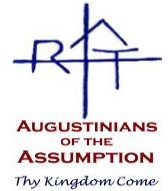


CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Newsletter No 1631

16th – 23rd May 2015 The Ascension of the Lord (Year B)



Mass Times

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

Contacts

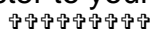
Parish Priest Fr Michael Lambert	E-mail: michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Tom O'Brien	frtomaa@gmail.com
Pastoral Assistants Jane Gonzalez E-mail:	Tel: 01462 455577 janegonzalez@rcdow.org.uk
Trish Bonnett E-mail	trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator Carol Cooper E-mail:	Tel: 01462 459126 carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk
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)



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.



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.

Diary

Sunday 17th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Confirmation Service 5pm Mass
Monday 18th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 19th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
Wednesday 20th	Choir Church 8pm
	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
Thursday 21st	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30pm
	Rosary Church after Mass
Friday 22nd	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Saturday 16th	First Eucharist Workshop Hall
Sunday 17th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Baptism Preparation Hall 3.30pm

Readings: Acts 1:1-11, Eph 4:1-13, Mark 16:15-20

Entrance antiphon Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

Psalm: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Intercessions: Father, hear us, we pray.....

Response: That we may be one!

Next week: Acts 2:1-11, Gal 5:16-25, Jn 15:26-27;16:12-15



This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team 5
Monday Team 4

Fr Michael is undergoing urological investigations for his condition which is less painful now but he is still very tired. He will be out of action for some time and thanks you for your prayers. More updates as and when there is anything to report.

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.

This Weekend: we are delighted to welcome Bishop John, to join with us in the Celebration of Confirmation for the Young People of the parish. A day of thanksgiving and rejoicing – it is important that we express the deepest gratitude and appreciation to the wonderful Catechetical Team which has guided them in the months of preparation, led by Tomasz. We are delighted to see our young people come forward to share with us more fully the Ministry to all who are living in our Parish. Bishop John is celebrating the 5.00pm Mass with us and will join the families and friends and parishioners in the Hall afterwards for a time of socialisation.

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Next Sunday afternoon at 3.30pm there is the 2nd Session of preparation for Parents with Children looking to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism in our Community, this will lead into the 5.00pm Mass, which will include the Welcome to the Children, their Signing with the Cross and Anointing with the Oil of Catechumens.

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It is a great sadness that to inform you that we have been told of the deaths of the three kidnapped Assumptionist Priests, Fathers Jean-Pierre NDULANI, Edmond KISUGHU and Anselme WASUKUNDI, in the Congo for whom we have been praying over the past two and a half years. There are two independent reports that the Priests were kidnapped and had refused to convert to Islam and were killed within three days of their imprisonment. Although they still have no corroboration of these reports, it is looking more and more grim. It is possible that, if they did refuse to convert to Islam and were killed because of their convictions, they are martyrs for the faith. Please keep them in your prayers as well as their families and our brothers in the Province of Africa. We will arrange to have a special Mass to pray for them. Martyrs of the Congo pray for us.

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Thanks to Glenn Paterson for his time and energy cleaning the statues in the Church this week.

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The gardening sessions have been very productive and our next session is on Sat 30th May from 10am onwards. It doesn't matter your experience or ability, there are jobs for everyone and tools to match! Please consider coming along on the 30th May. Many thanks to those who not only meet up one Saturday a month, but also come during their free time during the weeks. It is all very much appreciated. If you would like any more information, please contact Helen Bailey on 07771 552058 or hbailey@talktalk.net

Diary

Tuesday 19 May

There is the Priests' Deanery meeting at the Church of the Transfiguration in Stevenage, for us to continue our joint work in supporting the life of the Deanery.

8.00pm: Quarterly Meeting of Churches Together in Hitchin at the Hitchin Christian Centre.

8.00pm: UCM A speaker from the Fire Brigade in the lower committee room

Wednesday 20 May

There will be the Crowning of Our Lady's Statue and Procession, to celebrate Mary's month of May. This will conclude in the School Hall, where there will be a short service of the Word with Holy Communion, as Mary gave us her Son, so she now lead us to Him, that we may grow ever closer to Him in the ways that we live our lives.

Saturday 23 May

3.00pm: we are delighted to welcome Charlotte and Christiano to our Church for them to exchange their vows of the Marriage Covenant. This will be quite an international Mass, involving the UK, France and Italy!

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June 6 FOR THE ATTENTION OF ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS.

There will be a morning of quiet reflection for all Eucharistic Ministers on the Eve of Corpus Christi feast day. We will begin with Mass at 10am and finish with a shared lunch at 1pm. Confirmation of attendance to Teresa Lawrence-Hyde Tel: 07751 886525 Email: teresahyde@btopenworld.com

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Westminster Cathedral is looking for Summer Volunteers to introduce people to the beauty and history of the Cathedral. Volunteers need to be over 18. Hours will be to suit usually mornings or afternoons for as many or as few sessions as you want to do during the period June to September. For more details please contact: Anne Marie Micallef annemariam@rcdow.org.uk Tel: 020 7931 606

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Our Lady School PTA would like to invite you to this years Summer Fayre on Saturday 6th June 2015 from 12pm - 3pm on the school Playing field. It promises to be a fun filled day out for everyone with bouncy activities, tombola's, Events, BBQ, Bar, raffle and lots, lots more. For more information, please contact the PTA at ourladypta@gmail.com