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" Administrator: Dawn Bates (Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri, 9am–4pm)

Also in residence: Fr Mathews Valiyaputhenpura Joy (Chaplain to Knanaya community)

Safeguarding parish rep: Joy Ighade—hoddesdonSG3@rcdow.org.uk

Italian safeguarding rep: Rossetta Tona — italianmissionsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

YEAR A TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 4TH OCT 2026

Gospel: *Matthew 21: 33-43*

He will let out the vineyard to other tenants.



God is like a master artist with many canvases who allows us to become members of his studio as his fellow artists. The materials are his and the overall design and vision of the creation is his, but he graciously allows us to work as his fellow creators. God designed the picture of the vineyard as an especial work of art, but because those whom he allowed to finish it instead despoiled it, like many an artist he allowed the canvas to be cast aside. The vineyard of course is not just a canvas picture but a symbol of Israel, the people of God. God decides to break down its walls and allow it to become overrun, because instead of yielding good grapes it yielded wild grapes. God had expected the fruits of justice and righteousness from his people but saw instead bloodshed. The psalmist plaintively asks God why he has broken down the walls of the vineyard and allowed it to become despoiled and beseeches the Lord of hosts to look to his vineyard again, to visit his vine again and protect it. Hope was kindled that the favoured vineyard would once again provide the fruit for which it was designed. Although the artist had cast away the canvas, it was not destroyed. The people of Israel at the time of Jesus were very much aware of the significance of the imagery of the vineyard. On the walls of the Temple an enormous golden vine reminded all onlookers of the fact that the vineyard was Israel and that God called his people to be fruitful and to thrive within the land that he had established. Perhaps it was against this striking backdrop that Jesus told his parables of the vineyard. In the parable of the tenants of the vineyard, today's gospel, Jesus directs his criticism mostly against the rulers of the people. As tenants they should have exemplified the good trusteeship of God's favour. However instead of serving God's interests they had served their own, and actually abused and killed his servants, the prophets. Jesus told them that as a last resort the master of the vineyard would send his son but him they would throw out of the vineyard and put to death. Jesus knew their murderous intent and prophetically foretells his own death at the hands of the leaders of God's people. Consequently, judgement would fall upon them, the tenants. They would lose their lives and the favoured vineyard let out to other tenants. He was of course foretelling the fall of Israel and the coming of his mystical body, the Church. '*Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits'.* When we read these words, our only viable response is one of humble thanksgiving, that we have been found suitable to cooperate in the work of the favoured vineyard. We have been welcomed by the master artist to participate in the studio of his creation. We give thanks for the fruitfulness of the Church throughout the generations, a creative work of God, in which we have been allowed graciously to participate and from which we derive our blessings. Our Christian work is all about participation. If is not done in participation with God then it is not drawing fruit for him. If it is done without a view for communion, then we are drawing aside, rather than drawing towards the One who is the source of all fruitfulness. The vision of the vineyard remains the same. God continues to look for justice and righteousness. Although these fruits originate within the special arena of God's favour which is the vineyard, they are meant for external consumption. They are outgoing virtues impacting the society and world around. The vineyard exists not just for itself but for the benefit of those outside. Jesus tells his disciples elsewhere that he wants them to be fruitful, producing fruit that will last. The universal Church has a mission for life. We do wish to share the judgment which fell upon the previous tenants. May we seek the justice and righteousness of God's kingdom, and remember that we are wasting our time if our endeavours are not founded upon Christ our cornerstone. If we reject him, we have only ourselves to blame if we are thrown out of the vineyard and our own work rejected. Let us not forget the words of our communion antiphon, *'the Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him'.* Fr Julian

PRAYER & LITURGY

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Giovanni La Rosa and Massimo Parla who will be baptised this weekend.

EXPOSITION on Monday evening will be from 5-6pm due to the Confirmation meeting.

