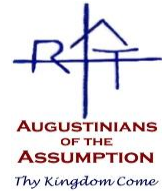


# CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Newsletter No 1641

25<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015 Seventeenth 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> Trish Bonnett	Tel: 01462 455577 <a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Susanna Hawksley	<a href="mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk">susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b> Carol Cooper	Tel: 01462 459126 <a href="mailto:carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk">carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Sacramental Administrator</b> Eve Krol	Tel: 01462 455577 Email: <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 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning - Diapalante
	Sacramental Prep Hall 6pm
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug</b>	Coffee Morning - Foodbank

### Readings: Kings 4:42-44, Eph 4:1-6, John 6:1-15

*Entrance antiphon:* God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

*Psalm:* **You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.**

*Intercessions:* Hear us, Lord.....

*Response:* Give food to the hungry!

### Next week: Ex 16:2-4, Eph 4:17.20-24, John 6:24-35

There will be **no 5pm Mass** during the Month of August. Our normal Mass arrangements will resume from the first weekend in September.



**This week's counting teams:  
Sunday Team 7 Monday Team 2**



Please note that gluten free hosts are available for parishioners. Please let the MC know before Mass if you require one.



### 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 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.**



**Proclaim15 Prayer** Loving Father, You so loved the world that you sent us your only Son, that we might believe in him and have eternal life. May we encounter Jesus Christ anew this day and live the Good News with joy. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to "go out to the whole world and proclaim" our faith with confidence. Give us the courage to witness to the Joy of the Gospel by our words and actions through Christ, our Lord. 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.

**We are now into the Holiday Season:** we pray for all those who are going away, for a time of quiet and recreation; for those of us who are staying at home, a chance to enjoy each other's company and enjoy the locality and its life.

+++++

**From this coming Saturday** till the first Saturday of September inclusively there is no Mass at 10.00am. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at 10.00am. The Sunday Evening Mass will not be celebrated in the month of August, it will return for the first Sunday of September.

+++++

**Day for Life:** this weekend there is a Retiring Collection for supporting this cause of promoting the value and dignity of life at all its stages. Many thanks in advance for your generosity. There will be a short talk at the end of all Masses next weekend about some of the work that is done locally by Helpers UK who pray peacefully witnessing to the culture of life.

+++++

**The Weekend of August 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup>** there is a Retiring Collection for the Church's work in promoting Communications both within and outside our Community

+++++

## Diary

Sunday 26 July

⊕ **6pm in the hall.** Another opportunity for parents who were unable to attend on 6<sup>th</sup> July, to attend a briefing with Susanna Hawksley about the next programme for Reconciliation and first Eucharist for children who will be in Year 3 this September. Application forms available on the evening.

Monday 27 July



**8pm Ministry of the Word training** in the church, for those who would like to assist with proclaiming the Word of God at Sunday Mass or during the week. Please email Christine Laubin at [christine@carllaubin.com](mailto:christine@carllaubin.com) if you plan to attend.

+++++

## Future Events

### July 26

The Diocese of Westminster & LGBT Catholics Westminster Pastoral Council welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender Catholics, parents, families and friends to the Jesuit Church of the Immaculate Conception (Farm Street), 114 Mount Street, Mayfair, London, W1K 3AH. As part of the Catholic Diocese of Westminster's pastoral provision for LGBT Catholics, we are invited to gather for the 18.15 Masses at the Jesuit Church, on 2nd & 4th Sundays. Nearest Tube Stations:

Bond Street & Green Park (Central /Jubilee)  
(Piccadilly/Victoria/Jubilee line)

**Aug 1** **'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 after 6pm Mass until 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 Summit. See:

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

### Aug 6

**2.30-6.30pm 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki** You are cordially invited to an interfaith service of commemoration and commitment for a nuclear-free world, to be held at Large Meeting House, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. The service will be followed by refreshments and exhibitions. To reserve a place, please complete the online form at <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/hiroshima> or contact Kristin Skarsholt: [kristins@quaker.org.uk](mailto:kristins@quaker.org.uk) or on 0207 663 1121

### Aug 8

Join a Peace Trail Walk this summer and discover some of the people and places in London associated with international peacemaking. Guided walk along the Central London Peace Trail with *Bruce Kent* and *Valerie Flessati* of the Movement for the Abolition of War (MAW). Meet by Gandhi's statue in Tavistock Square WC1 at 10.30am. The trail goes down to Red Lion Square, Trafalgar Square, Whitehall and Westminster, ending at the Imperial War Museum (at approximately 1.30 to 2pm) poster available in the porch. Drop out earlier if you need to. This is a free event. Bring your own lunch. Please tell us **if you plan to come. Send an email** with names and a contact number to [info@abolishwar.org.uk](mailto:info@abolishwar.org.uk)

**Aug 29-31**

Diocese of Westminster Justice and Peace Commission Cycle ride for Climate Change. Have you got your bike out yet?! Still some places on Phase 1 of the London-Paris cycling pilgrimage: [London-Newhaven August 29th-31st](#). download the application form from the website or write to - [justice@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:justice@rcdow.org.uk) Some subsidies available for students. See: <https://westminsterjp.wordpress.com/2015/05/13/cycle-to-paris-sign-up-now>

**Other items of interest**

**Statement for the Catholic Press from Archbishop Smith**

**Chair Department of Christian responsibility and Citizenship**

Very many people of all faiths and none will be concerned about a Bill to legalise Assisted Suicide in England and Wales which will be debated in the House of Commons on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015. This private members Bill, introduced by Rob Marris MP, will have a free vote and it is important that people make their views known to their own MP ahead of this extremely important debate.

