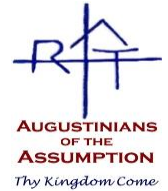




CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS
(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)



Newsletter No 1552

2nd – 9th November 2013 Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

Mass Times

Saturday anticipating 6pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.00pm
Monday – Saturday 10am
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am following Mass

Contacts

Parish Priest E-mail: michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Michael Lambert

Fr Christopher Burgess
Fr Jean-Marie Paluku jeanmariepaluku@rcdow.org.uk

Pastoral Assistants Tel: 01462 455577
Jane Gonzalez E-mail: janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk
Trish Bonnett E-mail: trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator Tel: 01462 459126
Carol Cooper E-mail: carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk

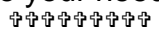
Parish Office Tel: 01462 459 126
Mobile: 07958 575 442
Website: www.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin
E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representative

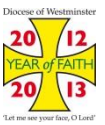
Carol Mascarenhas Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)



If you are going into hospital please notify the RC Chaplains, Jacqueline Humphreys and John-Paul Lyttle on **07884 187463** directly, as the Hospital is not able to pass on the information to them. If you are in Pinehill Hospital, please contact the parish directly. When you come out of hospital or if you are ill and housebound please ring the parish office so we can minister to your needs if required.



If you have a need for prayer, please contact Mary on 07759195487 and let her know your prayer intentions.



Prayer for the Year of Faith: Lord, let me see your face, know your heart and experience your love in my life. Strengthen in me the precious gift of faith. I believe Lord; Help my unbelief. Amen.

Faith Development Helpline

If you (or someone you know) needs to chat about your faith or have been feeling lost ring

07582 648433

Tues/Wed/Thurs 8pm-10pm.

Confidential service provided. No need to identify yourself



If someone close to you has died our Bereavement Team is specially trained to help. You can contact them through the Parish Office on 01462 459126.

Diary

Sunday 3rd	Coffee Morning Forces Rehabilitation
Monday 4th	Mother & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 - 11am
	Meditation Group Hall 12 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 5th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30 am
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Choir - Church 8pm
Wednesday 6th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) LCR 9.30am
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Scripture Group Peter Deuchar home 1.30pm
	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30pm
	RCIA - Pastoral Office 8pm
	Thursday 7th
Friday 8th	Mother & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Saturday 9th	Marriage Preparation Course Hall 9am – 4.30pm
Sunday 10th	Coffee Morning Union of Catholic Mothers



Readings: Wis 11:22-12:2, Thess 1:11-2:2, Luke 19:1-10

Entrance antiphon: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

Psalm: I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

Intercessions: Lord, hear our prayer.....

Response: And give us your saving help!

Next week: Macc7:1-2.9-14, Thess 2:16-3:5, Luke 20:27-38

National Adoption Sunday 3 November, churches across the country are joining together to focus on the need for more adopters to come forward for children who badly need a family to call their own. Hertfordshire County Council is asking people to consider whether they have space in their homes – and their hearts - for the many children in care.

These children need love and encouragement to thrive and fulfil their potential. If you would like to explore adoption in more depth, please visit www.hertsdirect.org/adoption. Alternatively, call 0800 917 0925 for a friendly and informal discussion about what it means to adopt a child in Hertfordshire. Please remember that our adopters come from all walks of life – so please do not discount yourself because of age, gender, marital status or employment.

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Envelopes for the Month of the Holy Souls are available from the table which is between the two doors as you enter or leave the Church.

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Next Weekend: at the 6.00pm and 10.00am Masses, we are holding the Inscription of our Children and Families onto the Programme for preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, next year.

Also next Weekend marks Remembrance Sunday with the Civic Service at St Mary's Church at 2.30am, followed by the placing of Wreathes at the Cenotaph.

Next Sunday At 6.15pm: we will be holding our Annual Service for the Deceased parishioners for the past year: all families and friends of such people are more than welcome to join in this time of quiet prayer and reflecting on memories.

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PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: There was a printing error on the Planned Giving Envelopes that have just been issued. Included at the front of some of the boxes is an Envelope dated 4 Nov 2012. If not already used, this Envelope should be discarded and the remaining Envelopes used as normal.

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PARISH OFFERTORY APPEAL: Thank you to everybody who has already responded to the Parish Offertory Appeal and returned their Pledge Sheet. If you have not yet returned your Pledge Sheet, please can you do so as soon as possible. Completed Pledge Sheets should be placed in the red post-box in the Porch. If you signed-up to make your offerings using Envelopes, they are available for collection in the Porch; if you signed-up to use a Standing Order, the relevant form will be sent out in the next few days and if you signed-up to make a one-off donation, details of how to do that will be sent out by the end of next week. If you have any questions, members of the Finance Committee will be on hand in the Porch after each Mass.

