



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 1629

2nd – 9th May 2015 Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)



Mass Times

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

Contacts

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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.



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.

Diary

Sunday 3rd	Coffee Morning – Bethany Club
Monday 4th	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Union of Catholic Mothers LCR 8pm
	Choir Church 8pm
Wednesday 6th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30pm
Thursday 7th	General Election
	Rosary Church after Mass
	Prayer service for those taking exams Church 7pm
Friday 8th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Saturday 9th	Confirmation Group Retreat Hall
Sunday 10th	Coffee Morning – Church Flower Group
	Baptism Preparation Hall 3pm

Readings: Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8

Entrance antiphon O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Psalm: You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

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

Response: Fill us with your love!

Next week: Acts 10:25-26.34-35.44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17



This Weekend: The month of May, Mary's Month, a time for us to reflect on her life of faith, the challenges that she experienced with and for her Son. Let us add a Decade of the Rosary to our prayer, as we relate her life to ours and seek to follow the model that she set for us, as she lived through those times.

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.

At Saturday evening Mass we celebrate the Baptism Completion for Mia-Ann Liwanag Owen, whose name was unfortunately left of the Newsletter for last weekend. We pray for her family and friends, as they start her journey into Faith. We pray for the Cahill Family, whose daughters who were due for Baptism, on Saturday also, have had to postponed, because the girls have chicken pox quite badly. The Sacrament will now be completed on July 25th.

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Next Sunday (10th) afternoon: from 3pm onwards in the Hall, we are holding the first Session of Preparation for parents seeking Baptism for their children. We will pray for them at this important step that they are taking. The Second Session is on Sunday 24th May, as the week in between is taken up in the Celebration of the Mass of Confirmation, with Bishop John.

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Our love and sympathy go to the Family of Mary Szpak, who died last week and whose Funeral is on Wednesday 20th May. We pray also for Jim McGuire, Jeannie Sheriffs' brother who died on Wednesday. May they rest in peace to rise in glory!

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Please continue to use the candles that are on trial at the moment – we would like to hear from you how you find them. They are much cleaner, eco-friendly and the wax that is left is recycled. First impressions seem very favourable, but we would like to hear what more of think of the project.

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This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team 2

Monday Team 2

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Duke of Edinburgh Awards: three of our young Parishioners have been awarded the Bronze level Certificate, by Shirley Eaton, in a Presentation Ceremony at John Henry Newman School on Tuesday evening last. They are **Charles and Henry Russell-Ranson** and **Juan-Andres Ward**. We are delighted to offer them our congratulations and best wishes for their future endeavours.

Diary

Tuesday 5 May

12.30pm Meeting of Priests and Ministers of the Town, to continue our work together.

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4.15pm Safeguarding Team meeting of Our Lady's School.

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7.15pm Steps to Pentecost Eucharistic service

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8pm: Union of Catholic Mothers - Bingo and Business meeting.

Wednesday 6 May

There is a Planning Meeting to prepare for the Crowning of Our Lady and the procession that will go with it, to conclude with a Service of the Word and Communion, expressing our union of mind and heart with Mary's Gift to us of Her Son, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Parents and parishioners are most welcome

Thursday 7 May

7pm Prayer service in the church for those taking examinations in the near future. This is aimed at all young people (including Year 6 children who take SATs) and their families who will be taking examinations in the next few weeks and need the strength and support of the Holy Spirit to help them get through.

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Please note: There is no Meditation group on Thursday 7th May and no meeting of Lectio Divina until Friday 22nd May.

Saturday 9 May

We hold in prayer our Confirmation Candidates who are spending a day in retreat to discern their readiness to celebrate the Sacrament. This will climax in the Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

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7.30pm Christian Aid Quiz Night at Christchurch. Fish/sausage and chip supper or vegetarian option. Tickets £10, no food £4. Teams of 6-8 encouraged. Tickets available from Sue Covington (452985) or at suecov63@hotmail.co.uk or from Pauline Edwards (435438).

Other items of interest

Monday 1st June - 'Pray and Fast for the Climate' is an initiative to mobilise Christians to fast, pray or hold a vigil on the first day of every month for a meaningful and just global climate agreement.

As part of the initiative, church will be open for a vigil prayer time from 6-8pm. See, <http://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/>

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"Church Secrets - what to look for: with particular reference to Holy Saviour" - A talk by Richard Taylor, TV presenter and author of "How to read a church". Hosted by Friends of Holy Saviour Church on Sunday 10 May at 3pm.

Admission £8, including refreshments. For tickets and further information contact clarefleck7@gmail.com or tel 01462 646257.