EILEEN IVES of West Close died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Monday 5th October at 1pm.**

IRENE BARAN-YATES of Mandeville Close died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Wednesday 7th October at 1pm.**

MARY LOCKIE of St David's Drive died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Wednesday 14th October at 12 noon**.

MADDALENA MIGLIOZZI of Grange Lane died recently. Her Requiem will be on **Wednesday 21st October at 11.30am.** *May they rest in peace.*

PLEASE PRAY for all those who have died recently including Maddalena Migliozzi, Mary Lockie, Irene Baran-Yates and Eileen Ives, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Kathleen Jones, Carmela Scaffidi, Bill Askew, Adua Nolan, Richard Pyper, James Dignan, Anna Gianfrancesco, Ronald Elliott, Richard Norman, and Francesco and Francesca Pizzo. M*ay their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

POPE'S INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.



ROSARY: As October is the month of the Holy Rosary, there will be a decade of the rosary recited before each Sunday Mass.





The next **BIBLE STUDY** for those in their 20s and 30s is the **9th & 23rd October** from 7.15-8.15pm in the crypt. Bibles are available if you don't have your own. To join the group, use the link https://chat.whatsapp.com/FI0EZKp2YxY5BWfuOoFne0?mode=gi_t.or scan the QR code.

PRAYER GROUP will resume again on **Thursday 8th October at 7.30pm** in the crypt.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Gabby Hanley will be running the Children's Choir at the 9.15am Mass on Sunday mornings. Next dates: **4th & 18th October.**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY will be on the **11th October & 25th October** at the 9.15am Mass.

TAIZE: On **Sunday 25th October at 7pm** we will have Adoration with Taizé chants and the Rosary.



ADOREMUS on Saturday 10th October starts at 3pm with a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament from St George's Cathedral, Southwark along the South Bank of the Thames to Westminster Cathedral. After the 8pm Mass at Westminster Cathedral, there will be Holy Hours which will include reflections on Eucharistic saints, prayer led by youth ministry teams and music from One Hope Project. From 11pm an all-night Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament begins, which will finish with Mass at 6am. **Please note that everyone wishing to attend the Holy Hours and all night-vigil needs to register their attendance at:** https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/adoremus/

OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM CANDLES: We now have special candles from Walsingham which can be lit to be placed on the plinth around the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. These can be purchased from the presbytery for £10. You can book the candle for any intentions or for someone who has passed, and their name or intention will be placed in the Lady Chapel and published in the newsletter.



THE WALSINGHAM CANDLES are offered for the following intentions:
Sheila Cooper RIP



PARISH RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM will be from **Tuesday 10th to Thursday 12th November** and we will stay at the Catholic Retreat House. If you are interested, please complete the tear off slip and drop it off to the presbytery. The accommodation price is £154 (B&B & evening meal) and cost of transport will be arranged when we know the final number.

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 6th October at 7.30pm in the crypt** and is for all **adults** who want to learn more about becoming a Catholic, or if you missed one of the Sacraments (such as Baptism or Confirmation) or if you simply want to renew your faith.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2027: Application forms for the Confirmation programme for **young** people in Year 9 or above are now available to collect from the presbytery either by email or in person. Entry to the Confirmation programme depends on regular attendance at Mass. The first meeting will be on the **5th October at 7pm in the crypt**. An email has now been sent to parents regarding the programme. If you have not received the email, please contact the presbytery.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: A letter has now been emailed to parents regarding the 2026/2027 course. If you have not received the email, please contact the presbytery. The next meeting will be on the **11th October. An email with the readings will be sent out on Friday 9th October. If you have not received the email, please do check your spam box.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2028: If your child is in year 2 and is interested in making their First Holy Communion in 2028, please do contact the presbytery to register your interest.

SCHOOLS

ST AUGUSTINE'S UNDER 5'S have spaces in the playgroup and toddler sessions. Toddlers is held on Tuesday & Thursday mornings and Friday afternoons. For more info, please contact the Under 5's on 460614.

