

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 1649

19th – 26th September 2015 Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year (B)



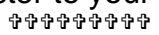
Mass Times	
Saturday anticipating 6pm	
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm	
Monday – Friday 10am	
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am	
Contacts	
Parish Priest Fr Michael Lambert	E-mail: michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Tom O'Brien	frtomaa@gmail.com
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Parish Office Tel:	01462 459 126
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E-mail:	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representative	
Trish Bonnett	Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

Diary

Sunday 20th	Coffee Morning – One World Group Confirmation Induction Session Hall 6 – 8.30pm
Monday 21st	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm Sacramental Preparation Hall 8pm
Tuesday 22nd	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30am Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm Come and See Hall 7.30pm Choir practice 8pm Church
Wednesday 23rd	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30pm
Thursday 24th	Italian Club Hall 1pm Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 25th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
Saturday 26th	Catechists Formation Development Hall 10am
Sunday 27th	Coffee Morning – Scout Group Confirmation Session 1 Hall 6-8.30pm



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.



Readings: Wisdom 2:12.17-20, James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37

Entrance antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Psalm: **The Lord upholds my life.**

Intercessions: Lord, hear us.....

Response: Teach us your ways!

Next week: Num 11:25-29, James 5:1-6, Mark 9:38-43.45.47-48



**This week's counting teams:
Sunday Team 1 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: is **Home Mission Sunday** and there is a letter from our Bishops inviting us to take on our Baptismal commitment of evangelisation, of sharing our Faith in ways which we can manage or can acquire through sharing in our programme of action which is being developed. There is a Retiring Collection to support this work across the country after Mass today.

Our new Priest: Fr Euloge Kasine Katsuva, will be around to greet you as you arrive or leave from Mass, your usual warm and hearty welcome will warm his heart!

At our 10.30am Mass today, Maeve Green will be commissioned to serve at the Lister hospital and our Parish as a Eucharistic Minister. We wish her well in this new Ministry that she is undertaking.

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The **Traidcraft stall** is open on Sunday. We are planning to increase access to Traidcraft items by placing a Traidcraft catalogue on the Parish Groups' noticeboard in the porch. Please look through this to place orders for items which you would like to purchase. We also recommend looking at the Traidcraft online shop, especially the "special offers" section. Using the "tear off" slip make a note of what you would like. Ordering through the stall, using the contact details provided, avoids postal charges!



Michaelmas **17th October 2015** We hope you will take a few minutes to look at the contents of the newsletter envelope this week. In it you will find:

- 4 books of raffle tickets which we invite you to sell or buy and return the stubs and proceeds to collectors after weekend masses.
- A poster advertising the fair for you to display at home or a public place. More posters are available in the porch.
- A form inviting you to offer goods or services for our popular Promises Auction
- An invitation for parishioners to advertise their businesses in the Michaelmas Fair programme.

The parish has always offered magnificent support to this popular event which raises much needed funds as well as supporting an education centre in Senegal. We are sure 2015 will be no exception. However helpers for the various stalls and activities are still needed. Please sign the poster in the porch if you can spare an hour or so on the day. The baskets for goods will remain in the porch until the 16th and are emptied every day. We are now collecting non-perishable produce. Very many thanks for your generous contributions so far.

Helping children learn about Gardening

Our Lady School children are looking for someone to help them learn how to plant and sow vegetables and flowers in their newly built raised beds.



An hour or so a week of your time helping us would be ideal! We are happy to organise all safeguarding requirements for you if you are interested in helping us. Please phone the school office on **01462 622555** if you can help.

Many thanks from Susan Brown - headteacher

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Lift to John Henry Newman School needed

Are you able to take a Parishioner's daughter from Redhill Road to school Monday – Friday mornings only, to arrive at 8.30am. If you are able please contact Mrs Kinzonzi on 01462 431455. Your help would really be appreciated.

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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.

Diary

Monday 21 September

8pm Programme of Sacramental in the Hall with the **Baptised Life**, for all Parents who are seeking Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation for their children in the coming year. We will pray for these families as they undertake this important part of their growth in Faith.

