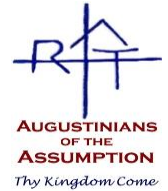




# CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Newsletter No 1615

24<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015 Third Sunday of the Year (B)



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

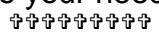
<b>Contacts</b>	
<b>Parish Priest</b> Fr Michael Lambert	E-mail: <a href="mailto:michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk">michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Fr Tom O'Brien	<a href="mailto:frtomaa@gmail.com">frtomaa@gmail.com</a>
<b>Pastoral Assistants</b> Jane Gonzalez E-mail:	Tel: 01462 455577 <a href="mailto:janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk">janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk</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: Mobile: Website: E-mail:	01462 459 126 07958 575 442 <a href="http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin">parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin</a> <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Safeguarding Representative</b> Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)	

### Diary

<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning Friends of Gainsford House Confirmation Hall 6pm
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Party Hall 10.30am Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am RCIA Pastoral Office 7.30pm
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Italian Club Hall 1pm Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm Choir Church 7.30pm
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	Coffee Morning Confirmation Group Confirmation Hall 6pm



If you are going into hospital please take a copy of the leaflet in the church porch and 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.*

**Readings: Jonah 3:1-5,10, Cor 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20**

*Entrance antiphon:* O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

*Psalm: Lord, make me know your ways*

*Intercessions:* Lord, have mercy.....

*Response:* Hear our prayer!

**Next week: Deut 18:15-20, Cor 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28**

**This Week:** This Sunday celebrates the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Fr Michael is preaching at Walsworth Road Baptist Church at 10.30am and we are receiving the visit of the new Curate at St Mark's Church, Rev Jeni McQuaid. To give thanks for the blessings of this week there is a Taize Service at 6.30pm at St Mark's Church for us to share.

### 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.

**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.

**KISS coffee morning** - The Trustees thank you for your continued support to KISS through the coffee mornings after Mass. January's coffee morning raised £110.00



**Excess Baggage !!** - Former students from John Henry Newman School are travelling to KISS Uganda in the summer to teach music and instrument playing. They will have additional baggage space for instruments and clothes etc to support KISS; please don't throw away those old suitcases! If you do not want them let us take them from you and we can use them. Please contact Greg Hewitson through the parish office for further details.

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We have a table in the hall after 8.30 and 10.30 Sunday Masses. We sell a variety of cards, rosaries and gifts. We make a small profit which goes to charity. We would like to thank all parishioners who buy from our table, every little helps. Thank you all with our love and prayers,  
**Brenda and Mary.**

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**Next Sunday:** is Education Sunday, a time of celebration and thanksgiving for all that is being done through our Schools to hand on our understanding and our living the Faith, to be shared with those who are going into it through our Schools, **Bishop John Sherrington writes:** *'The Catholic school is called to witness with joy and simplicity to the goodness of each and every person, especially the vulnerable and disadvantaged. The school is called to be a beacon and witness to God's gracious gift of mercy shown us by the actions and words of Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Christ is at the centre of the Catholic school.'*

*'Together with the Cardinal, I thank you all for your dedication and service to the call of Catholic education. We pray that God will answer our prayers and provide for our needs.'*

There will be a display of Our Lady's School children, from Reception to Year 6 of their understanding of living our Faith as part of our Community. This will be in our Hall and everyone is invited to see, learn and appreciate the richness that our children are offering us. There will be a Pastoral Letter from the Bishop to mark this important day.

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**The Coffee morning** on Education Sunday with cakes and raffle is led by some of our Confirmation Candidates for their Talents Project to raise funds for their chosen charities. Please come to support.

## Diary

### Monday 26 January

**11.30am** Mass of Resurrection for the late Leonard Oakes, Mrs Brown's Father. Our love and sympathy to the family at this time of grief and sorrow, may he rest in peace and rise in glory!

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**7.30pm:** Fr Michael and various Parishioners are attending the launching of the Diocesan plan to respond to Bishop Francis' call to a new evangelisation, in our Diocese and parishes, at one of the Churches in St Albans.

