



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 1623

21st – 28th March 2015 Fifth Sunday of Lent (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
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Parish Safeguarding Representative

Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)



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.



Diary

Sunday 22nd	Coffee Morning – UCM
Monday 23rd	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
	Reconciliation service Church 7.30pm
Tuesday 24th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Lent Meditation by Ann Milner Church 1.30pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Choir Church 8pm
Wednesday 25th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30pm
Thursday 26th	Rosary Church after Mass
	Mission & the Family UCR after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group Pastoral office 6.30pm
Friday 27th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
	Mission & the Family UCR 7pm
Saturday 28th	First Reconciliation Celebration
Sunday 29th	Coffee Morning – Scout Group
	Confirmation rehearsal Church 6pm

Readings: Jer 31:31-34, Heb 5:7-9, John 12:20-30

Entrance antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Psalm: **A pure heart create for me, O God**

Intercessions: Father, hear our prayer.....

Response: Create a new heart in us!

Next week: Is 50:4-7, Philip 2:6-11, Mark 14:1-15:47

This week's counting teams:

Sunday – Team 3
Monday – Team 4

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.

This Weekend: sees the start of Passiontide, our Candles are removed from the Church until after the Easter Vigil.

Next Sunday: is the start of Holy Week, with the Blessing and Distribution of Palms at all Masses. Our Uniformed Groups will join us for the 10.30am Mass. Our Passover is on Monday evening: don't forget to sign up for a prayerful but joyous time.

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Urgent Message for Parents of our Servers

Please return the cut off piece from the letter you have received from William, to say when and how you can support your children serving over the Triduum of Holy Week, in particular, but also Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

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Excess baggage - thank you for your amazing response for suitcases. With over 30 suitcases, we have more than enough to take musical instruments and other items to the KISS community in Uganda - Greg Hewitson

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New boxes of Planned Giving Envelopes will be available for collection in the Hall after each of the Masses this weekend. Parishioners who make their offering by Standing Order and would like a supply of Envelopes to use when making offerings during the collection at Mass (for example at Christmas or Easter) can also collect Envelopes at this time. The use of Envelopes to make your offerings during the collection at Mass plays an important part in financing the operation of the Church because, under the Government's Gift Aid Scheme, it allows us to reclaim the tax paid on the offerings and this amounted to over £20,000 last year. Importantly, the use of Envelopes DOES NOT involve making any commitment to how much or how often you give and your name DOES NOT appear on the Envelopes so the Scheme is entirely confidential. If you don't already use Envelopes, you can sign-up or find out more by speaking to either David or Margaret in the Hall after Mass. If you do already use Envelopes (or Standing Orders), thank you very much for your support of the Church through the Planned Giving Scheme.

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Our love and sympathy go to the Family of Kathleen Gibbons, who died last week and whose Funeral is on 13th April. May she

rest in peace to rise in glory!

Diary

Saturday 21st March

The first group of children celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time is at 11.00am: we can support our children by joining in the Sacrament, to show its importance to us or at least by praying with our children at this important day in their life of faith. The Celebration of the Third and Final Scrutiny takes place at 8.30am Mass, with the Handing on of the Our Father also included in it.

Tuesday 24th March

Our Priests' Deanery Meeting is being held in our Lower Committee Room from 11am onwards, with coffee being shared with the Bethany Club beforehand.

Wednesday 25th March

SOLEMNITY OF THE THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD: Mass at **10.00am**, but in the School, so that we can gather with our children to share in this great day of celebration.

7.30pm Reconciliation service at St Hugh's in Letchworth.

Friday 27th March

3pm at Westminster RC Cathedral until 8pm at Westminster Abbey, an invitation to pray the Stations of the Cross in London. Please see poster in link for the programme.

Saturday 28th March

11am Second Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for our second group of children - please support our children in prayer or by joining in the celebration with our children.

Future Dates

Mar 30 7.30pm Passover Meal in the Church Hall. Please sign up on the board in the porch as we



need to know numbers by 23rd March so that Jane can order the meat. This is such a wonderful occasion not to be missed.

Apr 17 Friday 7.30PM in the Church: "Songs for change" hits from the West End. Tickets £5 on sale after Mass, from the Parish office or Sam Wilkins samlavender8@hotmail.com

Date	Time	Event – all events are in the church
Monday 23 rd March	7.30pm	Reconciliation Service
Tuesday 24 th March	1.30-2.30pm	Lenten meditation led by Ann Milner with music, pictures, silent reflection and meditation as well as spoken prayer. Session 5
Tuesday 24 th March	7.15-8pm	Lent Eucharistic service with extracts from <u>The Nail</u> by Stephen <u>Cottrell</u> <u>Week 5</u>

