

# 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 1637** 

27<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015 Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul (Year B)



Mass Times		
Saturday anticipating 6pm		
<b>Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm</b>		
Monday - Saturday 10am		
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am		

Contacts	
Parish Priest	E-mail:
Fr Michael Lambert	michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Tom O'Brien	frtomaa@gmail.com
Pastoral Assistants	Tel: 01462 455577
Trish Bonnett	trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk
Susanna Hawksley	susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Tel: 01462 459126
Carol Cooper	carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk
Sacramental Eve Krol	Tel: 01462 455577
<b>Administrator</b> Email:	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** 

Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish) Trish Bonnett

Hospital

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 28 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning – OLSSG	
	Parish Welcome Bring and Share picnic 12.15pm in garden/hall	
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am	
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm	
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am	
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am	
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm	
	Choir Church 8pm	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Rosary Group for All (Small	
July	babies welcome) Hall 9.30am	
	Pray and fast for climate change	
TI I and	Prayer vigil Church 6pm-8pm	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Italian Club Hall 1pm	
	Meditation Group	
	Pastoral Office 6.30pm	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent & Toddler Group	
	Hall 9.30 – 11am	
	Lectio Divina	
	Pastoral Office 2pm	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning – Kanyike Project	

# Readings: Acts 12:1-11, Tim 4:6-8.17-18, Matt 16:13-19

Entrance antiphon: These are the ones who, living in the flesh, planted the Church with their blood; they drank the chalice of the Lord and became the friends of God.

Psalm: From all my terrors the Lord set me

Intercessions: Hear us, O Lord...... Response: Give us new life!

Next week: Ezek 2:2-5, 2 Cor 12:7-10, Mark 6:1-6



This week's counting teams: Sunday Team 3 **Monday Team 2** 

#### 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: we celebrate the Solemnity of SS Peter and Paul for our Community Masses, the key Apostles of our Faith. It is right and fitting too that on this day we should give thanks for all the Ministries which are shared with the Parish by so many people in so many different ways as well as welcoming into our Community all those who have joined us over the past year or so, that you may feel part of us and become involved in sharing the life of Christ with others through joining in the service of God and His People. There will be a shared lunch in the newly renovated garden area of our Church, following the 10.30am Mass, which is offered for all our Sisters and Brothers in the parish, living and dead.

We are also sharing in the welcome to Susanna Hawksley as Sacramental Co-ordinator, in succession to Jane, who has shared with us so richly over the past 10 years or more and who now is moving into new areas of pastoral involvement. Next Sunday: at 2pm we are celebrating the Mass of Thanksgiving and Mission for the Families and Children who will then complete their Early Eucharist formation, as our young people can now enter more fully into the life of the Parish, through training for various Ministries.

Fr Michael writes: "Dear Friends and Co-Parishioners, I am delighted to be able to tell you that the cystoscopy was totally clear, indeed I was told that 'you have a wonderful bladder'!!! My prostate is quite enlarged but is not hindering the urethra, so all I have now is a further test in three months time, to assess how well everything is working. Many thanks again for all your love, prayer and support in so many wonderful ways over the past couple of months: it is so wonderful for me to be here and receive all this wonderful affection – I am deeply grateful to you all. My love and prayers reach out to you all, with every blessing. Michael aa"

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Our Love and Sympathy go to the Family of Rocco Picone, who died suddenly last week. Our thoughts and prayers are also with Mary Gill, who is mourning the loss of her husband Eric, who died after a long illness. We are grateful to Eric and Mary for their commitment to organising the Gift Aid Programme in the Parish for many years. They would also ensure that the Christmas Collection to the Assumptionist Family was always counted in good time. Eric was a regular Collector at the 8.30am Mass, at which Mary was a Minister of Welcome (until very recently). May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

The Parish Welcome Masses went well and hopefully have helped our young people into a greater understanding of the Eucharist and also their place in the parish as a whole. We look forward to seeing them sharing in the Ministries which are open to them. We are grateful for those who have been working in the background to ensure that everything went so smoothly.