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8pm: Parishioners involved in the Health and Safety of our Parish are meeting to assess where we are and what needs doing to further these important areas of parish life.

Tuesday 22 September

11am Priests' Deanery meeting at Knebworth, to look at the year ahead.

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8pm: "Come and See" an open evening in the hall for anyone who wishes to deepen their Catholic faith, return to it or seek to join it, to show how we can support this important evangelistic work. Everyone welcome!

Wednesday 23 September

4.30pm Reminder for Parents of Children attending non-Catholic Schools who are undergoing preparation for First Eucharist and First Reconciliation - The first RE Session for these Children will be today **4.30 - 6.00pm** in the Lower Committee Room.

Thursday 24 September

5.30pm Open Evening for Parents seek to gain Admission to John Henry Newman School next September. Application Forms for entry will be distributed in the course of the Evening. Mr Mathew is speaking to parents at 7.30pm.

Parents should sign up to meet Fr Michael from Monday 30th September onwards, as soon as possible. The sign up sheet is in the Porch, near the ramp doors.

Future Dates

Sept 26 7pm **Concert at Walsworth Road Baptist Church** by the London Central Fellowship Band of The Salvation Army in aid of our youth work. Tickets £8 – to include interval refreshments – available from Hitchin Initiative, 27 Churchyard, Hitchin SG5 1HP. Tel: 01462 453335. Don't miss the opportunity to listen to some very enjoyable music.

Sept 26 7.30pm **"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 (Details from Google Maps - Cowbridge, Hertford, SG14 1PG, UK) phone: 01992 551299 or www.hertford-urc.org

Sept 26 11am - 4pm, **"Relating the Wisdom of the Desert Fathers and Mothers to our Christian Life Today"** a workshop given by Jill Gather, it is meant to provide a setting in which to explore some of the questions that arise as we consider this topic. At Mount Street Jesuit Centre 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH - Tel: 020 7495 1673. For more information and booking see: <http://www.msjc.org.uk/events/relating-the-wisdom-of-the-desert-fathers-and-mothers-to-our-christian-life-today/>

Sept 27 **Harvest Songs of Praise at Christchurch** Bring and Share tea at 5pm to which all are invited or just come to the Service at 6pm. The fresh produce and preserves will be sold after the service and the money raised given to the North Herts Sanctuary.

Oct 2-4 **Beginning Experience** is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following divorce, separation or the death of a partner at the Emmaus Centre, West Wickham, Kent.

For details please contact Freda Bacon 01322-838415, Sandra Maishman 01293-783965 or John Brotherton 01992-642443 email johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

Oct 3 10am-4pm **Go for Growth** at the Focolare Centre for Unity, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JG.

Go for Growth is an exciting major ecumenical conference on Church growth, run by Churches Together in Hertfordshire together with surrounding county ecumenical bodies, touching upon growth in all its dimensions – numerical, spiritual, pastoral, organisational, missional, theological and socially transforming. There will be a panel, including Jane Litchmore-Grant, former Chair of CTH, with experience to share from different churches and a series of informative and stimulating break-out groups. You can book for *Go for Growth* either online or by post. The basic cost of the day per person is £15, which includes lunch. The conference is not profit making or commercial in any sense, but the organisers would be grateful for any donations in addition to the set cost of day to help to cover expenses. For full details, please see the website go4growth.org.uk

Oct 7-21 Wednesdays 7 October to Wednesday 21 October 2015 7:00 pm -8:30 pm, **Theory of Everything – Science and Religion** with Michael Smith SJ. This 3-week Wednesday evening course is also offered as a 1-day Saturday workshop on 24th October - The material covered is the same. The course will examine how scientists and believers view reality, and whether eventually there could be a theory of everything — the whole of creation and God. The course will end with a brief introduction to the work of Teilhard de Chardin — a scientist and a mystic. At Mount Street Jesuit Centre 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH - Tel: 020 7495 1673. For more information and booking see: <http://www.msjc.org.uk/events/theory-of-everything-science-and-religion/>

