



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 1656

7th – 14th November 2015 Thirty Second Sunday of the Year (B)



Mass Times	
Saturday anticipating 6pm	
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm	
Monday – Saturday 10am	
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am	
Contacts	
Parish Priest	E-mail:
Fr Michael Lambert	michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Tom O'Brien	ftomaa@gmail.com
Fr Euloge Kasine	eulogeka@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 Administrator	Tel: 01462 455577
	hitchincat@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Office Tel:	01462 459 126
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Website:	parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin
E-mail:	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representative	
Trish Bonnett	Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

Diary

Sunday 8th	Coffee Morning – Bereavement Group
	Baptism Preparation Hall 3pm
	Confirmation Group Hall 6pm
	In Memorial service Church 6.15pm
Monday 9th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
	Parish Council LCR 7.30pm
Tuesday 10th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service 7.15pm Church
	Choir practice 8pm Church
Wednesday 11th	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Praise Group LCR after Mass
Thursday 12th	Rosary Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 13th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
	Laudato Si Study Group UCR 7.30pm
Sunday 15th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Baptism Preparation Hall 3pm



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: Kings 17:10-16, Heb 9:24-28, Mk 12:38-44

Entrance antiphon: Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

Psalm: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Intercessions: Lord, hear us.....

Response: Teach us to be generous!

Next week: Dan 12:1-13, Heb 10:11-14.18, Mk 13:24-32



**This week's counting teams:
Sunday Team 1 Monday Team 1**

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This Weekend: we pray for our Engaged Couples who this weekend are sharing in their Marriage Preparation Day this weekend.



We also welcome into our Community in the completion of Baptism Ceremonies for **Harry Price**, we pray for him, his parents and god-parents as they embark on his Journey into Faith.

Proclaim 15 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.

7.30pm: Saturday: at Welwyn Garden City, Our Lady of Creation Church, there is a meeting for those who are organising or are interested in going on the Deanery Pilgrimage to Poland for the World Youth Day with Bishop Francis next July.

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Sunday 8th at 6.15pm: we are holding our Annual Service for the Deceased Parishioners of the past year, there is also the opportunity of lighting candles in memory of our own deceased friends and relations.

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Next Sunday at 10.30am Mass: there is the Investiture for our Trainee Servers into their new Ministry in the life of our Parish.

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Sunday coffee mornings 2016. Last call for groups / charities to submit their requests for coffee mornings in 2016 (number and time of year/approx. dates) to Carol in Parish Office, preferably by e-mail, to carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk by 9th November latest.

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Fr Euloge will be away from the parish in France attending various meetings until 3rd December.

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Meetings with Fr Tom, concerning Admission to Our Lady's School will take place from Tuesday 17th November – Friday 20th November. You need to sign up to a time on the sheets on the noticeboard in the church porch. **There is no need to bring your child or children to the meeting.**

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Our Lady School Admissions Applications The school will be holding an Open Evening on Thursday 12th November 2015 at 7.30pm for parents interested in applying for their child to join Our Lady School in September 2016. The Head Teacher will give a short presentation and then there will be an opportunity to look around the school and speak to staff and governors. If you would like to attend this event please contact the school office to book at place on 01462 622555. Following their Open Evening the school have arranged some dates for you to look around the school during the day. Your guide will be one of the Y6 pupils. If you would like to book a place on one of these tours please contact the school office. The dates are:

Monday	16th	November	2015	at	2.00pm
Wednesday	18th	November	2015	at	9.30am
Tuesday	24th	November	2015	at	9.30am
Thursday	26th	November	2015	at	2.00pm
Wednesday	9th	December	2015	at	9.30am
Friday	6th	January	2016	at	9.30am
Tuesday	12th	January	2016	at	9.30am
Tuesday	12th	January	2016	at	2.00pm

CAFOD collection will take place after all masses next weekend (14/15th November). Gift aid envelopes will be available in the porch or from the collectors.

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The next gardening session will be on Saturday 14th November from 9am onwards.

