



# 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 1657

14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2015 Thirty-third Sunday of the Year (B)



<b>Mass Times</b>	
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>
Fr Euloge Kasine	<a href="mailto:eulogeka@gmail.com">eulogeka@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 Eve Krol Administrator</b>	Tel: 01462 455577 <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 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Baptism Preparation Hall 3.45pm
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service 7.15pm Church
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Choir practice 8pm Church
	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
	Laudato Si Study Group UCR 7.30pm
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Coffee Morning –
	Confirmation Hall 6pm

**Readings: Dan 12:1-13, Heb 10:11-14.18, Mk 13:24-32**

*Entrance antiphon* The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

*Psalm: Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you*

*Intercessions:*

*Response:*

**Next week: Dan 7:13-14, Apoc 1:5-8, John 18:33-37**



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 Monday Team**



collection will take place after all masses this weekend Gift aid envelopes will be available in the porch or from the collectors.

*Thank you!*

EDAID's recent coffee morning raised £93 for schools in Gambia. Many thanks also for the pens, pencils, paper, material etc. which you donate through out the year for use in Gambian schools.



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: at 10.30am Mass** we will be admitting new Servers into their Ministry, after their period of training. It is good to see so many young people being involved in the life of the Church and we hope to see the numbers increase further.

Fr Euloge is in France for two periods of further training in the life of the Order, at our foundation town of Nimes. He returns to us in early 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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**As part of a group organised by the diocesan Justice & Peace Commission**, on the 24th of this month Fr Tom will be setting off on a Cycle ride, to Paris, carrying a petition for the delegates at the United Nations talks on the Climate (COP 21 talks), which will begin on the 30th of November, and they will arrive in Paris on the 27th, when they will have a photo-shoot in front of Notre Dame cathedral. There will be two priests, including Fr Tom, CAFOD workers and supporters from around the country in the group. We wish him a safe trip.

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**Parking Permits: Unauthorised use of the car park has become a real problem**, and is resulting in an unacceptable shortage of spaces for those attending Church services and events in the hall. The spread of on-street parking restrictions in and around town and proposed increases in car park charges, the situation is only going to get worse. We will therefore be introducing, a parking permit system, backed up by policing of the car park, to control use of the car park.

We will let you know how that system will work and when it will be introduced, when we are ready to go "live". Meanwhile if attending the church service or an event in the Hall, parking restrictions WILL NOT apply and for the time-being at least, there is no requirements to obtain a parking permit from the Parish office.

### ***Date for your Diary***

#### **Monday 16 November**

**We will be praying for our School**, as the Governors gather to interview for the position of Head-teacher. This is a most important moment in the life of our School, the succession planning to continue the excellent work of Mrs. Brown and our Staff, for the wonderful children we have in the School.

**11am Mass at Sue Ryder at Stagenhoe.** If you need a lift please be in the car park at **10.35am.**

#### **Tuesday 17 November**

**11.30am:** we celebrate the Funeral Mass for Patricia Brasher, followed by cremation at Stopsley. May she rest in peace, and rise in Glory. Our love and sympathy go out to the family and friends as they mourn her loss.

**2pm Mass at Milford Lodge** celebrated by Fr Tom. All parishioners' welcome

#### **Thursday 19 November**

**8pm CTH Annual General Meeting** at The New Testament Church of God on the corner of Hampden Road and Willian 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.

#### **Friday 20 November**

**7.30pm:** Second Session: of reflection and prayer on the Pope's letter concerning climate change and the issues surrounding it. This will take place in the Lower Committee Room.

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**Get in the Picture event** 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.

#### **Saturday 21 November**

**10am:** Mass is the celebration of the death of the Assumptionist Family founder, Fr Emmanuel d'Alzon. The feast of the Presentation of Our Lady is celebrated as a Feast.

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**10am-3pm: Day for Catechists** and anyone interested in understanding more fully what Bishop Francis is asking us to pray and live in the forthcoming Year of Mercy. This event is taking place in our Hall, led by Fr John Hemer who is well known for his work in promoting and living the faith through catechesis. There will be a Mass at noon Please bring food and drink for a shared lunch.

