



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 1589

26th July – 2nd August, 2014 Seventeenth Sunday of the Year (A)

Mass Times

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

Contacts

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Parish Safeguarding Representative
Carol Mascarenhas Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

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.

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

Diary

Sunday 27th	Coffee Morning Operation Smile
Monday 28th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 29th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30am Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm Choir Church 8pm
Wednesday 30th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
Thursday 31st	Italian Club Hall 1pm Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 1st	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Sunday 3rd	Coffee Morning Bereavement Group

Readings: Kings 3:5.7-12, Rom 8:28-30, Matt 13:44-52

Entrance antiphon: God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Psalm: **Lord how I love your law!**

Intercessions: In your wisdom, Lord.....

Response: Deepen our Faith!

Next week: Is 55:1-3, Rom 8:35.37-39, Matt 14:13-21

Fr Michael will be away till the end of August, and will not be accessing emails during that time. Fr Justin will be here for the initial period of the the summer break and Fr Tom will take over in the course of the first week of August. We would like to thank Fr Justin for his support to us after the departure of Fr Jean-Marie, his smiling presence will be missed.

Parents with Children entering Year 3 in September: please ensure that if you are wanting them to be entered onto the Journey for Reconciliation and First Eucharist, then you need to complete the Application Form, given out at the last Meeting in July, or which can be obtained from the Parish Office. They need to be returned by the end of August

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.



We would like to wish you and all your family, the Lord's blessings and joy during the summer break, praying that you will have time to spend together and recreate and deepen your relationships through holidays and times for family sharing. The newsletter will continue, but in a simple version and our music and other Ministries will continue to function as normal as time and events allow.

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Parents/Carers of young people at John Henry Newman School: please feel free to take a copy of the "Review of the Academic Year" produced by Mr Mathew, the Head, they are in the Porch.

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Our Lady's School Year 6 Children: Ended their Junior School time with a marvellous send up of of the "Pirates of the Caribbean" series of films. We are deeply grateful to the Staff, Governors and especially the children themselves for working so well together over the years. May God bless and hold you in His love children as you make that transition to secondary school: help make the world a better place for your being here!

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Mrs Brown's 25 years as a Teacher in Our Lady's School: Our Head Teacher was presented with a rather special clock she had always wanted, by Ian McBain our Chair of Governors, on behalf of the School. A lot of secret planning and organisation had gone into ensuring that the whole event was indeed a total surprise to her and it seems was highly successful! Each class provided some form of entertainment as a way of saying "thank you" to Mrs Brown for all that she done for them and our school. The Governors and Staff also gave presents to her for the way she has worked with them so wonderfully and helping our School to achieve the high standard that it has, to being 72nd in the Country out of 25,000 Primary Schools! Ad multos annos!

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Fr Tom's 40th Anniversary of Ordination: was a glorious celebration, last Sunday morning, he asked Fr Michael to preside the Mass, as he would preach. He shared his life journey and the power of the Assumptionist way of life and prayer was a deeply important influence on his choice of vocation and how he has lived his life, in the service of God and those with whom he was called to share his life, in so many diverse fields of activity. It was good to see so many of his family gathering to share in the day, as also members of our Sister Orders and many parishioners. There was a wonderful buffet lunch served in the Hall afterwards, by Brigid, the wonderful housekeeper at Bethnal Green and her helpers from the parish

and the youth community who share our life in the Community.

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Fr Michael writes: "I am delighted to be able to announce that Fr Tom, who is coming on August 2nd will also be succeeding me as Parish Priest, in 2016. He will be staying on once he is here and share the work of our Parish with his many gifts and talents. Let us welcome him with joy and support him as he finds his ways into the life of our parish! Praise the Lord for His many blessings to us!" Michael aa

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A final message from our "Growing in Faith Team": Many thanks to all who have made a pledge. We are currently £15,000 away from reaching our goal of £225,000. A few more parishioners responding would allow us to reach our basic total.

Also a few weeks ago I sent a letter to those of you who generously made a commitment on the small green cards given out during Mass, indicating that you wished to pay by direct debit or other methods. To ensure we can count your commitment towards our total, I ask that you complete please and return the pink pledge form enclosed in the letter by next weekend. If you have not received a form, or have misplaced yours, please collect one at the back of Church today. They are on the tables in the porch. Many thanks.

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Future Dates

Oct 18

MICHAELMAS FAIR SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER. Many thanks for all the goods already donated for the fair. The boxes will be in the porch throughout August for gifts, bric a brac, toys and games and will be emptied every day. If you would like to have your goods collected please phone Pam Brannigan (01462 632587) or email pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com.

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COUNTING DURING AUGUST :please note: During this month when there are no Sunday evening Masses, Counting Teams may - by arrangement with Fr Tom - count at any time on a Sunday after the 10.30am Mass. If no alternative arrangements are made, Fr Tom will assume that counting will start as usual at about 5.00pm.