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Any items for Discussion by our Parish Pastoral Council: **please ensure that they are in the parish Office by Friday, please, as the next Meeting is on November 11th.**

A Message from Peter Turner, who is responsible for Safeguarding in the Diocese:

The Diocesan Safeguarding Service is hoping to set up a support service for survivors of child abuse. It is intended that a list is retained, confidentially by the safeguarding service, of professional counsellors, who have experience of this area of work. When requested by a survivor the safeguarding service can supply a list of counsellors from which the survivor will be able to choose from. There is no guarantee of work emulating from this project and it will be the responsibility of the survivor to negotiate fees with the counsellor concerned. If you are interested in adding your name to the list, please forward your full details, by email, and relevant experience to Peter Turner, the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor at peterturner@rcdow.org.uk

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Young readers training course; if you are in Year 4 or above and would like to be a young minister of the Word in our church then please

come to both sessions of training being put on at 4pm – 5pm on Thursday 14th and 21st November led by Bridie Duffy. If you are planning to come please email Bridie at bridie.duffy@yahoo.com so she knows how many to prepare for. Young readers deliver the Word of the Lord at our children's Mass (10.30 am 4th Sunday of the month) and with some experience they then go onto pairing with adult readers to deliver the word at whatever Mass they normally attend. Our young readers have proved to excel in their delivery of the Word which really helps us understand the message of God.

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Any 'Missio' Red Box holders who would like their donations passed on to Mission/APF should bring their envelope in to Parish Office in the next two weeks so that the donations can be banked this year. If you have any problems please contact pauline-watkins@hotmail.com or tel. 436867.

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White Peace Poppies will be on sale as usual this year at Christchurch. They will be available during Open Church hours from Monday 28 October for two weeks as well as mornings of Sunday 3 and 10 November. Please support the work of the Peace Pledge Union as well as that of the British Legion, who will, no doubt, be bringing us a supply of red poppies.

Diary Dates

Monday 4 November

Our prayers and best wishes go to our Schools and our Children attending them, as they return for the second half of the Term.

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Our love and sympathy go to the Family of Tina Fairservice, whose mass of Resurrection will be celebrated at 10.00am. May she rest in peace and rise in glory!

Tuesday 5 November

Mass in Remembrance of all School families and Staff will be celebrated in Our Lady's School at 10.00am

Wednesday 6 November

11.00am: Deanery Mass for the repose of the souls of the Deceased Priests who have served in the Deanery over the years. This will be celebrated by Bishop John at St Hugh's Church, in Letchworth.

THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT HITCHIN AT 10.00AM, AS THERE IS A GENERAL INVITATION TO PARISHIONERS TO JOIN IN THE MASS WITH OUR AREA BISHOP.

The Mass will be followed by a chance to mingle with those who have come to the join in our prayer, over coffee in the Parish Hall. The Priests will then have their Meeting with Bishop John.

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7-8.30pm Faith Matters Talks Fr Dermot Preston SJ (Provincial of the British Jesuits) on 'Through a Google Glass Darkly – Finding God in the Digital Age', Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN, Please register at

<http://rcdow.org.uk/faith/faith-matters/>

Saturday 9 November

10.00am: Fr Norbert, our Dean, will reside the Mass, as an introduction to the Training Session for anyone who is interested in the Ministry to the Bereaved, through visiting. This will take place after the Mass and be in the Hall.

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8.30-10.00am "Responding to Domestic Abuse in a Pastoral Context" *For all ministers, pastoral and youth leaders.* Presented by Sue Williams, a senior accredited BACP counsellor and supervisor, with over 20 years' experience of working with families and young people affected by abusive relationships. To be held at **Christchurch Baptist Church, 110 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City AL8 0HN**, Breakfast included. No charge

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Many Streams One River 10.30-5pm A day to celebrate the Ecclesial Movements and Communities. This meeting will show in various ways how the movements are a gift at the service of the Church today. It is open to all, to those already belonging to a movement, as well as to

those who would like to know more about these new charisms sent by the Holy Spirit. The day will consist of music and drama, prayer and testimonies. Methodist Central Hall, Westminster.

Future Dates

Nov 11 Sees the start of Family Meetings with Fr Michael for

those who are seeking to gain a place at Our Lady's School next September. Please ensure that you have "signed up" if this affects you, many thanks. You will also need to have completed the Application Forms and obtained Baptism Certificates for the children you wish to place in our School.

Nov 12 7-8.30pm Supporting Parents in Sacramental Preparation

Programmes for parents and catechists There will be an opportunity to share good practices, showcase new and available resources. Booking is required. Please register for evening at <http://www.rcdow.org.uk/events> St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, St Joseph's Grove, The Burroughs, Hendon, London NW4 4TY.

