf/>.

CHURCH CLEANING: Michele & Pelle De Luca, Sophie Lenguito & Alex Thomson. Thank you for your help.

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

FINANCE

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



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

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
<p>Saturday 25th January CONVERSION OF ST PAUL APOSTLE 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Francesca Comparetto RIP</i></p>	<p>Page 975 in Sunday Missals 1st Reading: Nehemiah 8: 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 <i>They read from the book of the Law, and gave the meaning.</i></p>
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Giuseppe & Onofria Maniscalco & Giuseppa Tamburello RIP</i></p>	<p>Ps 19 — Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.</p>
<p>Sun 26th January THIRD SUNDAY IN O.T. 9.15am Mass <i>Alice Carrubba RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i></p>	<p>2nd Reading: Corinthians 12: 12-30 <i>You are the body of Christ and individually members of it.</i></p>
<p>Mon 27th January St Angela Merici, Virgin (Holocaust Memorial Day) 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Holocaust Victims</i> 3pm Funeral Maria Messina RIP 6-6.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor; to proclaim liberty to the captives. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel: Luke 1: 1-4, 4: 14-21 <i>Today this Scripture has been fulfilled.</i></p>
<p>Tues 28th January St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Dr 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Antonio Cannatella RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>NEXT WEEK'S READINGS PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (YEAR C)</p>
<p>Wed 29th January 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament NO 9.15 Mass 10am Funeral Sante Toro RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>1st Reading: Malachi 3: 1-4 2nd Reading: Hebrews 2: 14-18 Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40</p>
<p>Thurs 30th January 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Private intention</i> NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Friday 31st January St John Bosco, Priest (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Vicky Forni RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p>	<p>ROSARY The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.</p>
<p>Saturday 1st February Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Francesca Comparetto RIP</i></p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Mary O'Donovan RIP</i></p>	<p>SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Catholics must approach their parish priest at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.</p>
<p>Sun 2nd February PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Mary Brown</i></p>	<p>Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	

REGULAR EVENTS

Mon 27th 7pm Confirmation, crypt	Tues 28th 7.30pm Come and See, crypt
Tues 28th 1pm Lunch club	Wed 29th 6pm Brownies, crypt
Tues 28th 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	Thurs 30th 2pm Bereavement group, presbytery

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