



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 1681

7th - 15th May 2016 Ascension 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	
Parish Priest	E-mail:
Fr Michael Lambert	michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Tom O'Brien	frtomaa@gmail.com
Fr Euloge Kasine	eulogeka@gmail.com
Pastoral Assistants	Tel: 01462 455577
Trish Bonnett	trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk
Susanna Hawksley	susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Tel: 01462 459126
Carol Cooper	carolcooper@rcdow.org.uk
Sacramental Administrator	Tel: 01462 455577
Eve Krol	hitchincat@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Office Tel:	01462 459 126
Mobile:	07958 575 442
Website:	parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin
E-mail:	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representative	
Trish Bonnett	Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

Diary

Sunday 8th	Coffee Morning – Bethany Club
	Baptism Preparation Course Session 2 Hall 3.30-4.30pm
Monday 9th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Christian Meditation Group LCR11.15-12.30pm
	Michaelmas Fair meeting LCR 8pm
Tuesday 10th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30 – 3.30pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Steps to Pentecost Choir practice Church 8pm
Wednesday 11th	Rosary Group for All Hall 9.30am
	Praise Group LCR after 10am Mass
Thursday 12th	Rosary - Church after Mass
	St Pio Meeting Hall after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 13th	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Sunday 15th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Bring and Share picnic 11.45 ~ 2ish Garden or hall depending on weather



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.

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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.

Readings: Acts 1:1-11, Eph 1:17-23, Luke 24:46-53

Entrance antiphon Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

Psalm: **God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.**

Intercessions: Father hear us

Response: **Send us your Spirit**

Next week Acts 2:1-11, Rom 8:8-17, John 14:15-16.23-26

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team 6 Monday Team 3



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: Sunday 3.30pm Hall - Second Session of Preparation for the Sacrament of **Baptism** followed by anointing at the 5pm Mass.

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First Holy Communion cards and prayer books are on sale in the hall after the 8.30am and 10.30 am Masses.

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There will be a **Bereavement Service on June 3rd at 7.30pm** led by Fr Tom. All who have been bereaved are very welcome. After the service there will be refreshments in the hall.

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Morning of Reflection for Eucharistic Ministers Saturday 28th May 2016.

Father Frank Leonard will lead a Morning of Reflection for Eucharistic Ministers of our Parish on Eve of Feast Corpus Christi. We will begin with Mass at 10am and close with a shared lunch at 1pm. **RSVP: Teresa Lawrence-Hyde: teresahyde@btopenworld.com Mobile No: 07751886525**

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Next Sunday Pentecost Sunday 10.30am Mass is supported by Our Lady's School and will see the Baptism and confirmation of Luis Gil. This is the Mass where Fr Michael officially hands over as Parish Priest to Fr Tom who is inducted by Bishop Paul. The Mass will be followed by a bring and share picnic (garden weather permitting or in the hall if wet) Please sign up on the notice board in the porch stating what you will be bringing if you plan to come if you plan to come.

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Parishioner **Janina Woznicka** has cleaned and restored the crucifix in the sacristy corridor and the Sacred Heart statue. We are most grateful for her wonderful efforts to look after our statues. She is doing a Sky Dive for MS on the 23rd July 2016 and looking for sponsorship from everyone. It doesn't matter how small or how large. Every pound will help. It's for MS sufferers in Hertfordshire so it will benefit people in the local area. The web link is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/Janina-Woznicka>

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KISS - Wanted - Excess Baggage - a group of John Henry Newman School students and adults will be visiting the KISS community in Uganda in the summer and will be taking various items as additional luggage for the charity. If you have suitcases that you no longer use, please bring

them to the Church or contact Greg Hewitson (07850 273234) for collection.

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Come and See



- Interested in finding out what it means to be a Catholic?
- Seeking the sacrament of Confirmation as an adult?
- Looking to refresh your faith or raise issues about beliefs?

Come and See what we can offer you on: **Tuesday 17th May at 7.30 pm in the Hall.**

NO STRINGS – just a chat and a coffee.

Do you know anyone who might be interested? *Go and Tell* them about the evening. Further details: Pastoral Office 455577

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GROWING IN FAITH Available in the Porch are copies of the latest Growing In Faith Newsletter, which features an article on our own Church Lighting Project together with other Parish Projects that have benefited from Growing In Faith donations – please take a copy.

For our next Parish Project, we are looking to replace the false ceiling in the Hall with a more energy-efficient and eye-pleasing arrangement; we will keep you posted as plans are developed.