Nov 15 7 - 9 pm "The Ten Marks of a True Disciple" at **St Patrick Catholic Church, 21a Soho Square St Patrick's Soho.**

Do you believe in Jesus? If you answered "yes," great! But do you follow him? In this talk, Jeff presents the difference between simply believing in Jesus and being a true disciple. He will share the practical aspects of being a disciple of Christ and the importance of listening to and walking in the power of the Holy Spirit. To register, go to:

<http://catholicbibletour.com/resources/>

Nov 16 10am - 4pm "The Bible Timeline Seminar"

Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Ave, London

The Bible lies at the heart of the Catholic Faith. It informs our beliefs, and inspires our worship. If you have ever tried to read Scripture, and found it too difficult or inaccessible, this seminar will give you renewed hope! Hundreds of thousands of Catholics are discovering how to read, understand and apply the riches of Scripture to their daily lives with The Bible Timeline. Parishes around the world are finding renewed faith and increased involvement among parishioners whose lives... See more at: <http://catholicbibletour.com/schedule/#sthash.4kastVD.dpuf> To register, go to:

<http://catholicbibletour.com/resources/>

To see a short film about Jeff Cavins, go to: <http://ascensionpress.com/presenters/jeff-cavins>

Nov 19 8-10pm (doors open 7:30pm) the NHIFF is organising the first "Scriptural Reasoning Meeting" in Hitchin, as the local event within the 3rd National Inter-Faith Week, 2013. The meeting involves a sharing of sacred texts and reading from the three Abrahamic Faiths (Jewish, Christian and Muslim) on the theme of "Using God's Gifts". The event takes place in our Parish Hall, and it would be good to have a wide reach and good support or turn-out. Texts to be used can be found from (Using God's Gifts): <http://www.scripturalreasoning.org/text-bundles?tid=16> For further information contact: Deolinda Eltringham on 01462 451359 (eve.) or Rev Austin Smith 01462 437433. All are welcome, please feel free to invite friends of any faith to come along with you! For other public events in Hertfordshire within the Inter-Faith week, please consult the notice boards, or the website: <http://www.interfaithweek.org/index.php/events/events>

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7-8.30pm Faith Matters Talks Archbishop Augustine Di Noia, OP on 'Contemporary Challenges to teaching the Catholic Faith', 7.00-8.30pm, Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, SW1P1QJ Please register at <http://rcdow.org.uk/faith/faith-matters/>

Other Items of Interest

Temporary help needed by one of our parishioners. 2 hours daily for 2 to 3 weeks – light house work and general caring. Please contact Trish in the first instance and she will put you in touch.

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Spanish for Kids - new classes starting on Monday 4th November in the Lower Committee Room from 4.30 – 5.30pm. Contact Montserrat on montsecomas1@hotmail.com for details.

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LiveSimply Group: Help eliminate the idea of waste - and raise much needed funds for various projects Urgent appeal - Please make a special effort over the next two weeks to remember to bring with you to church any items you find at home, office, workplace or school that can sent for recycling that are part of the list: spent Writing Instruments, Coffee packaging and Tassimo Discs, Sweet Biscuit Wrappers, Mobile Phones and Laptops or E-books, unwanted CDs and DVDs (even if broken) and Ink cartridges. Any shipments we can make the minimum weight and post by mid-November may well be in time for the December pay-out date of funds raised

Sunday coffee mornings 2014 Will all groups/charities who want coffee mornings in 2014 submit their requests (the number you would like and time of year/approx dates) to Carol in Parish Office, preferably by e-mail to carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk by the 18th November. Carol will draw up a rota for the year and notify all groups. If you are unable to take a coffee morning allocated please give Carol at least two weeks' notice so it can be offered to the other groups.

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Don't forget to continue to recycle and raise money for good causes. If you haven't already taken one please grab a poster with all the details from the porch and put it up where it will remind you to bring things when you come to church. Please note re collection of old pens that pencils and crayons cannot go into this collection but that EDAID collects these items for sending to needy families so please bring them in whenever the One World Group or EDAID have a coffee morning.



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Choir members needed If you are willing to sing in praise of Our Lord and you are able to read music come and join us. You need to be available at 8-9pm on a Tuesday evening for the practices and the first Sunday of the month at the 10.30 Mass. We have a particular need for male tenor and bass voices but all female singers welcome too. If you think you could help the parish in this way and have some great fun at the same time please speak to Trish or Samantha Wilkins or email trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk

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Garden help needed. You will have seen the appeals in the newsletter for helpers to meet up on a Saturday morning to keep the church gardens under control and they will continue but there is an ongoing need for people to just pop in and do an hour or so whenever they feel like it. We have a garden manual which shows the various areas of the church grounds and what needs to be done when. If you can give an hour or two even monthly then please let Trish know who will show you where the sheets and gardening equipment is kept. This is important work which makes our church grounds look lovely and also helps keep our costs down by not having to employ a gardener.