## Future Dates:

### Nov 26

Our year five Children from Our Lady's School are leading a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at 10am: it is so good to see the children share their faith with us in such fresh and helpful ways.

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### 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](http://www.cafod.org.uk/Events/Climate-March2)

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### 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.pravandfastfortheclimate.org.uk/>

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### Dec 4

**'Care for Creation - How to protect and sustain our common home'** CAFOD Pope Paul VI lecture 2015 - This year's annual CAFOD lecture will be given by Cardinal Turkson. will be held at St Mary's, Wyndham Place, London, W1H 1PQ and chaired by Dr Anna Rolands. Further details will be available soon (nearest tube

Turnpike Lane, Piccadilly Line) for further details email [Westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:Westminster@cafod.org.uk)

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### Dec 6



**3pm:** Our Quarterly Service of Healing and Wholeness and Anointing: for all who feel the need; the sacrament of Reconciliation is also offered. We also come to pray with and for people generally in need of healing during this time – so there is always a general invitation to the Parish to come along and join in.

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### Dec 8

**Pax Christi Advent Peace Service & Market:** at St Aloysius Church, Euston, London NW1 1TA. 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm. The Annual Advent Peace Service and alternative Christmas Market with goods from Palestine, Philippines, JRS and more.. and Pax Christi Christmas cards and gifts. The music will be led by **Julie McCann.... if you are interested in being in the choir contact the office. Tel: +44 (0)20 8203 4884 or E-mail: [info@paxchristi.org.uk](mailto:info@paxchristi.org.uk)**

### Other Items:



**Wanted for Uganda:** tap dancing shoes are being to be taken by a dance group to Uganda in December. If anyone has any lurking in a cupboard that they no longer use please deposit them in the box placed in the porch If you belong to a tap dance class do spread the word.

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### Dec 12 & 13

**12noon to 6pm The 19th Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival:** Holy Saviour Church, Radcliffe Rd, 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](mailto: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/ourladyrchitchin>
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. Go onto parish website for further details. **Thank you for your support!**

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SUPPORT | CONNECT | INSPIRE

Over the past two weeks we have read about the issue of self-harm and how it is affecting over

800 young people here in Hitchin, we have heard about what Phase want to deliver to support all young people so that we see this issue decrease here in Hitchin.

Story: Brendon is a popular boy who is full of character, very bubbly and energetic. He is different to his peers though and so beneath the confident exterior Brendon wrestles with his identity, who he is, what worth he has, so people really like him, questions that many of you have asked yourself at some point in your life. Brendon found these feeling, questions and worries over whelming and in order to manage these complex feelings Brendon started to self-harm, he was only 10 years of age when this started. Working with Phase has provided Brendon with a safe space to explore his emotions, understand his feelings and build upon his strengths and talents.

Stats on self-harm:

Girls are more likely than boys to disclose self-harm but:

- In the past few years, there has been a 45% rise in the number of boys admitted to A&E for self-harm

- Suicide remains the most common cause of death in young men
- This highlights the need to for Phase to proactively develop programs that engage boys in these issues

For Phase to develop these programs and support more young boys like Brendon they need to raise £15,000 –you can help them to do this by donating just £4, or make an even bigger difference and become a Phase Partner and give £4 per month.

What does £4 buy you? A magazine, a couple of newspapers or a few hours parking in Hitchin. £4 is not much, but what will it buy for Phase?

£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: Heavenly Father**  
**Your word tells us to look down on no one because they are young**  
**Help us to see all our young people as made in your image**  
**And immeasurably valuable in your sight**  
**Teach us to be like little children in our faith**  
**Looking to you as your Father**

**Give us a passion for your work among children and young people**  
**Help us to honor, love and protect them, as you would do**  
**Help us to enable them to flourish in their faith, and gifting's**  
**And help us walk in faith by example**  
**To the glory of your name**  
**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.