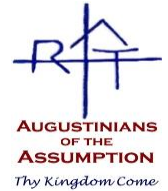




CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Newsletter No 1570

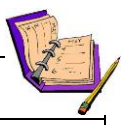
15th – 22nd March 2014 Second Sunday Lent Year A

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

Contacts
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E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representative
Carol Mascarenhas Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

Diary

Sunday 16th	Coffee Morning One World Group Fr Christopher received into church Church 4.40pm into 5pm Mass
Monday 17th	Funeral Mass 11.30am
	NO PARENT & TODDLER GROUP
Tuesday 18th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30pm Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm Choir Church 8pm
Wednesday 19th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am Scripture Group Peter Deuchar home 1.30pm
Thursday 20th	Italian Club Hall 1pm Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 21st	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Saturday 22nd	Reconciliation Workshop Hall 10-12.30pm
Sunday 23rd	Coffee Morning EDAID



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



Readings: Gen 12:1-4, Tim 1:8-19, Matt 17:1-9

Entrance antiphon: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Psalm: **May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.**

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

Response: **We have seen your glory!**

Next week: Ex 17:3-7, Rom 5:1-2.5-8, John 4:5-9



collection will be taken after all masses except 5pm this weekend. Gift aid envelopes available in the porch.

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.

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.

Fr Christopher: we have received so many words of sympathy and support from so many people: our new Cardinal, Bishop John and so many friends and contacts he had made over the years. Indeed one of his former Altar Servers in Seaford, who is now a Permanent Deacon, will carry out his Ministry with us on the Monday Mass for Fr Christopher. It has been so comforting to receive and share time with people who have made contact with us so thank you one and all for your kindness, sympathy and support at this difficult time for us all.

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Fr Michael writes: "I have been deeply touched by the tremendous response we have received following on from the death of Fr Christopher, last Sunday. It has been so comforting and uplifting to experience such an outflow of love and feeling these last few days.

I have also been deeply grateful to the wonderful support which has also shown itself as we now prepare for the Funeral Celebrations this weekend: so many people are working to ensure that everything is in place, for the Masses, Receptions and all the Orders of Service, all those who will be involved in so many ways from welcoming to organising the car park; the music and liturgies, the Ministers who will be needed, it is a real cross-parish chance for us all to thank God for the life and ministry Fr Christopher shared with us for 46 years, as we pray that indeed he will rest in peace and rise in glory! May the Lord walk with us all and allow us to learn and make our own the lessons He will show us for our own lives as we continue our Journey of Life and Faith." **A quiet prayer area** is available on the stage between the organ console and pipes with a light and picture for contemplative prayer.

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Sign Up for Lent. A number of people have kindly offered to host and lead house groups and church groups for 4 weeks of Lent. A sign-up sheet is now in our church for you to join one. They cover the weeks from Monday 17 March to Friday 11 April. This is a good opportunity to meet people from other churches and talk about our Christian faith. The booklet being used this year is Encounters with Jesus, based on Luke's gospel. Do ensure you note the address and phone of who you have signed up to visit and please put your contact phone number next to your name. Further information from Helen Richardson 01462 435595 or helenwrigh@btinternet.com

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Praying with Scripture during Lent 2014. Both sessions - OLS at 9am on Wednesday morning and Pastoral Office at 3pm Friday - got off to a good start. These groups are offered at the same

time each week throughout Lent and both are open to parishioners. For further information contact Eileen Dutt on 07721574767 or eduttobl@christianmeditation.org.uk

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Next Sunday 23rd March - Traidcraft stall will be open. Thanks for your continued support.

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Planned Giving Envelopes: New boxes of Planned Giving Envelopes will be available for collection in the Hall after each of the Masses on the weekends of 22/23 and 29/30 March. Parishioners who make their offering by Standing Order and would like a supply of Envelopes to use when making offerings during the collection at Mass (for example at Christmas or Easter) can also collect Envelopes at this time.

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THE HOUSE OF THE OPEN DOOR an orphanage in Tanzania will benefit from the proceeds of this Sunday's One World Group coffee morning. More information in the Hall.

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LENTEN MEDITATION led by Enda O'Byrne will be held on Monday 31st March at 8pm in the Lower Committee room followed by a simple supper. All are invited.

Diary Dates

Monday 17 March

7.30pm Foodbank evening in our hall, there will be an opportunity to learn more about the Foodbank. Present volunteers, anyone thinking about being a volunteer, anyone just wanting to know more - in fact, anybody! - will be welcome so just come along.

Thursday 20 March

Faith Matters series of talks: 7-8.30pm "The Church is Feminine" by Dr Gemma Simonds CJ, Heythrop College **Please register at** <http://rcdow.org.uk/events>

Future Dates

Faith Matters series of talks: What is the Church for? 50 years after the VATICAN II In the light of Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*
27th March 'The Church of the Poor?' by Dr Helen Costigane SHCJ, Heythrop College
3rd April 'The Church in the midst of a secular culture' by Bishop John Sherrington, Westminster

Location: Vaughan House, 46 Francis St, SW1P 1QN, Time: 7pm – 8.30pm Suggested donation is £3. Tea/coffee will be provided.
Please register at <http://rcdow.org.uk/events>