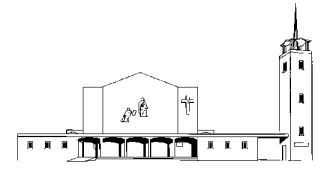




The Announcer



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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9TH MARCH 2025

Gospel: *Luke 4: 1-13*

Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil.

Our words can be life enhancing or life impairing. Whether in the Oval Office or on the street, we should weigh what we say carefully. We can think something without saying it, but generally as our readings told us last week, our words betray our thoughts. That we can express our reasoning through speech reflects the wonder of our being made in God's image. As speech is a gift, it is naturally ordered to bring honour to God and to edify others made in God's image. It is creative, powerful not just in its source but in its impact. It is especially creative when God's words become our own. God creates through His Word, and through its proclamation new life comes to birth. The quality of our life and survival depends upon our continual reception of God's word into our lives. 'Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God'. We need to be fed with the word of God spoken and incarnated. When we confess openly our faith in Jesus Christ, God's word made flesh, we enter into the spacious wholeness of God's intention for our lives. St Paul, in today's readings, tells us that through the confession of our faith, we are saved. 'For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved'. Just as God's word brings about His divine will, so the proclamation of His word has divine purpose for our lives. We are called to cooperate with God's loving purposes and to bring ourselves into obedience to God's word. If there is little correspondence between our words and our actions, then we are out of alignment. Jesus often criticised those who honoured him with their lips yet were far from him. Knowing what the bible says is no guarantee that we are living the Christian life, any



more than knowing the manual of a car, is any guarantee that we can drive a car. Satan knows God's word but he chooses to use it against God. If we don't do what we profess then we are following Satan rather than God. We need to let God's word saturate and inform our actions. In the temptations of Our Lord in the wilderness, Jesus used scriptural words to creatively negate evil and to ward off temptation. On each of the three occasions, he answered Satan by quoting from the Book of Deuteronomy. 'Man shall not live by bread alone'. 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve'. 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test'. The three temptations Jesus faced were to put his immediate gratification above God's interest, to put God to the test instead of trusting him faithfully, and to worship what is contrary to God. That Jesus should answer Satan by quoting from passages connected to the wilderness experience of the chosen people, shows that Jesus' temptations were qualitatively similar to those with which they had been tested. Jesus succeeded, where they failed. In only one of the temptations did Satan cite scripture. Jesus answered, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test'. Satan had quoted Psalm 91, a psalm all about trusting God in the ordinary things of life and seeking his deliverance in times of distress. It was not about cultivating popularity by becoming a stunt artist. That scripture can be so abused should remind us that we should treat it with care. Throughout history there have been people, sometimes even within the Church, who have twisted scripture to suit their own devices. They exist today. This is why a contextual reading of scripture is so important, to understand it in its immediate context and to see it in the light of scripture as a whole. It needs to be seen also in its literal, metaphorical, moral and spiritual sense, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and according to the wisdom of the Church. The collect for the start of Lent asks that, 'as we take up battle against spiritual evils...we be armed with weapons of self-restraint'. As we confront the onslaughts of the evil one may we walk under the full protection of God's arsenal, not least the word of God which is the sword of the Spirit.

Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

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

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

DAVID PATMORE of Carnaby Road died recently. His funeral will be on **Saturday 15th March at 10am.**

PAOLA MELILLO of The Canadas died recently. Her funeral will be on **Friday 28th March at 2pm.**

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, Paola Melillo and Peter Fry and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Ciriaco DiChiara, Ernest Swarbrick, Agnes Piper, Iolanda Fattore, Salvatrice Castronovo, Rosa Vasile, Pietro Cracchiolo, Salvatore Morreale, Angela Orsini, John Kelly, Rosa Abella, Sheila Barry, Ted Leatherbarrow, Felicia Abella, Rita Howard, Bridie & Martin Moriarty and Francesca Provenzano. *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 **16th 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.

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.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 25TH JULY - 1ST AUGUST 2025 - Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage is now open via the online form at <https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. All applications need to be submitted by Wednesday 30th April.

LENT

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 activity 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.



CAFOD LENT FAST DAY is on Friday 14th March. Envelopes are attached to the newsletter and **will be collected next weekend.** You can donate online at

cafod.org.uk/envelope or text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10. You can also donate using the QR code.

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 11th 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.**



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The next meeting will be on **Sunday 16th 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

EMMAUS WALK will be held on **Saturday 22nd March** at 2pm. Meet outside the Feathers pub, Wadesmill. Fr Julian will lead it.

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.

ST AUGUSTINE’S UNDER 5’S 200 CLUB WINNER for March is number 93, Ian Livingstone. Emails have now been sent out for the renewals. Please post your money in an envelope clearly marked through the Under 5’s letterbox.

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 24th April at 2pm.**

CHURCH CLEANING: Elizabeth Nsonwah, Tina Pegna & Pat Callanan. 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

----- cut ✂ here -----

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 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>	Page 207 in Sunday Missals 1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10 <i>The confession of faith of the chosen people.</i>
4.00pm Italian Mass* 6.30pm Mass <i>Bridie & Martin Moriarty RIP anniv</i>	Ps 91 — Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.
Sun 9th March FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am Mass <i>Rita Howard RIP</i> 11.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i>	2nd Reading: Romans 10: 8-13 <i>The confession of faith of believers in Christ.</i>
Mon 10th March Martyrs of Armenia 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Bernard Savage RIP</i> 6-6.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel Accl. Glory and praise to you, O Christ. One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Glory and praise to you, O Christ.
Tues 11th March 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am Mass <i>Denis & Jackie Whelehan RIP</i> 11.30am Requiem Mass Peter Fry RIP 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gospel: Luke 4: 1-13 <i>Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil.</i>
Wed 12th March 8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15 Mass <i>Bernadette McCormack RIP</i> followed by coffee in the crypt 6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	<p style="text-align: center;">NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT (YEAR C)</p> 1st Reading: Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18 2nd Reading: Philippians 3: 17-4: 1 Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36
Thurs 13th March 7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8am Mass <i>Milly Yarwood RIP</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 14th March Lent Fast Day (abstinence from meat for those aged 14+) 11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction 12 noon Mass <i>Rosalia Acquisto</i> 12.30pm Stations of the Cross 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 15th March St Louise de Marillac 9.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Stations of Cross 10am Requiem Mass David Patmore RIP	<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>Ted Leatherbarrow RIP</i> Sun 16th March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 9.15am Mass <i>For the Parish</i> 11.15am Mass <i>Decd members of Soldano & Dinato Families</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. Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 233699
* Vigil Mass of Sunday	
REGULAR EVENTS	
Mon 10th 7pm Confirmation, crypt Tues 11th 1pm Lunch club Tues 11th 2.30pm Warm Spaces, crypt	Tues 11th 7.30pm Come and See, crypt Wed 12th 6pm Brownies, crypt Thurs 13th 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 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