There will be lots of leaf clearing and tidying ready for winter so it would be lovely to

see as many of you as possible.

If you would like more information about helping with the gardens please contact Helen Bailey on 07771 552058 or email hbailey@talktalk.net.

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Faith Formation for parish Readers - Thu 19th Nov 2015, 7.00-8.30pm. Facilitators: Sr Anne Walsh OP and Karen Marguerite d'Artois OP The Niland centre, 93 Elstree Rd, Bushey, Hertfordshire WD23 4EE. Please book your place at livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk If you do not have an access to the internet, please call at 0207 931 6078 and leave your name, contact phone and the date(s).

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CTH Annual General Meeting Thursday 19 November, 8pm at The New Testament Church of God on the corner of Hampden Road and William Road. We will receive reports for the past year and make appointments for the coming one, then we will have a session with John Francis, the Editor of the Comet, who will share his thoughts on the purpose and values of a local paper and how he sees relations with local churches. More details in due course but please book the date now - and read the Comet assiduously so that you can come armed with questions and comments! John Richardson (johnrichardson891@btinternet.com)

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Get in the Picture event 20th November Walsworth Road Baptist Church will be taking part in this event again in the market square when the Christmas tree lights are switched on. We provide Christmas story dressing up clothes for people to wear and then they have their pictures taken in the clothes (sometimes they are good enough to make into Christmas cards!) In all of this we get an opportunity to tell the real meaning of Christmas.

For more info contact Judith (wrbcnotices@gmail.com)

Date for your Diary

Monday 9 November

7.30pm: our Parish Pastoral Council meets in the Lower Committee Room to continue plans for the coming year of transition.

Wednesday 11 November

Remembrance Day, there is a Mass for those who have died in the course of the Wars, particularly any children whose lives were cut short during that time, at our School starting at 10.00am.

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12.30pm: Meeting of the Priests and Ministers of our Churches in Hitchin, at Wymondley Baptist Church.

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2.30pm Mass at Foxholes with Fr Tom. All parishioners welcome

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7pm: there is a Mass for Jane Wilcox, for many years the PA of the Heads at John Henry Newman School.

10-14 November

Memorial, a new play about Austrian martyr Franz Jagerstatter: by Cathedral parishioner Sharon Jennings at The Friary, 47 Francis street, SW1P 1QR. 7.30 pm start .Tickets and more information at: www.fentiman-productions.co.uk or £10 on the door.

Future Dates:

Nov 29 *The Peoples March for Climate, Justice and Jobs* in London gathering from 12.00, at Park Lane, and marching from 13.00 to a rally at Millbank, just south of Parliament, 2.45-3.45pm. We hope to leave Hitchin by train (options are: 10:30am or 10:34am or 10:58am)

Details on <http://climatejusticejobs.org.uk/logistical-information/> Just as Fr. Tom and other J&P/CAFOD supporters ends his Cycling for the Climate from Dieppe to Paris to deliver the same heartfelt wish from us all, please consider investing this day for the sake of all life on Earth and the respect it deserved as the great gift from God that it is! Let's join-up with all "peoples of good will" across the country and the world to let our politicians and all global politicians know that we expect them to achieve miracles this time round! Let's stand-up and be counted, and not be found wanting Sign up to take part:

www.cafod.org.uk/Events/Climate-March2

Dec 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 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 Summit. See:

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

Other Items:

The 19th Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival: Holy Saviour Church, Radcliffe Rd, Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th December. 12noon to 6.00pm

Come and see the amazing display of 50 decorated trees, while enjoying live music played and sung throughout the weekend. Hot and cold refreshments, drinks and mulled wine will be available in the Festival Cafe.