### Tuesday 27 January



**7.15pm** Eucharistic Service in church. Reflect on the word of God and pray for your needs and those of others.

### Thursday 29 January

**10am-1pm Walking the Way of the Kingdom** Reflecting on Jesus' teaching and daily invitation led by Sister Regina McGarry OP & Monika Cleaver. Refreshments from 9.30 am and feel free to bring a packed lunch to enjoy with others afterwards. Niland Conference Centre Please contact the Office to book places 020 8950 4000 Suggested donation £6

### Saturday 31 January

**KEEP WATCH!** Consecrated Life Matters . Niland Conference Centre. Reflections with Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP (Archbishop of Liverpool) on the significance consecrated life in today's Church. Places much be booked in advance: choose ONE session only Morning 10.30am-12.30pm (refreshments & registration from 9.30 am) Afternoon 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm (registration from 1.30 pm & followed by refreshments) Please contact the Office (see 29 Jan) to book places

### Future Dates

**Jan 22 - Feb 26** **Life in the Spirit Seminar**

Catholic charismatic prayer group for young adults every Thursday 7-9pm St Charles Borromeo Church, 8 Ogle Street, London W1W 6HS, [lifeinthspirit@soulfoodgroup.org](mailto:lifeinthspirit@soulfoodgroup.org)

**Jan 31:** "Hope for the Future" training day, St Mark's Church, Broomhill, Sheffield. How to help your church and local community engage politically with the issues surrounding climate change and effectively lobby your MPs. Please see: <http://www.hfff.org.uk/climate-ambassador-training-day>

**Feb 9** 8pm **Churches Together in Hitchin Council** meeting at the Society of Friends Meeting House on the corner of Bedford Road and Brand Street - tea/coffee from 7.30pm. The meeting will begin with a celebration of the fact that the organisation had its first meeting in February 1965 and is therefore 50 years old. We will recall what happened at that time and we hope that some who were involved then will be present to share their experiences. There will be some items of business then the last part will be led by the Rev John Hardaker, the new Chair of Churches Together in Hitchin on the theme 'Whole-life discipleship'. All are welcome at the meeting

**Feb 14** 2.30pm: Mass for Altar Servers at Westminster Cathedral. Servers to be robed in cassock and cotta and be ready to process by 2pm. Further details from William on 07598 312269 or [william\\_warren@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:william_warren@hotmail.co.uk)

**Feb 17** 12-5pm the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (**CARJ**) **Urban Network Meeting** at Newman House, 111 Gower Street, WC1E 6AR. The programme for the day will include a discussion on "**Poverty in the UK**" led by Liam Purcell from Church Action on Poverty. It will also include a substantial discussion of **credit unions** led by David Barclay from the Church Credit Champions Network. Both discussions will be broad background for the forthcoming General Election.

**Feb 28** 2pm onwards there will be an afternoon for the bereaved in the parish Hall. Time for prayer and reflection. All are welcome.

**Mar 20-22** **Beginning Experience**. There is a healing weekend for people who find themselves single again following divorce, separation or the death of a partner at the Emmaus Centre, West Wickham, Kent. For more information please ring Freda on 01322-401243 or Sandra on 01293-783965.

**Apr 25** **Caring for God's Earth - Growing Sustainable Communities**  
*Conference at St Albans Cathedral* The North Herts Inter-Faith Forum is hoping to organise a local Inter-Faith group to attend this Conference. See Leaflet on Justice and Peace board. Members of churches can book places independently. However it would be helpful if they could let Revd Austin Smith on 01462 437433 know that they hope to attend, **if possible before 4 February.**

## **Other items of interest**

### **Theology Cafe @ The Hitchin Christian Centre**

A warm welcome is extended to come along to a series of talks at HCC, Bedford Road, Hitchin SG4 1HF, on the following dates:

Tues 27 Jan : What is Theology?

Tues 24 Feb : Is the Bible Reliable?

Tues 24 Mar : Creation & Evolution (Dr Denis Alexander, Cambridge University)

Tues 28 Apr : Was Jesus Inclusive?

