

# 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 1647

5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Twenty Third Sunday of the Year (B)



**Mass Times**  
Saturday anticipating 6pm  
Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am  
Monday – Friday 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: 01462 459 126 Mobile: 07958 575 442 Website: <a href="http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin">parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin</a> E-mail: <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 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning – Diapalante Healing service Church 3pm
<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm Parish Pastoral Council LCR 7.30pm
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30am Eucharistic Service 7.15pm
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am Praise Group LCR after Mass
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	St Pio Group Church and Hall after Mass Italian Club Hall 1pm Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning – KISS

**Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7, James 2:1-5, Mark 7:31-37**

*Entrance antiphon:* You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

*Psalm:* **My soul, give praise to the Lord.**

*Intercessions:* Lord, in your mercy.....

*Response:* **Heal us we pray!**

**Next week: Isaiah 50:5-9, James 2:14-18, Mark 8:27-35**



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.



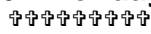
**If you have a need for prayer, please contact Mary on 07759195487 and let her know your prayer intentions.**



**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.

**This week's counting teams:**

**Sunday Team 6 Monday Team 4**



**This weekend: Sunday 3pm: Healing and Wholeness Service** All are welcome, we shall offer the possibility of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing, for those who wish to avail themselves of the Lord's love for us in these ways.



**Welcome to our new Parish Year of service and outreach to God's People:** we are making a gentle start into a quite momentous year, with new programmes being launched in new and challenging ways and we are continuing to explore and integrate Proclaim 15 evermore fully into our Parish life, through the issues and concerns that we have:



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.

Family life and Marriage support; planning for a period of transition from Fr Michael's time as Parish Priest to new ways with Fr Tom taking over from Pentecost, next year, which we hope to make a special day to thanksgiving for Ministry achieved and in process of developing, with appreciation and thanks given to all who support the Parish in any Ministry and in many other ways which express our strength as Community. The Year of Mercy is being launched later this year and will need to be organised as to how we can celebrate and rejoice in it, as a time of welcoming parishioners who may have fallen away from the practice of their Faith; reaching out to those who have had troubles in their way of life, to name but two priorities.

We are also preparing to share with Fr Michael in his 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination next March: it should be quite a day! The other major project will be the rehousing of our Pastoral Team into purpose created offices, which will be more accessible to anyone who wishes to see them. The House itself will be transformed into two flats, one which Fr Michael will be once he has retired and then the upstairs one would be for a retired Priest of the Diocese or failing that opened to commercial renting, for approved clients.

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**Next weekend** is Hitchin Heritage Weekend and our Church will create a display to give an idea of what we do in our Parish and to welcome those who will be dropping in in the course of the days.

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**Grateful thanks** to Tom McGinnity and John Scott who have modified 3 lengths of the old heating duct - about 6 metres in total by replacing the rattly-loose-grille with rigidly fixed timber topped with carpet. These are on the right-hand side as you come out of the sacristy corridor for parishioners to inspect and comment-on before they do any more. They fit cleanly and don't present a trip hazard, they don't rattle and they're robust to large blokes jumping on them. The carpet used is temporary, and not the final colour. Please give your feedback to any of the pastoral team.

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**Parents who will be seeking admission to John Henry Newman School in 2016:** please see the "Sign Up" Sheet on the noticeboard for meetings with Fr Michael, to complete the parish formalities for the applications to go forward. Parents must attend the Open Evening of Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 5.30pm with Headteacher speech at 7.30pm, to collect the pack you will need to complete this process.



**Pilgrimage to Paris** – Fr Tom was cycling on day one, raising awareness of the UN Climate Talks in December. Westminster Justice and Peace and friends cycled from London to Newhaven as Phase one of the Pilgrimage to Paris over the Bank Holiday with the help of several parishes on the way. Setting out from Westminster Cathedral on Saturday morning with a big turnout of supporters and spent the three days pedalling across the North and South Downs to the South Coast to raise awareness of the UN Paris Climate talks.

