



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 1659

28th Nov – 5th December 2015 First Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Mass Times

Saturday anticipating 6pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm
Monday – Saturday 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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Pastoral Assistants Trish Bonnett	Tel: 01462 455577 trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk
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Parish Administrator Carol Cooper	Tel: 01462 459126 carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk
Sacramental Eve Krol Administrator	Tel: 01462 455577 hitchincat@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Office Tel: Mobile: Website: E-mail:	01462 459 126 07958 575 442 parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin hitchin@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representative

Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

Diary

Sunday 29th	Coffee Morning – Live Simply Group
Monday 30th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Meditation Group LCR 12 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 1st December	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am
	Eucharistic Service 7.15pm Church
	Sacramental Preparation Hall 8pm
	Union of Catholic Mothers LCR 8pm Choir practice 8pm Church
Wednesday 2nd	Rosary Group for All (Small babies welcome) Hall 9.30am
	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30pm
Thursday 3rd	Rosary Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 4th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
	Laudato Si Study Group UCR 7.30pm
Saturday 5th	Reconciliation Session 3 Hall 10am
Sunday 6th	Coffee Morning – Diapalante
	Confirmation Session Hall 6pm



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: Jer 33:14-16, Thes 3:12-4:2, Luke 21:25-28.34-36

Entrance antiphon To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Psalm: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

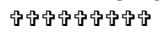
Intercessions: Lord, hear us.....

Response: Set us free, we pray!

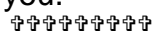
Next week: Bar 5:1-9, Phil 1:3-6.8-11, Luke 3:1-6

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team 4 Monday Team 2



To all Ministers of the Word: the next reader rota has been sent out to all those with access to e-mail. There are a few printed copies available for everyone else in the readers' slot in the Link. Thank you.



Babysitters needed: If you are willing to help babysit (paid or free) for the children of other parishioners please let Trish know.

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.

This Weekend: We enter Advent, the time of preparation and expectation for the coming of the Lord, initially at the end of time, and then His Incarnation rendered visible at His Birth! We make a start this weekend with an Advent Service of Prayer at 4pm - 4.45pm. We are now in Year C, the Year of Luke.



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Our love and sympathy: go to the family of **Daniel Bradley**, grand-son of Bill and Margaret Clark, who died on Sunday morning, he had been a long term resident at Stagenhoe and had been the focus of an enormous amount of love and care, by all who knew him. His Funeral will be in our Church on Wednesday December 9th, at 10.00am Mass. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Many people knew **Morris Buckley** who died recently, through the Bethany Club. Although living in Hitchin, Morris and Jean always had a great attachment to the Knebworth Church and usually went to Mass there. Latterly they formed part of our Community. May he too rest in peace and rise in glory!

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CAFOD collections so far this year have totalled £4312:67 of which £1,234:50 was gift aided raising an additional £308:63. Many thanks for your generosity which is enabling Cafod to continue its development work in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 1 December

11.15am: Funeral Service for Edward McCrudden, we extend our love and sympathy to his family and relatives and friends who will share in this time of prayer. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

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'Pray and Fast for Climate Change' our church will then be open for a **vigil prayer time from 6pm-7.15pm and a Eucharistic service from 7.15-8pm**, to pray for the success of Paris climate summit.

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8pm UCM Lower Committee Room A talk from Age UK Hertfordshire

Wednesday 2 December

11am Mass at Elmside Care Home celebrated by Fr Tom. All parishioners welcome.

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1.45pm: Mass of the Resurrection for Neil McDonald, we extend our love and sympathy to Grace, his wife and Family at this difficult time for them. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Friday 4 December

6pm - 8.30pm OUR LADY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENT!!!

With over 30 stalls including Xmas gifts, decorations, handmade crafts, cupcakes, craft stalls for the children, hot food, a fully licensed bar, Santa's grotto and much much more. Entrance £2 adult, free for children.

Saturday 5 December

10am: there is a workshop for the Parents and Children on the Reconciliation Programme. There will also be an opportunity of meeting the Priests who will be celebrating the Sacrament with them shortly, to talk through their time celebrating the Sacrament for the first time.

Sunday 6 December

Our Quarterly **Service of Healing and Wholeness and Anointing:** The sacrament of Reconciliation is also offered. We also come to pray with and for people generally in need of healing during this time . Please come along .

Other Items:

Dec 12 & 13 12noon to 6pm **The 19th Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival:** Holy Saviour Church, Radcliffe Rd, Admission £3.50: accompanied children free.

Our Lady's is helping this year with the CTH Prayer Tree for this Festival. If anyone is willing to help Trish decorate the tree please let her know.

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Hitchin Christian centre are helping to put together **75 Christmas Hampers** for those who otherwise would not be able to afford a good Christmas meal. Our church has been asked to provide **chocolate logs** for these hampers. Could you please add a chocolate log to your shopping trolley when you next shop and then drop into the church porch in the box provided by 22nd December. If you are able to help put these hampers together from 10am-12pm on 23rd December at the Priory School please contact Phil Jackson

on phil.jackson@hcc.org.uk.

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Offer:Single divan bed with storage drawer.In good condition.Parishioner needs to replace urgently with adjustable bed. Must be collected by next weekend.

If interested contact Trish Bonnet trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk or via the Parish Office.