SOCIAL & MISCELLANEOUS

CAFOD: Living Water: The Season of Creation - Each year from 1 September to 4 October, Christians worldwide celebrate this time to give thanks for the gift of our world and through prayer/action, care for our common home. This year's theme, Living Water, is drawn from Ezekiel 47, offering a powerful image of a river flowing from the Temple, becoming a great torrent of life, fruitfulness and healing. But, according to the UN, 2.1 billion people - 1 in 4 globally - lack access to safe drinking water. The climate crisis exacerbates the problem through devastating droughts and floods. May God's love flow through us all!

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO: 

Duncan Livingstone will give a photo presentation of the pilgrimage route (500 miles / 790 kms) will be held on **Friday 16th October at 7.15pm in the crypt.** The event is free but donations are welcome towards church funds.


EMMAUS WALK Our next walk will be on **31st October at 2pm.** Details to follow in due course.



FIRE WARDENS: If you would like to become a Fire Warden at Mass, please contact the presbytery. There will be a Fire Warden drill on **Wednesday 14th October at 7pm** for the current Fire Wardens.

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

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

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**

As a guide to our giving, it may help to compare how much we spend for example on a coffee or meal, a football season ticket, car or holiday, and how much on God's mission and work.

CARDINAL NEWMAN ON VOCATION



God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work.

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PARISH RETREAT TO WALSINGHAM ON 10TH/11TH/12TH NOVEMBER

Name: ……

Contact no.: ……

Email address……..

Liturgy this week

Saturday 3rd October Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
10am Mass ***Denis Whelehan RIP***

4.00pm Italian Mass*
6.30pm Mass ***Richard Pyper RIP***

Sun 4th October TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN O.T.
9.15am Mass ***For the Parish***
11.15am Mass ***Francesco & Francesca Pizzo RIP***

Mon 5th October St Faustina Kowalska
8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9.15am Mass ***Kathleen Holesz RIP***
1pm Requiem *Eileen Ives RIP*
5-6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tues 6th October St Bruno
8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9.15am Mass ***Thomas Murphy RIP***
6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wed 7th October Our Lady of the Rosary
9.15am Mass ***Maria Scott RIP*** followed by coffee in the crypt
1.00pm Requiem *Irene Baran-Yates RIP*
6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thurs 8th October
7.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
8am Mass ***Joan De Silva RIP***
No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 9th October ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN
(abstinence from meat for those aged 14+)
11am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament/11.50 Benediction
12 noon Mass ***Dympna Pyle RIP***
6pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 10th October St Paulinus
9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
10am Mass ***Maria Scott RIP***

4.00pm Italian Mass*
6.30pm Mass ***Margherita & Stefano Diesi RIP***

Sun 11th Oct TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9.15am Mass ***Maureen O'Neill RIP anniv***
11.15am Mass ***For the Parish***

* Vigil Mass of Sunday

Today's Liturgy

Page 137 Parish Mass Books
Page 786 in Sunday Missals

1st Reading: Isaiah 5: 1-7
The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel.

Ps 80 — *The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.*

2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 6-9
Practise these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Accl. Alleluia, alleluia. I chose you out of the world, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-43
He will let out the vineyard to other tenants.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN O.T.
(YEAR A)

1st Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-10a
2nd Reading: Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20
Gospel: Matthew 21: 1-14

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.

ROSARY

The Rosary is often prayed in the Lady Chapel after weekday Mass and Saturday 10am Mass.

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.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

REGULAR EVENTS

Mon 5th	7pm Confirmation, crypt	**Tues 6th**	7.30pm Come & See, crypt
Tues 6th	1pm lunch club, crypt	**Thurs 8th**	7.30pm Prayer group, crypt
Tues 6th	2.30pm Warm spaces, crypt	**Fri 9th**	7.15pm Bible study, 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