Admission £3.50: accompanied children free
The weekend begins with the Christmas Tree Festival Preview and Concert on Friday December 11th, from 6.30pm -9pm (concert starts 7.45.) This popular event gives the chance to enjoy the display of trees without the crowds, before a concert of seasonal music performed by Holy Saviour Church Choir and The Radcliffe Singers, directed by Trevor Hughes. Admission by ticket £12 (includes mulled wine and refreshments) from 01462 712212; toryevans@greatgreen.plus.com

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Did you know that whenever you buy anything

online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be raising a **free donation** for Our Lady's RC Church Hitchin? You may not be able to increase your weekly offering and here is a way to help raise income for the church at **NO extra cost to you.** There are nearly 3,000 retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, the train line and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to Our Lady's RC Church Hitchin to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's really simple, and doesn't cost you anything. All you have to do is:

1. Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ourladysrchitchin>

2. Sign up for free
3. Get shopping - your donations will be collected by Easyfundraising and automatically sent to Our Lady's RC Church Hitchin. It couldn't be easier!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Our Lady's RC Church Hitchin will be really grateful for your donations. With Christmas shopping time coming up this could be a great time to sign up if you shop online regularly. See the leaflet attached to the newsletter for all the details of what to do.

Thank you for your support.

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CAFOD Campaign Petition: CAFOD has produced materials related to Pope Francis encyclical "Laudato Si". There is a simple petition until the 15th November. The petition is calling on the Prime Minister David Cameron and other world leaders to show ambitious leadership nationally and internationally when they meet at the United Nations Climate Change Summit in Paris this December to make agreements on tackling climate change and poverty. The petition can be downloaded at: <http://www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/One-Climate-One-World/Climate-petition>

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Phase exists to support the development of wellbeing in young people. Phase aim to enable young people to

develop resilience, the ability to cope with the stresses of life, and to live and thrive in today's world.

Phase understands that growing up is full of challenges and hard decisions - whoever you are - and so Phase want to be there for all young people, providing support, encouragement and equipping them for the future. Phase works across the primary and secondary schools here in Hitchin connecting with over 3000 young people each week. Last week we read about the issue of self-harm, the effect that it is having on young people here in Hitchin. This week Phase wants us to hear about what they are planning to do to combat this huge issue. Phase has three key aims to their mental wellbeing work:

- Promote mental wellbeing for all young people
- Prevent those at risk developing onto self-harm
- Support those who are actively self-harming

Some of the key services Phase will provide young people are:

- Series of video's and lessons to equip students with the tools needed to improve their mental wellbeing

- Deliver a range of workshops helping those at risk to understand emotions and triggers to self-harm
- Provide an 8 week course and ongoing mentoring for those struggling with self-harm

Story: Molly was always shy and quiet. She didn't have many friends as she was always nervous about speaking to new people and worried what they might think about her. For two years Molly had struggled with self-harm and had hid it from everyone. Eventually it all came to light and she started to attend a self-harm support group run by Donna at Phase. Week by week Molly started coming out of herself, communicating with others, sharing her thoughts and feelings and visibly building in confidence. Molly is now best friends with one of the girls she met through the group and her school are amazed at how well she now participates in class.

Stats on self-harm

- The UK has one of the highest rates of self-harm in Europe
- A recent figures show 1 in 5 young people struggle with self-harm, that's 800 young people in Hitchin

For Phase to develop these programmes, activities and resources so that young people do not have to suffer they need to raise £15,000 –you can help them to do this by donating just £4. £4 is not a huge amount; it's the average price of a starter at a restaurant.

£4 will provide the self-harm support course handbook for a young person, £4 per month provides 1:1 support for a young person going through the struggles of self-harm, or a lesson for 30 young people on how to stay mentally healthy.

Prayer: Loving Father, we remember our young people who feel isolated and believe they are the only ones experiencing the anger, anxiety and stress that can lead them to self-harm. Please give them courage and opportunities to communicate with those they can trust, that they would not remain trapped by these beliefs. Amen. If you would like to support this work then it is very easy, you can text: MAKE05 £5 to 70070 right now, you could put money in the collection buckets for Phase that are coming round now. However, the best way to support Phase, to help them make a lasting impact and to see the issue of self-harm in Hitchin decrease is to sign up to become a Partner, £4 per month will provide the support these young people need