Despite steep gradients and torrential rain on two of the days, we got to our hosts in Peacehaven Immaculate Conception Parish not far from the Newhaven Dock safely on Monday afternoon for a great celebration tea. As true pilgrims, we prayed morning and evening, not only for the journey but also for much greater commitment to from our politicians to protect 'our common home'. The great fellowship created means we all plan to take the campaign to Paris in November.



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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 Trish Bonnett after Mass or by email.

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 Come and See 

- Interested in finding out what it means to be a Catholic?
- Seeking the sacrament of Confirmation as an adult?
- Looking to refresh your faith or raise issues about beliefs?

*Come and See* what we can offer you on: Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 8pm in the parish hall.

NO STRINGS – just a chat and a coffee. Meeting will last max 90 mins.

Do you know anyone who might be interested? Go and Tell them about the evening



**Altar Server training** will recommence on the next two Tuesdays, September 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the church. If you were not able to make the session before the holidays please do turn up this Tuesday.

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**Catechists! Are you interested in this?**

**Afternoon of Prayer and Catechesis for all Parish Catechists in the Diocese- Fr. Geoff Wheaton S.J.** Date: 3 October 2015 2-5pm  
Venue: London School of Theology, Green Lane, Northwood, Middlesex. HA6 2UW

If you are, let Trish know by the end of this week and she will book you a place.

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**Families who are joining the Eucharist and Reconciliation programme this year** need to sign up for a Family Chat with Fr Tom. They begin in the week commencing 14th September. The sign up sheets are in the Link (between the church porch and the hall).

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**Confirmation 2015-2016** The new confirmation programme for those young people in Year 9 and above begins on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Applications are in the link between the porch and the hall or can be down loaded from the parish website (find Confirmation under Sacramental Preparation) Applications should be returned to the parish office by 13<sup>th</sup> September.

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**Newsletter compiler and Editor** needed to complete the team to cover the 5th Saturdays of the year of which there are only 4. If you are willing to help with this could you please speak to or email Trish asap.

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**Praying Scripture In A Group – Lectio Divina Fridays 2pm in the Pastoral Office** led by Eileen Dutt. Please come along or contact Eileen at

[eduttobl@christianmeditation.org.uk](mailto:eduttobl@christianmeditation.org.uk) or Mobile: 07721574767

And so we go along, listening to the Lord, who is the Way; listening to one another, who share the way; listening to the way itself. The habit of meeting in a group to rest a while, listening to the Word of God who is the Way, engenders in us this listening attitude, this sensitivity that hears what each person, each event, each thing has to say to us. Life is rich, very rich, with communication. Let us listen together. Let us share what we hear. Let us walk together in the way, more sure of our being together and hearing together.

*(paraphrased from Listening God's Word for Today by M. Basil Pennington O.C.S.O.)*



Many thanks for all the toys, games, gifts, books and goods donated for the Michaelmas Fair on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October. Next week we will be asking for jars,

bottles etc. for the Tombola. They can be left in the red baskets in the porch which are emptied every day. However bottles of wine or any alcoholic beverage should be given to Trish or taken to the office. Alternatively, Pam Brannigan (01462 632587) will collect them from your home.

**Diary**

**Monday 7 September**

**7.30pm: The first Meeting of our Parish Pastoral Council** is in the Lower Committee Room. To plan and put in hand the first steps to further steps to implement what has been agreed and to launch more fully our new Programmes and areas of pastoral care and concern.

**Wednesday 9 September**

**2.30pm: Eucharistic Service at Foxholes.** All parishioners welcome.

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**Fr Tom** will be attending a talk given by the Cardinal on the forthcoming Synod on the Family.

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**6.30pm** Our Finance Committee has its first Meeting in the Doris Harris Room, to look at the budget for the coming year in more detail and make provision for the various plans and activities which are coming up.