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'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. We hope this will be agreed in December 2015 at the Paris climate summit. People may choose to fast and pray for the whole day, to fast during their lunch break or to pray with others in the evening. As part of the 'Pray and Fast for Climate Change' initiative our church will then be open for a vigil prayer time from 6pm-8pm. May the Holy Spirit guide the new political representatives to understand the reality of the problems facing the whole of God's creation, so that they will engage constructively and meaningfully at the 2015 December Paris See:

http://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/

# Diary

Wednesday 1 July

**6pm-8pm** 'Pray and Fast for the Climate'
Our church will be open for a vigil prayer time
See:

http://www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/

# Monday 6 July

**6pm**: There will a special Saint Pio Prayer Meeting at the home of Ann and Michael Hill in Pirton. The evening will start with the Holy Rosary at 6pm followed by Holy Mass in the grounds in front of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima This will be celebrated by Father Tom O'Brien. After Mass we will be treated to a warm supper in Ann and Michael's home and garden, so please come and support their hospitality.

7.30pm in the Hall. A meeting for Parents of Children who are looking to share in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist next year, when the outline of the programme will be discussed.

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### MICHAELMAS FAIR OCTOBER 17TH

The planning for this year's fair is now well under way with a lot of new ideas as well as all the old favourites. We now need to ask for your help to make the fair the exciting and interesting event it has always been. If you can offer any of the following please contact Pam Brannigan 01462 pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com 632587 or Food from around the world: Last year our Caribbean Food stall was a great success. We hope to repeat it this year and also have dishes from the many communities represented in the parish. Food from India, Poland, Italy, Ireland Scotland and Wales to name just a few have been suggested and there must be many more. If you can contribute a dish please let us know.

Pictures and paintings: This year we hope to have a flower festival in the church along with our wonderful choir who will be singing at intervals throughout the day. We also hope to have a display of the works of the many artists in our parish and invite you to contribute to this. Children will be invited to make miniature gardens for a competition which will be judged by members of the gardening team.

**Promises auction:** This popular feature of the fair will be repeated this year. A form will be included in the pack available in September but do begin thinking about your gifts and talents and how they can be offered to the parish.

Goods: No jumble sale this year but high quality goods of all sorts will be needed for the various stalls. If you're having a summer clear out do put aside anything which could go on our Gift or Bric a Brac stall. Boxes for goods will be in the porch each week in September.

**Helpers:** More stalls and events does mean we will need more helpers. If you can spare a few hours on the day please contact Pam, details above.

There will be more information to come over the next few weeks but meanwhile do put the date in your diaries. It's an event not to be missed.

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A Report on the Climate Change Lobby of Parliament: On Wednesday 17th June 2015, two members of the LiveSimply group (John Scott and Deolinda Eltringham) and Pam Brannigan of the One World Group were joined by Kathleen Tuck of Christchurch, Hitchin (Methodist/URC) for the mass lobbying of our MP's in Parliament, to highlight our concerns about the importance to face seriously the threats to global stability brought about the consequences of a runaway Climate Change process. We arrived early enough to start the event by taking part in the ecumenical service in St. Margaret's, attended by our Auxiliary Bishop

John Sherrington and Bishop Angaelos of the Coptic Orthodox Church in Stevenage. The address was given by the Bishop of Salisbury (CE) Nicholas Holtam and was very inspiring. It ended with a testimony by a CAFOD field worker in Zimbabwe and Kenya that explained how Climate Change is already undoing or hampering the efforts of aid charities in the poorest areas of the world. After a picnic lunch we joined our place in the queue and formed a group of eight people from the Hitchin and Harpenden constituency waiting to meet Mr Peter Lilley MP. We also met Bruce Kent who came to speak to our parish last year.

John Scott had a useful meeting with his MP, Oliver Heald, but Peter Lilley did not make himself available on the day, not even after four of us went to the Lobby area in the Houses of Parliament.

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Congratulations to the newly confirmed young people on their success with their Parable of the Talents Project. They raised £943.62 which will be distributed as follows: Foodbank £371.81, Diapalante for mosquito nets £371.81, NH Sanctuary bed £200.

### **Future Events**

**July 11** 11 am to 3pm North Herts **Interfaith Forum** as part of the Hitchin Festival 2015 season, North Herts Inter Faith Forum (NHIFF) extends an open invitation to visit the exhibition, presentations and talks on the theme: "Faiths Perspectives on Environments and Climate Change" at Our Lady Immaculate and St. Andrew Church parish hall. There will be also be a short joint prayer service at 1pm. All are welcome to the shared exhibition of our teachings and activities on such an important topic.

