



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 1677
9th - 16th April 2016 3rd Sunday of Easter 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
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Parish Safeguarding Representative Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)	

Diary

Sunday 10th	Coffee Morning Confirmation Group
Monday 11th	Meditation Group LCR11.15-12.30pm
Tuesday 12th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30 – 3.30pm NO Eucharistic Service
Thursday 13th	Rosary - Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Saturday 16th	Eucharist Preparation Session Hall 9-10.30am
Sunday 17th	Coffee Morning - One World Group

Readings: Acts 5:27-32.40-41, Apoc 5:11-14, John 21:1-19

Entrance antiphon Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Psalm: I will praise you Lord, you have rescued me.

Intercessions: Father, hear our prayer
Response: Make us your witnesses

Next week Acts 13:14.43-52, Apoc 7:9.14-17, John 10:27-30



This week's counting teams:
Sunday Team 2 Monday Team 3



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, so that 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.

Boxes of Planned Giving Envelopes for the coming year will be available for collection in the Hall after each of the Masses this weekend. 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.

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



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 the 5pm Mass we complete the ceremonies of Baptism for Chiara Squires, we pray for her, her God-parents and Family as they continue her Journey into Faith in the coming years.



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Next Saturday: our Confirmation Candidates make their Retreat and decide if they are called to celebrate the Sacrament on 24th April. **Next Sunday** they will share in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 3pm and celebrate their decision at the 5pm Mass.

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The annual collection to help fund the formation of priests will take place next weekend. The fund helps pay for the recruitment and training of men into priestly vocations. It costs £125,000 to form and educate a new priest, who makes a lifetime commitment to Christ and the church. They've answered the call, now let's support them. Donation envelopes are available – please take one, read the information and facts, and bring it back next week at Mass with your donation. On behalf of all the clergy of the Diocese, thank you.

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Thank you for your generosity and support for last week's Gardening Group coffee morning which raised £132.50

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We are asked for our prayerful support before and during a unique **Conference on Nonviolence & Just Peace** to be held in Rome from 11 - 13 April. 2016. Invited by the Pontifical Council for Justice & Peace and Pax Christi International, people from around the world, many from contexts of war and ongoing violence, will contribute to renewed Catholic teaching and practice on war and peace, violence and nonviolence. A prayer sheet to use is available in the porch this weekend.

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Recycling News: Good News! The LiveSimply team are inviting all parishioners to bring their milk bottle tops of any colour for recycling. We will then deliver them to the nearest Lush Cosmetics shop in Luton. Since August 2011, Lush has been collecting plastic bottle tops from their customers. You can watch a video about their motivations



on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ri25e8Mwll>



Lush also raise money for various environmental charities, the web-site is: <https://uk.lush.com/> All High Density Polyethylene Plastic tops from milk or other bottles can be brought to the

parish for this scheme. It is still possible to continue placing the coloured lids in the normal household recycling grey bin, but if you wish to help us support this campaign to help clean-up the UK environment and reduce the plastics that contaminate the beaches and get caught-up in the food chain of all fishes, then keep them aside and bring them to our recycling area, where a designated bin will become available soon. Very importantly, *please make sure that all residues of milk and sugary flavours are washed off,* so that we will not have a smelly build-up of moulds and bacteria in the church porch that would develop into a health hazard for us all that use it. Let's do it, in response to Pope Francis appeal that we care for our common home! Thank you for your cooperation and support. There is now a collecting box in the link between the porch and the hall.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 12 April

10am: We celebrate the Mass of Resurrection for **Dorothy Stevenson**, who has been in our Parish for many years and was a member of the Bethany Club. We pray for Tom, her husband and their daughters: Mary, May and Anne and their family and friends who mourn her death. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.



Wednesday 13 April

2.30pm Mass at Foxholes celebrated by Fr Tom. All parishioners welcome.

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7.30pm: Liturgy Committee meeting to review the Holy Week and Easter celebrations and plan for the Thanksgiving for Fr Michael's Ministry and the Induction of Fr Tom as Parish Priest, at Pentecost, among other things.