**Thursday 10 September**

**10am:** The Saint Pio Prayer Meeting will include Holy Mass for the members followed by the Rosary, tea and biscuits in the Hall, and meditations on the Triumph of the Cross and Our Lady of Consolation

**Friday 11 September**

The funeral of **Peter Deuchar** will take place today. The service begins at 8.45am at Harwood Park and is followed by a service of Celebration of Peter's life at our church at 11.30am, followed by a reception in our hall. All parishioners would be most welcome to attend.

**Future Dates**

**Sept 11** 10am - 4pm\_Hitchin Quakers **Quiet Day / Peace Garden** Friends invite you to visit them and enjoy the restful stillness of their Meeting. All welcome whether it's for a few minutes or a few hours.



Also, as part of the commemorations for the hundredth anniversary of WW1 a small but enthusiastic group have been busy planning to turn part of our grounds into a Peace Garden. If anyone wishes to see what is planned, visit us when we are open during Heritage Open days Saturday **12** Sept 10am - 4pm and Sun **13** Sept 1pm - 4pm and find out.

**Sept 12** 10.30am – 12.15 am, **CAFOD's Harvest Fast Supporters Day** at Amigo Hall, Lambeth, CAFOD International division Director Geoff O'Donoghue speak about our work in Niger, which is the country we are focusing on this year on 2nd October Harvest Fast Day. Morning session – 10.30am (coffee from 10am) to 12.15am. Talk on Niger and Fast Day briefing, optional afternoon session is 1pm – 3.30pm. Venue: Amigo Hall, next to St Georges Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road (Entrance in Lambeth Road), Lambeth WE1 7HY. Please book through <https://cafodsupporterday.eventbrite.co.uk>

**Sept 13** 6:30pm - 7:30pm **Phase Celebration Evening**  
Come and join the Phase team as we celebrate all that has been achieved over the past year. Hear from young people about the difference the work of Phase has had on their lives and the impact that Phase is having across the town. It will be a fun and enjoyable evening, where you will also hear about the exciting hopes and plans for the coming year! At **Walsworth Road Baptist Church**, followed by refreshments.

**Sept 16** 8pm **Churches Together in Hitchin Council meeting** at Walsworth Road Baptist Church, preceded at 7.30 pm by a meeting at which PHASE outlines their plans for the future. CTH still require a treasurer which we are assured is a simple job. Please let Trish know if you are willing to help.

**Sept 21** 7.30pm-9pm in the hall **The Baptised Life** – essential session for all parents presenting their children for the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation in the coming year. All other parishioners welcome. Led by our new Sacramental Co-ordinator, Susanna Hawksley

**Sept 26** 7pm **London Central Fellowship Band of The Salvation Army** in concert at Walsworth Road Baptist Church Tickets £8 – to include interval refreshments – available from Hitchin Initiative, 27 Churchyard, Hitchin SG5 1HP. Tel: 01462 453335.

**Other items of interest**



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: <http://dowym.com/spec/> Email: [spec@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:spec@rcdow.org.uk)  
Phone: 020 3757 2500 Facebook: [speccentre](https://www.facebook.com/speccentre) Twitter: [@SPEC\\_Community](https://twitter.com/SPEC_Community)

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**"Baked Alaska: climate change theatre tour"**  
- This Autumn, Riding Lights Theatre Company will be touring the UK with their new theatre production Baked Alaska: Time to change the temperature. This project is funded by the Diocese of Lichfield in partnership with Operation Noah and Christian Aid. At present the nearest show is at: Hertford URC on **Saturday 26th September** at 7:30 pm (Details from Google Maps - Cowbridge, Hertford, SG14 1PG, UK) phone: 01992 551299 or [www.hertford-urc.org](http://www.hertford-urc.org)



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The Extra Smile project will have its first project day **Saturday 19th September**. It is planned to sort the garden of a young man who is in a wheelchair and also lay paving slabs to extend the area he can access in the garden. If you are able to help that morning, please let Trish know.

**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