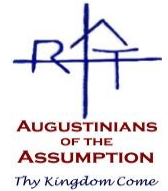




CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Newsletter No 1607

29th November – 6th December, 2014 **First Sunday of Advent (Year B)**

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

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

Parish Safeguarding Representative
Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

H Hospital
If you are going into hospital please notify the RC Chaplain 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.

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.

Sunday 30th	Coffee Morning KISS
Monday 1st	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
	Sacramental Preparation Hall 8pm
Tuesday 2nd	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Choir Church 8pm
Wednesday 3rd	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30 - 6pm
	RCIA Pastoral Office 7.30pm
Thursday 4th	Rosary in Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 5th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
Sunday 7th	Coffee Morning - Friends of Gainsford House

Readings: Is 63:16-17;64:1.3-8, Cor 1:3-9,Mark 13:33-37

Entrance antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Psalm: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Intercessions: We pray to the Lord.....
Response: Lord, hear our prayer!

Next week: Is 40:1-5.9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

Our Parish Diaries are now available from the Porch: 50p. Please place the money in the Pamphlets box in the Church.

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.

This Weekend: Sees us entering the Season of

Advent, for Year B, the Gospel of St Mark: a time of prayer and reflection as we discover the richness of Jesus' Birth, and as we journey through the Hebrew Testament. It is a time of expectation and waiting, as we reflect on our lives, from where we came and our ultimate destiny, won for us through the Incarnation.



††††††††††

Today is also the Feast of St Andrew, our Secondary Patron. A day to remind us that the first Masses celebrated in 1890 in Hitchin, since the Reformation, were by the priests of St Andrew, a Community of priests established in Harrow, who came by horseback to support the increasing community in our town. We remember in prayer also, **Fr Andrew**, our former Parish Priest and a local boy from Hitchin, now resident at Bethnal Green.

††††††††††

Thank you! **We are very grateful** for the work done by **John and Philippe**, part of our Maintenance Team, who have cleared the gutters around the Church, to ensure a free flow of water into the drains.

††††††††††

Mary Gill, one of our long-standing Welcomers, has stepped down from her Ministry and we would like to thank her for her faithful and loving presence in the Porch, offering the Newsletter or a Hymn Book with her gentle smile. May the Lord bless you, Mary, for your service to our Community. We are most grateful and we would hope that many other Parishioners will volunteer to share in this important Ministry.

††††††††††

Next Sunday 3pm: our Quarterly Service of Healing All are welcome, we shall offer the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing, for those who wish to avail themselves of the Lord's love for us in these ways.



Diary

Monday 1 December

11am Funeral Mass for Betty Leeming. May she rest in peace and rise in glory! **NB No 10am Mass**

††††††††††

4pm The final Family Chats to prepare the necessary paperwork for Parents seeking admission for their children to **Our Lady's School**

††††††††††

8.00pm: Final Session of preparation and reflection on the Sacraments of Entry into the Church, in the Hall, for parents on the Sacramental Journey this year.



Tuesday 2 December

11.30am Fr Michael is attending the School Council Meeting for Our Lady's School.

Other Dates:

Dec 12 After 10am Mass, a special meeting of the Rosary Group in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Lower Committee Room. All are welcome.



Dec 12 Christmas Tree Festival

Holy Saviour Church, Radcliffe Rd, Hitchin. Christmas Tree Festival Preview and Concert of seasonal music, with Holy Saviour Church Choir and the Radcliffe Singers, directed by Trevor Hughes. From 6.30pm-9pm (concert starts 7.45pm). Admission by ticket (includes mulled wine) £10 from Tory Kitchiner. 01462 712212, toryevans@greatgreen.plus.com

Dec 13 EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

There will be a morning of quiet reflection for all ☩ Eucharistic Ministers and those considering taking up this very special Ministry. The morning will begin with Mass at 10am in the Church. Reflective time and prayer will be held in the hall after Mass. A shared lunch at 1pm will close the time together.

Other Items of Interest:

Pope Francis: Address to the Council of Europe - full text can be found at <http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=26100>

††††††††††

Kiss Music Project in Uganda A group from JHN including Samantha Wilkins from our choir are travelling to teach music in Uganda in 2015 and they need your unwanted musical instruments. Do you have any:



If you do please bring them into the church and we will get them to the school.

††††††††††

Job vacancy at John Henry Newman School Senior First Aid Officer required for January 2015. 37 hours per week, Term time plus one day. Grade H5.20 (£18,638 per annum - £15,512.96 pro rata) Please see details on notice board.