Thursday 14 April

7 for 7.30pm 'Caldecote Church – the restoration of a local gem' Peter Robbins' illustrated talk on the restoration of Caldecote church (near Ashwell) by a small band of volunteers. Tickets £5 - advance booking recommended 01462 433773.

Saturday 16 April

10am Mass We celebrate the completion of the Baptism Ceremonies for Catherine Kealey. We pray for her, her parents, God-parents and family as they continue their Journey with her into Faith.

Saturday 16 April cont

10.30-3.30pm Confirmation group retreat day at Hitchin Christian Centre

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9am Extra Smile Project have two projects for the day; one is a decorating job for a single mum and needs 3 people and the other is to complete the garden renovation for the family in Purwell that we started in November. Can you let Phil Jackson know if you can come and which job you would like to do.



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2.30pm: Induction of Rev Jean Robson as Minister at Tilehouse Baptist Church. We wish her well in her Ministry and welcome her to Hitchin and pray for the well being of that Community.

Future Dates

April 22 7.30pm Hitchin Initiative will host a Question Time format debate on the European Referendum to take place at Hitchin Town Hall with a panel of guest speakers including Peter Lilley MP and Richard Howitt MEP.

Send your questions please marked 'Europe Debate' to us at 27 Churchyard, SG5 1HP or email: info@hitchinherts.com with your contact details.

Free admission by ticket obtainable from the Initiative shop at 27 Churchyard.

In? Out? or just Shake It All About?

Informed debate may change your mind or help you decide.

April 23 7-9pm Mauritian Curry Night at Christchurch Come and join in the fun, Mauritian food, disco, dancing. To raise money for two charities that help support children with additional needs, and their parents/carers. Tickets: Adults £6.50, Children 3.50

Please contact Sarita on 07759171374 for tickets and more info.

April 22-24 The Church of God of Prophecy Outreach Programme will be held Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd at the New Testament Church of God Hitchin 7pm each night and Sunday 24th at Holy Saviour Church hall 12:00-2:30. Guest speaker will be Rev. Ronald Grant from Word From Above Ministries, Connecticut, USA.

April 30 6pm Fundraising Concert & Auction at Hitchin Christian Centre

Join us for a feast of Caribbean cuisine / Concert / Stalls / Auction and Raffle

Entertainment: Instrumentalist Anthony Spicer plays flamenco & Jazz, Sophia sings soul, Comedienne Athena Kugblenu, Mea J sings Gospel, Simone sings jazz & pop, Alethea Graham

performs poetry by Jamaican Folklorist Miss Lou (Louise Bennett)

Caribbean food by Siena's catering

Bid for over 25 fantastic product/services. Exciting exhibition stalls and great range of raffle prizes

Buy tickets online

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/zee-tickets-20008566160>

Or Marcia 0777 37 55362

Reason for event check following for full details www.gofundme.com/helpzizo

May 7 7pm A Parisian Promenade

Mozart to Montand, Puccini to Piaf. Presented by The Friends of Holy Saviour Church at Holy Saviour Church, Radcliffe Rd, Hitchin

A visual, musical and evocative lecture exploring how Paris has inspired countless musicians throughout the centuries. From classical to popular, ethereal to "oh-la-la", their music conjures up the atmosphere of Parisian boulevards, cabarets, cafés, restaurants and the river Seine.

The talk, by Desmond Colborne, international lecturer and lifetime resident of Paris, will take the form of a walk down musical memory lanes, following in the footsteps of composers and singers. The Promenade will include music by classical composers Mozart, Chopin and Liszt and popular music by Broadway composers such as George Gershwin and Cole Porter as well as songs popularised by musical stars like Edith Piaf, Josephine Baker, Maurice Chevalier, Yves Montand and Charles Aznavour.

Guests will be transported through sight and sounds during this musical promenade, evoking in the words of singer/composer Charles Trenet, "La Romance de Paris".

Tickets (including light refreshments) £12: (£10 for Friends of HS) available from Clare Fleck, 01462 646257, or Hitchin Initiative Office, Churchyard

May 14 7.30pm QUIZ NIGHT for Christian Aid Christchurch Bedford Rd, Hitchin. Fish/sausage and chip supper and Vegetarian option

Tickets £10, No food £4 Teams of 6-8

For tickets contact: Sue Covington 01462 452985 suecov63@hotmail.co.uk Pauline Edwards (435438)

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Scripture from Scratch series of talks Biblical Models of Discipleship
Location: Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street,

SW1P 1QN Time: 7-8.30pm
Please book your place at livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk
If you do not have access to the internet, please call 0207 931 6078 and leave your name, contact phone number and the date. Suggested donation £4

All talks are audio recorded and uploaded on the rcdow.org.uk website.

Tue 12th Apr 2016, Mary Magdalen: The Witnessing Disciple by Brian Purfield
Mon 9th May 2016, Paul: The Missionary Disciple, How Paul helps people live out their Christian vocation in differing circumstances? by Fr John Hemer

Sat 11th June 2016, 10am – 2pm Retreat Day by Brian Purfield

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Scripture from Scratch series of talks in Hertfordshire

Making the BIBLE come ALIVE
Location: The Niland centre, 93 Elstree Rd, Bushey, Hertfordshire WD23 4EE
Time: 7-8.30pm

Please book your place at livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk If you do not have access to the internet, please call 0207 931 6078 and leave your name, contact phone number and date(s). Suggested donation £5.

To All God's Saints: New Testament Epistles

14th Apr 2016, Is the End Nigh? 1 Thessalonians

28th Apr 2016, You stupid people! Paul's Letter to the Galatians

12th May 2016, Philipians: A Love Letter to a Christian Community

26th May 2016, "I belong to ..." A Divided Christian Community in Corinth

Taking Away the Veil: Unmasking the Book of Revelation

16th Jun 2016, A to Z: Symbols of Revelation

30th Jun 2016, The Lamb's Supper

Other Items of interest

Helpers of God's Precious Infants witness outside Marie Stopes abortion centre in Stevenage every Thursday 11.30am-1.30 pm and every Friday 1-3.30 pm. We pray for conversion of hearts and the saving of unborn lives. Could you come and witness with us, even for a few minutes. For further details please ring Mary McCready 01462 646765, 07941018346 or Margaret Leahy 01727 763832, 07982234367

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Is anyone willing to help compile and edit the Foodbank Newsletter. Ideally 4 times per year, it is a matter of encouraging people to submit articles and then

compiling it into the prescribed format. This can be done at home in your own time. If you are willing to help in this way please speak to or email Trish Bonnett.

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Job Vacancy Mission Direct, the international Christian volunteer agency now based in Bury Mead Road Hitchin, wishes to appoint a Business Development Manager on a short-term contract. This person will be responsible for strengthening and expanding its service of providing volunteers to work in some of the world's poorest places and among its most vulnerable people. If you are interested, please email alan.mccormick@missiondirect.org

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The planning of a peace garden, in the Hitchin Quaker Meeting House grounds, has been ongoing since early 2015. The aim is to create a place of tranquility, meditation and interest in the Quaker Meeting House grounds, for use by the general public. The garden will be a space where they can come as individuals, families or groups, to sit awhile and experience peace, and to contemplate peace in their own lives and in the wider world. See report on noticeboard for more detail. Contributions of advice on gardening matters, and physical help when installing a point of interest, would be welcome, as well as prayerful support and monetary contributions. Individuals or representatives of churches should contact the Quaker peace garden group (c/o mirandanorton2015@gmail.com) if interested in contributing ideas or offering labour. They have an impending need of help to improve the pond such that a bench placed next to it will be a place in which to be at peace inspired by nature. However they are also taking this opportunity to incorporate a well-known peace symbol into the garden. They would welcome volunteers who can come ready for some physical labour - mainly digging. You need to bring a spade! The dates are Saturday 30th April and Monday 2nd May - on both days work will start at 10am, there will be a simple shared lunch, and then work will continue into the afternoon. All refreshments will be provided. So volunteers for either day, morning and/or afternoon, would be very welcome to join our band of workers. Other help would be the loan of a truck or van for a few hours, as two supporters have agreed to donate benches which need to be transported to the Meeting House and are too large to fit in a car.