All events are free with refreshments and will take place at 7.30pm each evening. Apart from the talk in March each session will be led by Dr Brendan Devitt, Theology & Training Director, Hitchin Christian Centre.

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### **Churches Together in Hitchin Lent Groups**

**2015**, 23 February to 27 March inclusive. If you would be willing to HOST a group in your home or you would be willing to LEAD a group in someone else's home during these dates please contact me, Helen Richardson, stating a day of the week you prefer and the time of day or evening that suits you. A host provides a warm friendly environment for people to discuss a theme for Lent. The Leader has the materials to set the session and guide it through within the time frame agreed. If you host it's helpful to know how many people you can take. We have had from 4 to 15 but 10 is really a top figure for real discussion. The material for this year will be "PRAISE HIM – songs of praise in the New Testament", a 5-session York course written by Dr Paula Gooder.

Lent groups are open to members of all churches. The informal small groups are an excellent way of meeting people from different churches and sharing their Christian journeys. Those who have participated in the past have enjoyed making new ecumenical friends and gained fresh insights of well known Bible passages. I look forward to hearing from you. Helen Richardson 01462 435595, /07880 682681 or [helenwrich@btinternet.com](mailto:helenwrich@btinternet.com)

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**Calling all "Facebook" users** A message from Fr Peter Scott, the Cardinal's advisor to Healthcare Chaplains. When visiting "Facebook", please add "My Hospital Prayer and Activities Book" as a "like", to aid its publicity. This unique and original Catholic publication aims to help children pray if they are patients in a hospital. All proceeds from the book go to "Seasons for Growth Eng. & Wales", an education bereavement charity for children

## Parish Bulletin

Report Date: 19 January 2015

The following bulletin is to be displayed at the back of your parish. It provides information to all parishioners regarding the progress of the Growing in Faith campaign at your parish.

If you have any inquiries, please contact your parish priest or the Growing in Faith office by emailing [growinginfaith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:growinginfaith@rcdow.org.uk) or calling 020 7798 9099.

Please note the following data was collected on 31-Dec-2014. Therefore any changes in 2015 will not appear.

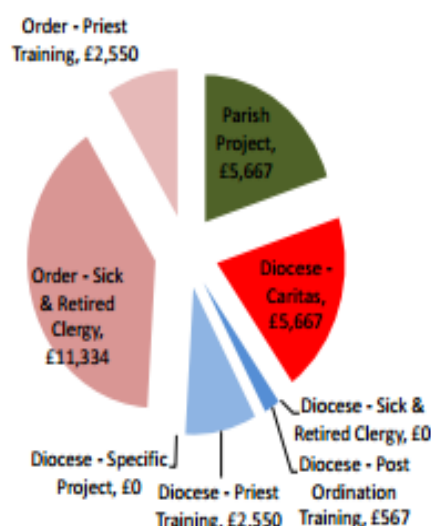
## Cash Update

Cash received to date\*

**£28,336**

\* Cash amount does not include Gift Aid

Partition of cash received	Cash	% of Total
Parish Project	£5,667	20%
Diocese - Caritas	£5,667	20%
Diocese - Sick & Retired Clergy	£0	0%
Diocese - Post Ordination Training	£567	2%
Diocese - Priest Training	£2,550	9%
Diocese - Specific Project	£0	0%
Order - Sick & Retired Clergy	£11,334	40%
Order - Priest Training	£2,550	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£28,336</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Pledge Update

Number of parishioners pledging

Value of pledges

**159**

**£205,113**

Partition of pledges	Pledges	% of Total
Parish Project	£41,023	20%
Diocese - Caritas	£41,023	20%
Diocese - Sick & Retired Clergy	£0	0%
Diocese - Post Ordination Training	£4,102	2%
Diocese - Priest Training	£18,460	9%
Diocese - Specific Project	£0	0%
Order - Sick & Retired Clergy	£82,045	40%
Order - Priest Training	£18,460	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£205,113</b>	<b>100%</b>

