



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 1676

2nd - 9th April 2016 2nd Sunday of Easter Year C



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

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

Diary

Sunday 3rd	Coffee Morning – Gardening Group
Monday 4th	Meditation Group LCR11.15-12.30pm
Tuesday 5th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30 – 3.30pm
	NO Eucharistic Service
Thursday 7th	Rosary - Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 8th	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
Sunday 10th	Coffee Morning – Diapalante

Readings: Acts 5:12-16, Apoc 1:9-13,17-19, John 20:19-31

Entrance antiphon Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.
Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
Intercessions: Father hear our prayer...
Response: In the power of the Spirit.

Next week Acts 5:27-32,40-41, Apoc 5:11-14, John 21:1-19

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

This Weekend: Today: The Octave of Easter reaches its climax, as we launch into the Journey of enrichment and discovery of what Easter is all about.

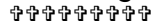


We want to make a start with our first project but we still need your help to do this. If you are interested in the young people in your life and in our parish we need your help with this project which will help our young people with ongoing faith development:



- To invite PHASE to support us in our efforts and finance this support
- Programme after First Communion
- Programme after Confirmation

Please sign up on the form in the porch or email Trish if you are willing to help.



Wednesday 6th April - 11am Mass at Elmside Care Home. All parishioners welcome.



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.



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 WEEK: Monday April 4th: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION: as Holy Week prevented the celebration of this glorious Feast, as also Easter Week, we rejoice in the consent that Mary gave on our behalf to become the Mother of our Saviour and allow God to come into the world in human form. Let us rejoice and give thanks for that as we realise that we too are Mothers of Jesus, as we give flesh to Him in our own Journeys of Faith and Life: it is a lifelong process, a daily "Yes" that all of us need to make.

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We rejoice and give thanks for the Covenant of Marriage that Jenny and Giovanni are creating on Friday April 8th in the afternoon.

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Next Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of Ciara Squires at the 5pm Mass. We pray for her and her family as she continues her journey into Faith in the celebration of the completion of the Baptismal Ceremonies.

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Boxes of Planned Giving Envelopes for the coming year will be available for collection in the Hall after each of the Masses this weekend (2/3 April) and next weekend (9/10 April). Parishioners who make their offering by Standing Order and would like a supply of Envelopes to use when making an additional offering during the collection at Mass can also collect Envelopes at this time. If you have not already signed up for the Planned Giving Scheme – which plays such an important part in financing the operation of the Parish – you can do so at this time and David and Elizabeth, our Planned Giving and Gift Aid Organisers, will be on hand to provide any information you might require.

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Our Confirmation Candidates are to be congratulated for the very prayerful, simple and inspiring celebration of the Way of the Cross, on Good Friday evening. It provided us with a peaceful and reflective time at the end of the more formal celebrations of the Lord's Passion. It will provide them with a powerful force to bring their preparations for the Sacrament to a conclusion in their Retreat of Commitment and readiness to celebrate the Sacrament with Bishop Paul on April 24th at 5pm Mass.

Other Items of interest

Christian Aid Admin. Desperately Needed! Two people needed to count out materials for collectors and distribute to them, plus a bit of paper work. One person for six collectors in the Blackhorse Road area and another person for Benslow Lane and the small roads off Wymondley Rd.

Christian Aid Week is 15-20 May and this job is once a year only in readiness for this. For more explicit information please contact Helen Richardson, Organiser for Hitchin and Villages. 01462 435595, 07880 682681 or helenwrich@btinternet.com

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WORLD YOUTH DAY Come to a meeting at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church (141 Woodhall Lane, Welwyn Garden City AL7 3TP) on Friday 15th April. There is Mass in the church at 7pm and then a gathering in the hall at 7.30pm. So far there are young people signed up on our Deanery Coach from Letchworth, Stevenage, Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield. Maybe you are still thinking about it and want to see who else is going? Perhaps you are trying to get money together or organise the summer? Remember many of the parishes are subsidising their young people! For more information, email the Fr. Norbert Fernandes norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk Pope Francis has written the following for WYD 2016: *Let yourselves be touched by God's boundless mercy, so that in turn you may become apostles of mercy by your actions.* This will be a life-changing experience! COME!

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Westminster Youth Ministry events: Your Call - get together event. An opportunity to reflect, hear testimonies from lay and religious about the work God has called them to do, opportunity to pray at the Shrine of St Alban, England's first Christian martyr. Date Saturday 23 April. Time 11:00 - 17:00. Location Ss Alban & Stephen Parish Centre, Beaconsfield Road, AL1 3RB (near St Albans City Station). Organiser Ss Alban & Stephen Parish Centre. The day is donation only. Booking is essential as lunch will be provided. To book, e-mail: book@ycstalbans.org.uk. **The Summit - get together event.** A youth event aimed at those aged 14-18, to take place on the Friday 13 May. The event will be a chance for young people in the diocese to socialise, share a meal together, learn more about their faith and be introduced to a deeper level of prayer and adoration. Location: Centre for Youth Ministry, 20 Phoenix Road, London, NW1 1TA. Based at St. Aloysius, next to Euston Station, The Summit will run from 7-9pm and will be a great chance to meet other young Catholics and enjoy an exiting programme of guest speakers, live music, prayer and lovely food! The event is free and does not require to have a ticket. Open for friends, families, classes, youth groups, confirmation groups, etc.