

# 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 1599

4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year (A)



### Mass Times

**Saturday** anticipating 6pm  
**Sunday** 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm  
**Monday – Saturday** 10am  
**Reconciliation Saturday** 10.30am

### Contacts

<b>Parish Priest</b> Fr Michael Lambert	E-mail: <a href="mailto:michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk">michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Fr Tom O'Brien	<a href="mailto:frtomaa@gmail.com">frtomaa@gmail.com</a>
<b>Pastoral Assistants</b> Jane Gonzalez E-mail:	Tel: 01462 455577 <a href="mailto:janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk">janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Trish Bonnett E-mail	<a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b> Carol Cooper E-mail:	Tel: 01462 459126 <a href="mailto:carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk">carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Sacramental Administrator</b> Eve Krol Email:	Tel: 01462 455577 <a href="mailto:hitchincat@rcdow.org.uk">hitchincat@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Office</b> Tel:	01462 459 126 Mobile: 07958 575 442 Website: <a href="http://www.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin">www.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a>

### Parish Safeguarding Representative

Carol Mascarenhas Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

### Diary

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning Diapalante
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
	Michaelmas Fair Planning Meeting LCR 8pm
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Choir Church 8pm
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Praise Group LCR after Mass
	RCIA Pastoral Office 7.30pm
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	St Pio Group Church and Hall after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina Pastoral office 2pm
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning KISS



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.**



**Readings: : Is 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Matt 21:33-43**

*Entrance antiphon:* Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

*Psalm: **The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel***

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

*Response:* Give us your peace!

**Next week: : Is 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14, 19-20, Matt 22:1-14**

**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.

**This Weekend:** at 5.00pm Mass: we have the Inscription of our new Candidates onto the the Course of Preparation to consider celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation next May. We will be praying for our young people as they undertake this exploration and discernment and all their Catechists.



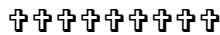
If someone close to you has died our Bereavement Team is specially trained to help. You can contact them through the Parish Office on 01462 459126.



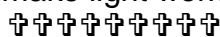
**Saturday afternoon:** we welcome into our Church **Ella Jepson**, in the completion of the Baptism Service, our prayers are with the parents and family and friends who are starting the Journey of Faith with Ella.



**We owe a great debt of gratitude:** to the Maintenance Team, which was increased by 12 other parishioners, who spent most of the day last Saturday, cleaning and preparing the railings for painting – most of it was finished on the Saturday, but a hardy volunteer came in during the week to complete the job.



**Our Welcome of Fr Tom and Thanksgiving to the Gardening Team** for all their hard work in the past and hopefully also this weekend, to improve the grounds so beautifully and with such enthusiasm. The weather was with us and those who came had a great time under the apple trees in the garden, socialising and hopefully meeting new Parishioners. Our thanks and appreciation also go to the many volunteers who prepared for the event and cleared away afterwards: many hands did indeed make light work!



**MICHAELMAS FAIR  
SATURDAY 18TH  
OCTOBER 10.30.-3.00pm.**

Michaelmas



We have had an excellent response to our appeal for goods, auction promises and helpers in setting up for the fair and on the day. Thank you all very much. We are also very grateful to all those who are selling raffle tickets. Some books are still available from the office or Pam Brannigan (01462 632587) This week we are collecting marmalade, jam and other non-perishable produce as well as items suitable for gifts or raffle prizes. If you would like to have your goods collected please contact Pam. Raffle ticket stubs and cash can be returned to the office or handed to any of the welcomers at weekend masses. Please see attached sheet for the Auction which will take place on the day.



**Parish Finances 2014** Following the Offertory Appeal held towards the end of last year, we undertook to provide parishioners with a periodic report on the state of the Parish finances.

A summary of the accounts for the first 6 months of the year is shown below.

Category	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	
<b>Income (£)</b>	12008	11584	14362	
<b>Expenditure (£)</b>	7557	11707	12414	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	4451	(123)	1948	
	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Total
<b>Income (£)</b>	11313	13337	14745	77349
<b>Expenditure (£)</b>	10634	11530	10196	64038
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	679	1807	4549	<b>13311</b>

Thanks to your generous response to the Offertory Appeal and careful control of expenditure, the accounts show an operating surplus of some £13,300, which is somewhat ahead of the budget forecast for 2014, and so we are in a much better financial position than we have been for some time.

However, in the longer term, the Business Plan, summarised below, continues to forecast that, with the anticipated fall-off in Offertory income, the cost of essential property repairs and the pressure of inflation on our operating costs, we will be in an annual deficit position again by 2016 with a cumulative deficit by the end of 2018.

Business Plan	2014	2015	2016
<b>Annual £ Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	16383	8218	(658)
<b>Cumulative £ Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	16383	24601	18021
Business Plan		2017	2018
<b>Annual £ Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		(13161)	(19844)
<b>Cumulative £ Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		4859	(14984)

Efforts will, therefore, need to continue to keep a tight rein on expenditure, to maintain Offertory income levels and to find new income streams. If you have any questions arising from this report, please speak to either Margaret Wilson or Pascal Kwo from the Finance Committee or contact them by email at [margaret.w.wilson@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.w.wilson@ntlworld.com) or [pascal.kwo@btinternet.com](mailto:pascal.kwo@btinternet.com).

# Diary

## Monday 6 October

Fr Michael is celebrating an All Day Mass with Our Lady's School, to celebrate the new year, the Award for being an International School, the launching of the new Team of Children Leaders in the form of the Head Boy and Girl and the House Captains of the four Houses. The first period of prayer is from 9.30am onwards and then from 11.30am, with the third and final part at 2.00pm. Parents are invited to all or some of the Sessions to join with their children in this new way of developing a deeper understanding and love of the Mass.

††††††††††

4.00pm: Fr Michael is meeting with Parents for seeking Admission to John Henry Newman School next September. Similar sessions are being held on Tuesday and Wednesday, according to the times indicated on the "Sign UP" Sheet in the Porch.

## Tuesday 7 October

Fr Michael is attending the first School Council of the Year at Our Lady's School from 11.30am onwards. There is a full Governing Body Meeting at 7.30pm.

## Wednesday 8 October

Progressio's invitation to the AGM at 5:30pm and 6:30-8:00pm an event: **Joining the Generations: working together for people powered development.** At 24 Greencoat place, Victoria, SW1P 1RD and is followed by refreshments, to book a free place follow the Eventbrite link from: <http://www.progressio.org.uk/content/events>.

Across the world, people of all ages are joining together to tackle one of the greatest issues of our time: Poverty. Join us for drama, spoken word, and live links from partners and volunteers in the developing world.

## Thursday 9 October

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

††††††††††

4-5pm Young Ministers of the Word Training for those in Year 4 and above will take place in the church today and on Oct 16th. To sign up please email [bridie\\_duffy@yahoo.com](mailto:bridie_duffy@yahoo.com)

## Friday 10 October

We are celebrating the first birthday of Hitchin Foodbank Distribution Centre from 12.30pm onwards. You are invited to attend. Please let Trish know if you are able to. We are grateful to the team of people which ensures the smooth running of the service to those in need.

## Saturday 11 October

**Peace History Conference 2014, 9:30 - 17:00** the theme: "**Alternative Voices of World War One: the courage of their convictions**" at the Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London, SE1. The conference is organised by the Movement for the Abolition of War in Association with the International Peace Bureau and the Imperial War Museum. Registration fee: £20 std and £5 full time students. A copy of the program with list of speakers is available on the J&P notice board, and booking forms, or book online at [www.abolishwar.org.uk](http://www.abolishwar.org.uk)

## Future Dates

**Oct 16** 7.30pm North Herts Inter Faith Forum invitation to its AGM followed by a talk at 8:00pm on "**Do Inter-Faith Marriages work? - When two faiths meet**" at Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Walsworth Road, SG4 9SP, with guest speakers: Julian Bond, the director of Christian Muslim Forum, Tehmina Kazi of British Muslims for Secular Democracy, and Zara Afzal, director of 'Hidden Heart' a film about inter-faith marriage. All are welcome. Poster available in the porch Club.

**Oct 17** 7.30pm Quiz Night in aid of North Herts Sanctuary

Enjoy an evening of entertainment and good food at Ickleford Cricket Club. Tickets £10 each to include fish/sausage and chips or vegetarian option. Licensed bar. Tickets can be purchased from Katherine on 01462 457517 or e-mail [katherine.bridge@talktalk.net](mailto:katherine.bridge@talktalk.net)

**Oct 19** 6.30pm Music Praise Churches Together in Hitchin

is holding its annual Music Praise event at Walsworth Road Baptist Church. Phil Jackson of Hitchin Christian Centre has once again brought together a number of choirs and music

groups from member churches to sing a couple of items each and in so doing `make a joyful noise to the Lord'! Those of you who have been before will know what a great time of worship this is - if you haven't, do come along and share in this good occasion. All are very welcome

**Oct 26 4pm** Are you interested in helping people in Hitchin and the local area getting out of debt? A CAP (Christians Against Poverty) debt centre and Job Club will be starting in Hitchin in November and there are lots of ways to get involved. Come and hear more about it at The Hitchin Christian Centre, Bedford Road.

### **Nov 6 Anarchy & Beauty: William Morris & his Legacy 1860-1960**

The Friends of Holy Saviour Church invite you to join them on a trip to this major exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery, London. The cost is £30, to include coach travel and entrance to the exhibition. The coach will leave Hitchin at 9.30am and arrive back at approx 6.00pm. Entry to the exhibition is at 11.30am, and afterwards the remaining time is your own until coach pick-up at 4.30pm. For tickets (payable on booking) and further information, contact Gill Chidgey 01462 423603 or [gill.chidgey@gmail.com](mailto:gill.chidgey@gmail.com)

### **Other Items of Interest**

# **CAFOD**

*Just one world*

### **Volunteer with CAFOD!**

**Could you inspire young people to put their faith into action? Do you have the time and skills that you could use to help CAFOD's work?**

The CAFOD Westminster team are looking for volunteers to help us with schools and youth work in your local area. Full training is provided!

If you would like to be part of our team, please contact CAFOD Westminster on **020 8449 6970** or email [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk) for an application form. DBS clearance is required.

††††††††††

**The Parish Flower Arranging team** have a demonstrator coming to the Parish Hall on Tuesday 28th October 2014 at 8pm, to demonstrate simple ideas for decorations for our Church. We are keen to recruit new members both male and female to the team to arrange flowers and move containers around. Please come and support the event. Tea and biscuits will be served. For further

information please telephone Ann Cook on 01462 453893.

**Choir members needed** If you are willing to sing in praise of Our Lord and you are able to read music come and join us. You need to be available at 8-9pm on a Tuesday evening for the practices and the first Sunday of the month at the 10.30 Mass. We have a particular need for male bass voices. If you think you could help the parish in this way and have some great fun at the same time please speak to Trish or Samantha Wilkins or email [trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk)

††††††††††

Lister Hospital Chaplaincy requests: For various reasons the Chaplaincy are losing a few of their Sunday volunteers.... Is there anyone who could give up one Sunday morning a month to go round the wards, tell patients there is a service (or ask if they would like to see a chaplain) and then go back and collect them for the service? You'd be occupied from 9-12, once a month. Patients are SO grateful...and it might be you (or one of yours) in that bed, wondering how to cope....If you are at all interested, please contact Revd Jane Hatton 01438 285138... or [jane.hatton@nhs.net](mailto:jane.hatton@nhs.net)

††††††††††



Don't forget to continue to recycle and raise money for good causes. If you haven't already taken one please grab a poster with all the details from the porch and put it up where it will remind you to bring things when you come to church. **Please note re collection of old pens that pencils and crayons cannot go into this collection but that EDAID collects these items for sending to needy families so please bring them in whenever the One World Group or EDAID have a coffee morning.**

††††††††††

**Meeting needs at Christchurch** is a project run from Christchurch which aims to re-locate good quality items that are no longer needed to families in need who would be able to use them. If anyone can help please call me on 01462 816658 or email [stephaniefkirby@hotmail.com](mailto:stephaniefkirby@hotmail.com)

#### 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