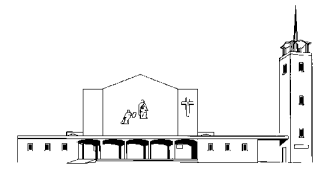




The Announcer



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: Joy Ighade – hoddesdonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona – italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

YEAR C

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2ND MARCH 2025

Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Causality is built into our creation. Everything has its cause or causes. Take for example our climate. It depends upon the amount of sunlight, the land's shape, its height above sea level, its distance from the sea and from the equator, and not least pollution and the depletion of the ozone layer. Or we might think of honey, conditioned by the flowers the bees land on, climate, season, beekeeping activities, harvesting and storage. In today's readings there are several striking illustrations of cause and effect in the natural world: the firing of pottery, the cultivation of fruit trees, the growth of palm and cedar trees, the problems of blindness or eye irritants, the origin of figs and grapes. Everything has its cause, even if we can't work it out and it seems to defy logic. We may not understand why a black cow eats green grass and produces white milk but it is true! In the same way we shouldn't dismiss spiritual truths simply because we can't fathom them, not least because we may need to make some adjustments which would help us to see more clearly. It stands to reason that if we have a spiritual blind spot, we will not help someone to 'see' unless we deal first with the area of our own spiritual blindness. We will be leading them astray. The word 'disciple' means one is taught by one's master, so Jesus reminds us that we ought not to take it upon ourselves to teach others unless we are first disciplined by him. Training under spiritual direction gifts discernment. He warns us that we can easily rush into identifying the faults of another. We might even suggest that we can sort them out, but if we have not first sorted out similar, even greater faults in ourselves then we are at greater fault. Wounded healers do not make the best healers, if their own wounds are being healed. Those who counsel others, should first undergo counselling themselves. The productivity of our lives depends upon spiritual growth, and we grow as we encounter our true-selves in Christ. Jesus likens our development to trees. There is an inevitability in it. Just as a rotten tree cannot produce wholesome fruit, so nothing good can be expected from a heart that is corrupted and compromised. If our roots are not resourced by the right nutrients, our tree of life will be neither fruitful nor truly alive. St Augustine imagined Christian life as an upturned tree whose roots are in heaven. Its fruits are for the benefit of those on earth. We say marriages are made in heaven. It is true also of our lives, in as much as we surrender our time into God's hands, seek his guidance, feed on his word and sacrament, and observe his commandments. Today's readings are really about what the catholic tradition calls the virtues and vices, which for better or worse, we cultivate in our lives. Far from being an outmoded way of looking at the Christian faith, it is the core of Jesus' teaching in today's gospel. 'The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of the evil treasure produces evil'. Jesus tells us that we build up reserves in our lives. Such 'treasure' does not appear overnight. It is like the habits which form our character. If we dwell in Him and He in us, we will continually draw upon its rich reserves. If we do not, then the treasure within will be dark, detrimental to ourselves and others and of no lasting value. Our actions and our lips reveal what is within our treasury, 'for out of the abundance of his heart his mouth speaks'. Jesus said something similar to those who were more concerned about the superficial effects of the dietary laws than the devastating effects of unclean hearts. For 'it is out of the heart that evil thoughts come....'. So how do we reason? Do we perceive first causes? The Book of Sirach says that 'the test of a person is in his reasoning. The fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree; so the expression of a thought discloses the cultivation of a person's mind'. God has given us a mind and a heart to discern and follow what he wants. This week, as we embark upon the growing season of Lent, may we know the protection, freedom and delight of heaven, echoing our entrance antiphon, 'The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me'. Fr Julian



PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Luca Vaughan who will be baptised this weekend.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS will be on **Friday 7th March** at 7pm.

PETER FRY of Kingsfield died recently. His funeral will be on **Tuesday 11th March at 11.30am**.

DAVID PATMORE of Carnaby Road died recently. Details of his funeral will follow in due course.

PAULINE WHELEHAN 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 Pauline Whelehan, David Patmore and Peter Fry and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Mario Vaccaro, Joseph Stephens, William Harte, Cecilia D'Abreu, Carmelo Ventura, Pauline Maffrett, Claudio Agnes, Joseph Willing, Delia Virgo, Sonia Wilson, Veronica Perrotta, Carmina Martucci, Providenza Esposito, Mary Banks, Francesco Cannatella, Gina Gullo, Denis O'Donovan and William Phelan. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*



POPE'S INTENTION FOR MARCH is for families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

MASS BOOKS: There are now some Mass books which you can buy from the repository, the price is £5.95 each. **NEW SUNDAY MISSALS** are also available to buy from the repository for £19.95.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Gabby Hanley will be running the Children's Choir at the 9.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. Next date: **9th March**.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY will be held at the 9.15am Mass on **2nd March**. More helpers are needed and training will be given. Please contact the presbytery



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 husband and wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email) by **Wed 2nd April**.

PRAYER GROUP will meet again on **Thursday 13th March (instead of the 6th)** at 7.30pm in the crypt and will continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be held on **Friday 7th March** at 11am at St Augustine's, Broxbourne at 11am and also Hoddesdon Baptist church at 7.30pm.

ADORATION WITH TAIZE will be held on Sunday **16th March, 27th April, 18th May and 15th June** from 7-8pm in church.

AYLESFORD PRIORY PILGRIMAGE DAY will be held on **Thursday 15th May** and the coach will leave at 9am. The price of the coach is £17.50 and you can either bring a packed lunch or buy lunch there. If you would like to go, please complete the tear off slip and return it to the presbytery with the £17.50.



Why not join "**CELEBRATE**" for a relaxed faith filled festival for all the family, taking place at Worth School in the grounds of Worth Abbey **16th - 20th August**? Go to "celebratetrust.org" for more info and to book, or contact Tony & Linda Barrell 442430.

'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.

LENT

ASH WEDNESDAY is on **5th March** and Mass will be at 9.15am with both schools, 2pm and 8pm. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting (for those aged 16-60) and abstinence (for those aged 14+). This means that we consciously choose to eat less - one main meal only - and that (as on all Fridays) we avoid meat.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed in church each Friday (12.30pm after Mass) and Saturday (9.30am before Mass.) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at 9am on Saturday mornings in Lent.

EXTRA CONFESSIONS IN LENT: Fr Julian will be available to hear confessions on Fridays in Lent during Exposition 6-7pm.

LENTEN ALMS: Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2025: This Holy Year invites us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We invite you to consider supporting work being done in the Diocese of Westminster to bring hope into many lives. Your contributions will help fund vital projects across our Diocese, including Youth & Evangelisation, Social Action, Marriage & Family Life, and Catholic Education Initiatives. You will find



the box throughout Lent in the church. Thank you for your kindness and support.

LENT WALK WITH ME journey of prayer booklets for £1 can be found at the back of the church by the newspapers. There are also children's booklets for £1 and children's calendars for 25p. Please place your money in the newspaper box in the wall at the back of church.

LENT EXTRA magazines are available for £2.95 from the back of church. Please place your money in the newspaper box.

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 4th March 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 10th March at 7pm.**

YOUTH CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS are needed for all the candidates on the programme. If you



would like to become a prayer partner, please print your name on the sheet on the blue board at the back of the church.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The next meeting will be on **Sunday 2nd March** at 5pm in the crypt.

BAPTISM COURSE: The next course will be held on **Wednesday 12th March 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.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

FENCES: We will soon be replacing the fences in the presbytery garden down Esdaile Lane together with the fences adjoining the Under 5's. The cost of this will be £9,000. If you would like to donate, any donations would be grateful.

SINGING WORKSHOP will be held on **Saturday 29th March from 2-3.30pm** in the crypt. This will be an opportunity of introduce new worship songs in preparation for a Spring Celebration which will be held on **Saturday 26th April** from 2-3pm in the church. All are welcome to attend.

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 6th March at 2pm.**

CHURCH CLEANING: Elizabeth Nsonwah, Toni Iamarino & Penny Bengé. 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

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PILGRIMAGE DAY TO AYLESFORD PRIORY ON 15th MAY.

Name:

Contact no:

Email address.....

Next-of-kin name & contact number:

.....

Please return to the presbytery in an envelope with your name on together with the £17.50

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 on rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy.

Liturgy this week	Today's Liturgy
Saturday 1st March ST DAVID, Bishop, Patron of Wales 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 10am Mass <i>Isabella Abrahams RIP</i>	Page 995 in Sunday Missals 1st Reading: Sirach 27: 4-7 <i>Do not praise a man before you hear him reason.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Denis O'Donovan & William Phelan RIP</i>	Ps 92 — It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord.
Sun 2nd March EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9.15am Mass <i>Decd members of Aguilon Colina Family</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	2nd Reading: Corinthians 15: 54-58 <i>He gives us the victory through Jesus Christ.</i>
Mon 3rd March 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Georgio Azzopardi RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia! Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life. Alleluia! Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45 <i>Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.</i>
Tues 4th March St Casimir 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Francesco Cannatella RIP</i> 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT (YEAR C)</p>
Wed 5th March ASH WEDNESDAY 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15 Mass with both schools <i>Robert Cullen RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 2pm Mass <i>Marie O'Brien's intentions</i> 7pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8pm Mass <i>Gina Gullo RIP</i>	1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10 2nd Reading: Romans 10: 8-13 Gospel: Luke 4: 1-13
Thurs 6th March 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Lloyd Grandison</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 7th March Sts Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Carolyn Carroll RIP</i> 12.30pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass <i>David Madsen & Salvatrice Castronovo 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 8th March St John of God, Religious 9.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Stations of Cross 10am Mass <i>Vicky Forni 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>Bridie & Martin Moriarty RIP anniv</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 9th March FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am Mass <i>Rita Howard RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the parish</i>	<p style="text-align: center;">Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699</p>
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Tues 4th 1pm Lunch club	Tues 4th 7.30pm Come and See, crypt
Tues 4th 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	Wed 5th 6pm Brownies, crypt
	Thurs 6th 2pm Bereavement group, presb

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 parroccchiani 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