Oct 11 3pm **Organ Fantastic!** An Expedition into the Wonderful World of the Pipe Organ, with Brian Caswell & Trevor Hughes. If you have ever wondered what goes on inside the organ then don't miss this illustrated presentation. A "Talk & Tea" event presented by The Friends of Holy Saviour in Holy Saviour Church. Tickets £8 from 01462 646257, or the Hitchin Initiative Office, Churchyard

Oct 15 7.30pm North Herts Inter Faith Forum AGM at the Walsworth Road Baptist Church. Prof. Terry Walsh, SJ lecturer at Heythrop College, will be speaking on *Buddhist Ignatian Perspectives*. He is a Jesuit priest from Boston, USA, teaching philosophy at Heythrop since 2008. He spent a sabbatical in Dharmasala, India and there began his study of Buddhism and the practice of meditation, developed in very deep experiences of making retreats in many monasteries in Asia (Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam, and India) He says "In my talk I want to think about these deep questions comparatively by considering two spiritual responses to the human dilemma of meaning and longing for happiness given by the historical Buddha (Shakyamuni) and St. Ignatius."

Oct 16 7.30pm Showtime! An eclectic mix of music including songs from the shows, given by The Radcliffe Singers, James Risdon (recorders) and Trevor Hughes (keyboards), in Holy Saviour Church. Admission £10: concessions £8; students free. For further information call 01462 646257

Oct 31 2pm Two parishioners are holding an afternoon tea event with a difference in the parish hall. Nicola Sylvester and Brianna Cyrus will be holding a **Caribbean High Tea** showcasing a range of tropical treats! The tickets are priced at £12.50 per person and is inclusive of entertainment as well as food.

For more information or to purchase a ticket please contact Nicola or Brianna on: 07958 795662 / 07958 476511 or email nsylvester@hotmail.co.uk / btyearwood@hotmail.com

Other items of interest

Your help is needed to respond to the current and on-going refugee crisis. Following [the announcement that the UK will accept 20,000 Syrian refugees](#) over the next five years, Caritas Westminster is coordinating assistance for refugees in line with Cardinal Vincent and Archbishop Peter Smith's [pledge to work with the government](#).

On Sunday 6 September, [Pope Francis appealed to Catholic communities](#) to reach out to individuals affected by the refugee crisis, saying 'May every parish, every religious community, every monastery, every sanctuary of Europe, take in one family'. Our Diocese is responding to this appeal by preparing itself to work in partnership with local authorities on the provision of accommodation as appropriate. They are also meeting with Catholic, Christian and faith organisations, including CSAN (Caritas Social Action Network) and the Jesuit Refugee Service UK, to establish a strategy for

working with refugees to ensure that they receive the help and support that they need.

Our parish can join in offering this support. When refugees arrive in the UK, they will not only need accommodation, but a range of other services to help them to adjust to life in the UK, and to recover from the traumas of the Syrian war. The Catholic community in the Diocese of Westminster has the generosity, skills and dedication to help contribute to the services that will be needed. These services will include, but are not limited to:

- Accommodation
- Help with languages, including interpreting and ESOL (English as a Second Language teaching)
- Legal advice
- Medical services
- Befriending
- Basic necessities, such as clothing, shoes, toiletries, food parcels, toys etc.

If you are able to offer help with anything above or otherwise that you think might be useful can you let any of the Pastoral team know so we can send our responses to the Diocese. In the meantime, we would ask you to continue monitor the refugee crisis in the news, and to continue to pray for the safety and security of all people caught up in the flight from Syria and all global conflict.

If you would like to make a donation, you can do so [easily and securely online](#), or by sending a cheque payable to 'WRCDT – Caritas' to Caritas Westminster, Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN.

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Before the summer we had a series of meetings to discuss questions about Marriage and family life. The results are now in! Uploaded now on to the [Marriage & Family Life Office website](#) is the summary report of all the comments, replies and submissions received in response to the Holy Father's call for a period of 'true spiritual discernment' ahead of the Synod on the Family in October 2015. The full link to the document is <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/marriage-and-family-life/news/summary-of-responses-to-synod-consultation/> The FULL report is available from the Marriage and Family life office on request.