

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 1563

25th – 26th January 2014 Third Sunday of the Year A

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)



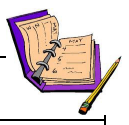
If you are going into hospital please notify the RC Chaplain, Jacqueline Humphreys on **07884 187463** directly, as the Hospital is not able to pass on the information to them. If you are in Pinehill Hospital, please contact the parish directly. When you come out of hospital or if you are ill and housebound 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.

Diary

Sunday 26th	Coffee Morning Confirmation Group
Monday 27th	Mother & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 - 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12– 1.30pm
Tuesday 28th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Union of Catholic Mothers Hall 8pm Choir Church 8pm
Wednesday 29th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) LCR 9.30am
	Scripture Group Peter Deuchar home 1.30pm
Thursday 30th	Rosary after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 31st	Mother & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Sunday 2nd	Coffee Morning Our Lady School PTA



Readings: Is 8:23-9:3, Cor 1:10-13.17, Mat 4:12-23

Entrance antiphon: O sing new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

Psalm: **The Lord is my light and my help**

Intercessions: Father, hear us

Response: **Give us your saving help!**

Next week: Mal 3:1-4, Heb 2:14-18, Luke 2:22-40

Scripture Group meets at Peter Deuchar's house from 1.30 – 3.00pm on Wednesdays. We have room for a couple more people if anyone would like to join us to reflect on the Word. Contact Jane for details. 455577

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

Parish Prayer Heavenly Father, we offer you our Parish of Our Lady and St Andrew. May all who seek love, solace and security in our midst find them through the Christ who is in us. May His Spirit move us to proclaim the Gospel joyously in our homes, in our town, in our country and to our world. May Your Spirit guide and inspire us in all that we do to promote your kingdom every day. Amen.



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.

Our love and sympathy go to the families of Maria Serio, Consiglia Picone and Kevin Barry, whose funerals took place last week. Many parishioners would have known Kevin, as he was a life-long member of Our Lady's and was highly involved in the Knights and other organisations, as well as running our Autumn Festivals for many years. Celia Picone was here for many years and a regular Member of the Church, until illness forced her to retire and eventually reside in a nursing home. Mrs Serio only came to live with us a very short time ago. May they all rest in peace and rise in glory!

††††††††††

This Weekend:

8.30 Mass our Confirmation Candidates will be making a Report on their fundraising projects for charities in the parish.

††††††††††

Monday and Tuesday: Carol, our Administrator will not be in the Office.

††††††††††

First Reconciliation Family Chats - Parents with children preparing for First Reconciliation need to sign up for a Family Chat in March. There are sign-up sheets available in the porch. If you have any queries contact Jane in the Pastoral Office.

††††††††††

Installation of the new Sound System, is reaching the third and final phase of putting in the actual equipment that we will need into the console, which is now in place. This will be done on the Monday to Wednesday, February 10 – 12th. During this time it will be necessary for the engineers to have free and sole access to the church during working hours. It does mean that the Church will be out of action for that period of time, although those of you who wish to come and pray during that time may do so, using the back to rows of benches as you enter the Church. Our Health and Safety requirements stipulate that children should not be around at all during those days, except as foreseen above. Mass will be celebrated on those days in the Lower Committee Room at 10.00am. Groups which use the Church normally on those days, we will try to accommodate elsewhere, or if you can make your own alternative arrangements that is equally fine. Fr Michael wishes to thank you all for your understanding in this matter, and we all look forward to enjoying the benefits this new feature will provide, in the very near future.

††††††††††

Message from the Foodbank: The Foodbank have a particular need for sponge pudding, tins of Ham and cartons of orange Juice. Many thanks, if you can provide some!

††††††††††

Collection counters We are in need of new helpers. If you can give 1½ hours about every 6 weeks to help count the Sunday collections with a team please speak to Trish.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 28 January

Our Lady's School Council continues its deliberations today on how the School is functioning and continuing with their review of various aspects of School life.

††††††††††

7.15pm Eucharistic service in the church where we reflect on the word of God and pray for our needs and the needs of others. All welcome.



Saturday 1 February

Members of the Finance Committee are attending the Annual Meeting called by the Diocese to review Expenses, the Growing in Faith Campaign for the Diocese and its financial situation and various other important matters. It is being held in Welwyn Garden City, at Our Lady's Church.

Sunday 2 February

We will be celebrating **The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple** and the official closing of the Christmas Season. This Mass will replace the 3rd Sunday of the Year.

Monday 3 February

After 10am Mass a Team of volunteers will be working to dismantle and put away the **Crib**, we are very grateful to all who helped create the wonderful gift which is our Crib and those who will be putting it away again. If you are able to help please turn up at 10.30am.

Other items of interest

Joint Unity Service: held at St Mary's last Sunday evening, was a great celebration of our work and life together, with a large attendance, although very few of our own Community actually came along to join in, which is a sad reflection on how Unity and the work for it has very little impact on our attitudes of mind and hearts. However, the new Chair was installed and gave us an interesting account of her journey to England and her taking up the role of Chair, all around the theme of their being no division in Christ Himself, it is we who need to open up and realise that our fragility as human beings has led to all sorts of dissention and disunity! There was a wonderful atmosphere and the whole Service went without a hitch and respected our different Traditions and beliefs.