Chiltern West Gallery Quire Recreating the sounds and scenes of a bygone age by singing and playing the joyful music of our country churches from the 18<sup>th</sup> century An outdoor concert is to be held at St Mary Magdalene Church, Caldecote, Nr Baldock SG7 5LD on Sunday 12 July 2.00-5.00pm to raise funds for this Grade II listed church. For further details, phone 01462 629539 or go to www.cwgq.co.uk

Church of God of Prophecy at Walsworth Road Baptist Church on Friday 17 July and Saturday 18 July from 6.00-9.00pm both nights. Hosted by Pastor Linton Grant and Minister Jane Litchmore-Grant, the theme will be "Jesus Is The Answer" with guest speakers Pastor A. Miller and Evangelist J. Lambert. Also part of the weekend will be Vinesong Ministries, an internationally acclaimed group of song writers, singers and musicians, with a concert by them on the Saturday evening at Walsworth Road. The special crusade weekend will continue on Sunday 19 July from 12.00-2.30pm at Holy Saviour Church Hall, Radcliffe Road, Hitchin. All welcome.

Wheaton S.J. will lead a time of catechesis and prayer on the subject of the "The Art of Faith" - reflecting on the role of art in engaging us with God. The session will take place at the London School of Theology in Northwood, Green Lane, Northwood, HA6 2UW. The venue is close to the Northwood tube and easily accessible by bus and has plenty of parking if you are driving. It's free! Please let Susanna Hawksley know if you would like to go, so she can book it.

# Other Items

The SVP St John Bosco Children's Summer Camp (held at Aldham, Essex) is an activities camp with a Catholic ethos that runs as follows: Week One Saturday 25 July - 1 August for Boys Week Two Saturday 1 August - 8 August for Boys Week Three Saturday 8 August - 15 August August for Girls

It is for children aged 8 to 13 and costs £145 per week.

Transport available from various parts of London. Should you require an application form or more information then please contact (between 6pm and 9pm) the boys' camp on 01708 509790 or the girls' camp on 01634 311350.

More information can be found on the website <a href="http://svpboscocamp.org.uk">http://svpboscocamp.org.uk</a>

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**St Mary's University, Twickenham**, is recruiting students to begin its successful Foundation Degree in Healthcare Chaplaincy.

This part-time two year course provides Priests, Religious and lay people with a recognised NHS qualification to be appointed as a Roman Catholic Hospital Chaplain. Supported by the Diocese of Westminster and the Catholic Bishops Conference of England & Wales, the Foundation Degree combines pastoral experience with

Theological learning to equip chaplains and volunteers to work on behalf of the Church serving patients and staff within the NHS.

For more details or to enrol for October, please email the Cardinal's Advisor for Healthcare Chaplains: Fr Peter Scott at peterscott@rcdow.org.uk

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# Exciting opportunity for graduates wanting to explore youth work

Youthscape is a Christian youth passionate organisation about seeing transformation in the lives of young people. A team of over 20 based in Luton pioneer work with young people in schools, churches and the local community. In 2015, we're launching our Graduate Volunteer Scheme (GVS). opportunity for a select group of young adults to gain invaluable experience serving young people and youth workers, and pioneering new youth work in a church context. If this appeals to you or anyone you know, then please contact Alex Drew (married to Dan, leader of The Hub Church in Hitchin) for further information at alex.drew@lcet.org

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SPEC is part of Westminster Youth Ministry. Each year a number of young adults (aged 18-25) join the resident community for a year as volunteer missionaries helping the community in its primary mission of retreat ministry for children and young people in the parishes and schools of the Diocese of Westminster. Perhaps this is the ideal opportunity for you – or someone you know – to combine a year of service with a year of formation in faith in a supportive Catholic community. More details are available at: Web: <a href="http://dowym.com/spec/">http://dowym.com/spec/</a> Email: spec@rcdow.org.uk

Phone: 020 3757 2500 Facebook: speccentre Twitter: @SPEC\_Community



Vacancies on the CTH Executive, your help is needed with the following roles: Treasurer and Publicity

Officer. Please see notice on the board in porch for full details of what is involved or speak to Trish who is on the Executive. The work involved is not huge and it is so rewarding to be a part of this wonderful ecumenical organisation which bears witness to Christians united together in Hitchin in working for the coming of the Kingdom.