



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 1591

9th – 16th August, 2014 Nineteenth Sunday of the Year (A)

Mass Times

Saturday anticipating 6pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am
Monday – Friday 10am (+ 7.30pm Friday)
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am

Contacts

Parish Priest E-mail: michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Michael Lambert
Fr Tom O'Brien frtomaa@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistants Tel: 01462 455577
Jane Gonzalez E-mail: janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk
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Parish Office Tel: 01462 459 126
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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.



Diary

Sunday 10th	Coffee Morning Friends of Gainsford House
Monday 11th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 12th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Union of Catholic Mothers LCR 8pm
Wednesday 13th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Praise Group LCR after Mass
Thursday 14th	St Pio Group Church & Hall after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 15th	HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION - MASSES AT 10am and 7.30pm IN CHURCH
	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Sunday 17th	Coffee Morning One World Group



Readings: Kgs 19:9-11-13, Rom 9:1-5, Matt 14:22-33

Entrance antiphon: Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

Psalm: **Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.**

Intercessions: Father, hear us.....

Response: As we call on your name!

Next week: Is 56:1-6-7, Rom 11:13-15.29-32, Matt 15:21-28

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

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.

Offertory Appeal Results Update – July 2014

The Offertory Appeal took place in October and you will recall that the results were a bit disappointing – we had been looking for a 25% increase in Offertory income but the pledges received suggested only about a 14% increase. In April we reported that the results were better than forecast with a 19% increase on the figures for the previous year and, whilst there has since been a fall-off in the Loose Collection, which is back to pre-Appeal levels, the returns through to the end of June 2014 continue to show better than expected results – an 18% uplift on the same period for last year – still not as much as we needed but much better than expected. So, a further big “thank you” to all who have responded so positively to the Offertory Appeal and, if you are able to, please keep it up. A further update will be provided later in the year.

Meanwhile a detailed analysis of the results so far is posted on the Pastoral Council

Notice Board. If you have any questions, please speak to David on 01462-627784.

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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 Meeting in July, or which can be obtained from the Parish Office or from the parish website. Forms need to be returned by the end of August.

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The next Confirmation programme begins in September and this year we are opening it to those Catholics who are in years 9, 10 and above. The pressure of school and exams is slightly easier in year 9 which is why we want to bring the age down for the future. If you have a young person at home who is the right age to join the programme please read on. Full details and application forms for the programme to prepare young people for this Sacrament in our Parish are now available. The forms are on the board in the Link between the church porch and hall and you need to sign up on the sheet above it also.

You can also download it from the parish website www.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin. Applications need to be returned by 8th September to the Parish office. The programme starts with an induction session for candidates on 20th September. Any young person in Year 9 who does not feel ready for the programme need not join this year if they do not wish to. There is always an opportunity in the future.

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The next gardening session will be on Saturday 6 September from 10am onwards.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 13 August

2-6pm Coffee Afternoon in aid of Garden House Hospice and Angels Support Group at Irma and Derek's 10 Freewaters Close Ickleford. All welcome. An event not to miss – the cakes are divine!

Thursday 14 August

10am: The Saint Pio Prayer Meeting will include Holy Mass for the members followed by the Rosary, tea and biscuits in the hall and meditations on the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Friday 15 August

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses at 10am and 7.30pm in the Church.

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

Other items of interest

The Bereavement Team would like to thank everyone for the support at the coffee morning on Sunday. Also a big thank you to all helpers. We raised £93 which goes towards our funds to continue the work of the Team.

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Church Cleaning We have an urgent need for more people to help keep our church clean during the week and on Saturdays. Traditionally the cleaning times have been Monday morning before 10am Mass and Saturday Morning before 10am Mass. However this is really flexible and teams of 2-3 people can co-ordinate their time to suit themselves. We just need the following work done:

- Vacuuming the church
- Sweeping/mopping between the pews
- Cobwebs removed and surfaces dusted
- Porch floor washed
- Generally clean where needed

We need this done either on a Monday or Tuesday so that the church is clean after the Sunday Masses and then on Saturday morning or afternoon so the church is ready for Sunday Masses. If you can give an 1½ hours once a month to keep our church beautiful please speak to Trish or email trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk