



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 1663

2nd - 9th January 2016 The Epiphany of the Lord (Year C)

Mass Times
Saturday anticipating 6pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm
Monday – Saturday 10am
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am

Contacts	
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Parish Safeguarding Representative Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)	

Diary	
Sunday 3 rd Jan	Coffee Morning - Diapalante
Monday 4 th	Meditation Group LCR 11.15-12.30pm
Tuesday 5 th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Choir practice 8pm Church
	UCM Mass at 7.30 & AGM Hall after
Wednesday 6 th	Sacramental Preparation LCR 4.30-6pm
Thursday 7 th	Rosary Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 8 th	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
Sunday 10 th	Coffee Morning - KISS
	Confirmation session Hall 6-8.30pm

Readings: Is 60:1-6, Eph 3;2-3.5-6, Matt 2:1-12

Entrance antiphon Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.
Psalm: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Intercessions: Lord hear us
Response: Lead us to Christ

Next week: Is 40:1-5.9-11, Tit 2:11-14.3:4-7, Luke 3:15-16.21-22



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.

Year of Mercy Prayer Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and our Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

This week's counting teams:
Sunday Team 2 Monday Team 1



This Weekend: we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The Child Jesus' Mission is to the whole world, as is indicated by the Wise Men, in St Matthew's Gospel. Jesus is revealed to the whole world and His Message is of universal interest. Let us rejoice in that Call which reaches to us as we live the Year of Mercy, of welcome and outreach to those who are seeking their way in life; those returning to the faith and our Mission of proclaiming that Good News in our Parish in the coming year. We would like to draw on the wisdom and experience of Parishioners as we seek to discover what would be the ways forward to do this. If you feel drawn to share the richness of your lives with us, do please make yourselves known to us, so that we can learn and share with you in the coming months.



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.

Parish Pastoral Council Election: nomination forms are available in the Porch for this important feature in our Parish life. They should be completed and returned to us by the end of the week, please, so that we can start our new year of Mission with a full complement of Councillors.

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Our talented Team which is preparing the way forward for the building project, which will, please God, come to fruition early next year, have laid several means we need to ensure a smooth transition: with the building of the foundations for the new hut which will replace the Garage hitherto used for storage, as well as installing the necessary equipment that we need in the Parish House kitchen and getting set up for transforming Fr Michael's downstairs Office into a Visitor's bedroom, as we will no longer have the one which is in Fr Christopher's house, with the creation of the two flats for retired Priests (one of whom will be Fr Michael, DV.)

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Our Lady's Brownies and Toddlers groups

raised money to provide a Christmas tree for the Victoria Memorial Hospital at Welwyn. B&Q kindly supported the initiative and gave them a pre-lit artificial tree on sale for £148 for £64.10 See Picture. The Brownies have in the past collected for the Elderly Care unit at Lister but this year they already had a tree. QVM is a small hospital providing physical rehabilitation to help promote independence and confidence following accident, stroke etc. The fundraising was co-ordinated by Clare Fletcher (Brownie Leader) and Venetia Bentley, and purchase and delivery was by Clare Fletcher.



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The Foodbank has a shortage of UHT milk and UHT fruit juice and Dried potato. Next time you shop can you pick up an item and pop it into the church porch.

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A parishioner who lives in Gosmore Care Home knits blankets for those in need and she needs wool to be able to do this. If you have any spare wool that you no longer need can you please bring it in and give it to Trish. Thank you

Dates for your Diary

Monday 4th January

Our Parish Pastoral Meetings resume at **1.30pm** and this is followed by an Assumptionist Community Meeting.

Tuesday 5th January

7.30pm: Mass for the UCM as they prepare for their Annual General Meeting. Other Parishioners are of course welcome to share in the Mass and anyone interested in joining the UCM would be most welcome to come along and make themselves known, to support and develop a wonderful Group of ladies who do so much in quiet ways across the parish.

Saturday 9 January

11:00 am -4:00 pm, A God Who Cares For Us — A Reflective Journey through the Old Testament: "Let my People Go!" — Moses the Rebel meets the Holy, at Mount Street Jesuit Centre, London - a day led by Brian Purfield . For further details and to apply go to: <http://www.msjc.org.uk/events/>

Other Items of Interest



Don't forget 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. Go onto parish website for further details. Thank you for your support!

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