There are excellent resources:

- on the Bishops Conference website [www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide)
- and the website of the Anscombe Bioethics centre [www.bioethics.org.uk](http://www.bioethics.org.uk)

I strongly urge all Catholics to contact their own MP as soon as possible to express their concern about the dangerous impact which such a Bill would have on the most vulnerable people. MPs do listen to their own constituents. What is needed is more and better palliative care, not assistance with suicide.

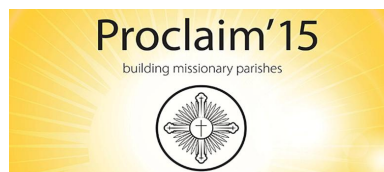
Copies of a sample letter are available from the notice board. There is also a copy of a positive response from Peter Lilley. Please let him know that you are also concerned about this issue.

††††††††††††††††

**St Thomas', Bedford Road, Letchworth SG6 4DU will be running a 'Kids Cook' lunch project** during the summer school holidays. The project is aimed at school pupils (and families) and will meet on Tuesdays 28<sup>th</sup> July, 4<sup>th</sup> August, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 18<sup>th</sup> August and 25<sup>th</sup> August in the Wilbury Hall (at the back of the Church) from 1130am – 1pm (volunteers will be there form 10am -1.30pm). This is a free event and the motivation behind the project is the high % of free School Meals in this

area, the dip in nutrition during the holiday period and the corresponding issues of concentration and wellbeing will be seen in the new term. If you would like to help with this project please contact Revd Barry Pate Vicar of Wilbury [b.pate@ntlworld.com](mailto:b.pate@ntlworld.com)

††††††††††††††††



On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July, Susanna Hawksley represented Stevenage

deanery at the Proclaim 15 Conference, in Birmingham. It has been described as 'a once in a generation event' – the Pope sent a special message of encouragement and there was a real sense of purpose and openness. Some 900 people attended: the cardinal, five archbishops, bishops and hundreds of lay and religious people, all met to discuss and pray about spreading the gospel. She did three workshops and heard many interesting speakers, all of which will inform her work here, in catechesis. The resources from the day will be made available to us all on Home Mission Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> September. It was an eighteen hour day and it was definitely worth it. Watch this space for more, as we take up the mission to 'Go and make disciples of all people' in our own parish!

††††††††††††††††



The Extra Smile project which was started in Letchworth is about

helping people in the community with things they are not able to do like getting a garden under control or painting a room. Christians reach out to people to serve them as Jesus would wish us to do. It is connected with a variety of organisations who find referrals. Phil Jackson from Hitchin Christian centre wants to set up a similar project in Hitchin to help people locally. The idea is that a group of people go to a home on one Saturday of the month and carry out the work needed to be done. It is a lot of fun with a wonderful sense of satisfaction with doing the Lord's work. At least two people have become Christian as a result of their encounter with the people from the Project.



What the project needs is two things: 1) Some who will assess needs, visit the home referred and meet with people and look at the work involved and the materials required. 2) People who turn up on the day to pull out the weeds, cut back the bushes, paint a wall etc. This is only once a month and if enough people volunteer to help from all the churches in Hitchin any one individual would only be looking at maybe 5-6 days a year helping in this way. Hitchin will be offering their projects on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. Under 18's are also welcome but they need to be accompanied by a responsible adult. The first project day will be **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September**. If you are able to help can you speak to Trish or email her to let her know of your interest.

††††††††††



We have a parishioner who is a single Mum, in remission from cancer, and she and her daughter (and dog) have been given notice on the house that they are renting. She has asked if any of our parishioners rent out property in

Hitchin and surrounding areas as her daughter is due to start at Our Lady's in September. If you are able to help can you contact Trish who will pass on the details

††††††††††



**Gardening opportunities** - two opportunities to do some gardening to support people who need help. If you can help with either please speak to Trish.

① A parishioner who is unable to look after a large garden would be willing to let someone who would like an allotment to cultivate one in her garden. Ideal if you do not have a garden and would like to satisfy your green fingers.

② Dean is wheelchair bound and lives independently. He is a lovely young man and would really appreciate some help as he can't do the garden himself. He is looking on Freecycle.org for a lawnmower but hasn't found one yet. If you have an old lawnmower and/ or would be willing to go to Dean's to help keep his garden under control let Trish know.

††††††††††

**Parents and Toddlers** has finished for the summer as there is no-one to open it up. The sessions will resume on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Please note that the group needs someone who will take on the responsibility of opening up and

setting up on a Monday morning to be ready to open by 9.30am and to ensure it is all locked up at the end (11.30am) This does not have to be an attendee and any member of the parish who is willing to help in this way would be welcome. Please note that if no-one comes forward the group will not be able to meet on a Monday any longer.

††††††††††



Want to know more about performing arts and have some fun along the way then why not join Westminster Youth Ministry and Gen Verde at their Performing Arts Weekend from 16 to 18 October. A full programme is planned for those aged 14 to 25, and the

cost of £80 for over 18s (waged) and £60 for students includes all food and accommodation. More details at [dowym.com](http://dowym.com)

††††††††††



We are in great need of 4 people who will train to be Masters of Ceremonies to support our altar serving teams at Sunday Masses.

You do not need to have been an altar server in the past as full training will be given. This is a wonderful opportunity to support our Priests on the altar as you help with the altar servers and ensure that everything runs smoothly to enhance our praise and worship of Our Lord. If you are willing to see what is involved please contact William Warren after Mass or by email at [robett0415@outlook.com](mailto:robett0415@outlook.com)

††††††††††



**Church Cleaning** We have an continual need for more people to help keep our church clean Monday or Tuesday and on Saturdays. Teams of 2-3 people can co-ordinate their time to suit themselves.

If you can give an 1½ hours once a month to keep our church beautiful please speak to Trish or email [trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk)