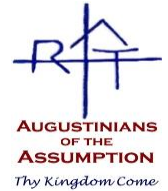




# CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Newsletter No 1581

31<sup>st</sup> May – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2014 Ascension of the Lord Year A

### Mass Times

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

### Contacts

**Parish Priest** E-mail: [michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk)  
Fr Michael Lambert  
Fr Jean-Marie Paluku [jeanmariepaluku@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:jeanmariepaluku@rcdow.org.uk)

**Pastoral Assistants** Tel: 01462 455577  
Jane Gonzalez E-mail: [janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk)  
Trish Bonnett E-mail: [trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator** Tel: 01462 459126  
Carol Cooper E-mail: [carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Office** Tel: 01462 459 126  
Mobile: 07958 575 442  
Website: [www.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin)  
E-mail: [hitchin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto: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.

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



**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.

### Diary

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Coffee Morning EDAID
	Healing and Wholeness Service 3pm Church
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Choir Church 8pm
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Scripture Group Peter Deuchar home 1.30pm
	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30pm
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Taize Service for First Communion children and families Church 7pm
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	6pm Mass for Fr Jean Marie followed by celebration in hall
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning Scout Group
	Party in the Square Hitchin Market Square 12-4pm



**Readings: Acts:1:1-11, Eph 1:17-23, Matt 28:16-20**

*Entrance antiphon:* Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

*Psalm:* **God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.**

*Intercessions:* Father, hear us we pray.....

*Response:* **That we may be one!**

**Next week: Acts:2:1-11, 1Cor 12:3-7.12-13, John 20:19-23**

**Today is World Communications Day.** A second collection will be taken to help fund the work of the Catholic Communications Network.

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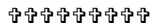
**Sunday 3pm Healing & Wholeness Service** All welcome, the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing are offered for those who wish to receive.



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.

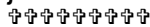


**7<sup>th</sup> June** Fr Jean-Marie presides the Evening Mass at 6pm, as his official farewell to the Parish as he returns to Africa to continue his work in Nairobi as Superior of the Study House we have in that city. This will be followed by a Social Time in the Hall, with a strong African flavour! Please sign up on the sheet in the porch if you are coming to the party afterwards. Please note that you will need to bring your own drink to this event. Tea and coffee will be available. Fr Jean-Marie, will leave on June 11<sup>th</sup> after a final meeting with the Order Members in Britain in the morning.



**Our Confirmation Celebration**, held last Saturday: was a joyous and prayerful event and much appreciated by those who attended it, Bishop John was delighted with the whole evening and enjoyed his time with the Candidates and their families. We are extremely grateful to the Confirmation Catechetical Team for their hard work and commitment over the past year, we now look forward to seeing our young people being more visible in the life and activity of the Parish.

At last Sunday evening Mass, we also welcomed the latest group of families with children who are being prepared for Baptism, with the **Rite of Welcome and Anointing**, again a joyous occasion, enlivened also by the voices of the children concerned, it is good for the parish to be able to see how many families are coming forward with their children to join our Community.



**Next Weekend:** will see the official launching as it were of the "Growing in Faith" Programme in the Parish and there is a general invitation for anyone who is interested in discovering more about it and being able to ask questions, at a Meeting we shall be holding on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm**, in the Church (as the Hall is in use), please make a note of the date and come along. Fr John Gray will be in attendance, as a Priest who has completed the Programme in his Parish and who has been "mentoring" Fr Michael and the PPC in the run-up to the work they have been doing over the past few weeks. Bishop John, who was hoping to come, is not available, unfortunately, but Fr John will make a very good stand in!



**Party in the Square – 8 June 2014 12-4pm**

Don't forget to come along and bring your friends. The aim is to have an exciting, fun filled day to demonstrate to the people of Hitchin that the Church is alive, vibrant and relevant. Starting with worship from 12-12.45pm to include four testimonies, it will be followed by a host of different activities including craft stalls, games, music,

prayer tent . . . and much more, not forgetting free barbecue and free cakes. All churches are asked to bake small cakes to give away to the public. You can bring your cakes to our church on Sunday morning. **Our choir will be singing at this event.**

**Diary Date**

**Monday 2 June**

**2pm:** Fr Michael is visiting Year 3 at the School to work with the children preparing for the Reception of Holy Communion



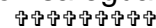
**7pm** A special Saint Pio Prayer Meeting evening at the home of Ann and Michael Hill in Pirton. The evening starts with the Holy Rosary followed by Holy Mass in the grounds in front of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima This will be celebrated by Father Jean-Marie. After Mass we will be treated to a warm supper so please come and support Ann & Michael's hospitality.

**Tuesday 3 June**

**12.30am:** Meeting of the Priests and Ministers of the Town



**4pm:** Fr Michael is at Our Lady's School to continue working on safeguarding issues.



**7.15pm Steps to Pentecost Eucharistic service** Last in a series of readings from Easter to Pentecost, reflection, prayer and communion.

**Friday 6 June**

**7pm Taize Service:** a time of prayer and quiet for the Families and children on the Communion Programme as they prepare for this important time in their lives.

**Saturday 7 June**

**Church Garden: 10am** Gardening session. If you are free to pop in for half an hour or longer you will be most welcome.



Today is the **Celebration of Marriage** in the Cathedral, with Mass celebrated by the Cardinal for all who are celebrating special Anniversaries this year. Our prayers and love go to parishioners who are sharing in this Mass.

**Future Dates**

**June 21** 12 - 3pm Our Lady School PTA **Summer Fun Day**. Please come along to enjoy a family, fun-filled day with lots of games and stalls.

**June 27** 7.30pm **in the Church:** Annual Service for the Bereaved. Refreshments and social time in the hall after. All are welcome.