Also available in the Porch – on the Pastoral Council Notice Board – is the latest Growing In Faith Parish Bulletin; this gives details of the money raised by your donations, which amount to over £83,000 when Gift Aid is included and shows the distribution of the money to the various Growing In Faith initiatives. Importantly, this includes over £33,000 for Order Sick & Retired Priests, which will help finance the planned conversion of Grove Road House into Retired Priest accommodation.

It is also important, though, to point out that, whilst significant in themselves, Growing In Faith donations DO NOT include a contribution

towards the running of the Parish. To contribute towards the running of the Parish, your donations must be made through the Offertory, which means the collection at Mass or by Standing Order.

If you have inadvertently stopped your donation through the Offertory – thinking it was covered by your Growing In Faith donation - please speak to Fr Michael, Fr Tom or Trish who can arrange for you to rejoin one of the Parish Offertory schemes.

Dates for your diary

Monday 9 May

8pm MICHAELMAS FAIR PLANNING MEETING in the Lower Committee Room. You are warmly invited to attend a planning meeting for this very popular annual event. New ideas and more helpers are very welcome.

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7pm – 10pm Echad One New Man Presents Ruth Fazal & Gil Pentak at Tilehouse Street Baptist Church, Upper Tilehouse Street, Hitchin. Ruth is a worship leader, violinist, singer/songwriter from Canada. She has composed over 20 Cd's taking her talents across North America, Europe and Israel. Entry £10, includes refreshments. Contact Annette Powell: 07964201959 / 01462622986

Tuesday 10 May

11am The Priests of the Deanery are meeting at Baldock, to continue their work for the parishes in this area.

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8pm Churches Together in Hitchin Council is at Christchurch - tea/coffee from 7.30 pm. It will begin with some reports and short items of business then, as soon after 8.30 pm as possible, there will be a session on anti-trafficking initiatives led by the newly-established Hertfordshire against Trafficking and the Mayak Foundation, a Christian group with a base in Hertfordshire working currently in Moscow. All are welcome.

Future Dates

May 14 7.30pm Christchurch QUIZ NIGHT for Christian Aid Christchurch Bedford Rd. 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

May 15 Party in the Square

Churches Together in Hitchin is holding its fifth Party in Hitchin Market Place on Sunday 15 May, the Day of Pentecost. It will begin with a service at 11.30am with music, prayer, testimonies and an address by the Rev Jeni Mcquaid of St Mark's, and

will continue through the afternoon with stalls, games, food, music and much more, all free, provided the member churches in Churches Together. All are welcome - do come yourself whoever you are and please invite family, friends and neighbours to come along at any time

May 27 1-4pm Farmers market will be held in the church hall. This is not to be missed with local produce available.

June 1-4 SPIRIT IN THE CITY Catholic festival of Mercy in the West End of London. Join the programme of prayer, talks, celebrations in Notre Dame de France and the all day festival in Leicester Square gardens on Saturday. For details visit: www.spiritinthecity.org or T: 020 7440 2663 Full programme: www.bit.ly/SitCfest2016

June 1 6.30pm FULL OF GRACE - a new Catholic film about Mary's last days on earth. Join the opening night of Spirit in the City festival for this cinematic prayer experience in the Prince Charles Cinema followed by panel discussion Tickets: £15 (£12 conc.) book online: www.bit.ly/bookfullofgrace or in the cinema box office: 020 7494 3654

July 5-8 An international *Sacra Liturgia* conference will be held in London following on from the successful conferences in Rome (2013) and New York (2015). The presentations will be given at the Imperial College campus in South Kensington, and the liturgical celebrations will be at the London Oratory and the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption & St Gregory (Warwick Street). *Sacra Liturgia UK* is profoundly grateful to Cardinal Vincent Nichols for his gracious welcome of the conference to his Diocese. Cardinal Robert Sarah, Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, will give the keynote address on 5 July at 5:30pm and celebrate a Solemn Mass at the Oratory on 6 July at 7pm. Among the speakers will be Bishop Alan Hopes, Msgr Andrew Burnham, Fr Michael Lang, Dr Clare Hornsby and Dr Stephen Bullivant. The full conference programme has now been published on the conference website (<http://sacraliturgiauk.org/programme/>). It is possible to register full-time or part-time. Student rates are available. To register follow the instructions on <http://sacraliturgiauk.org/registration/>.

Other items of interest



Colin Blake is the Christian Aid Area Leader for the Wymondley Road/Benslow Lane area and needs some new collectors to help with this most important cause. You need to deliver and collect envelopes during the period 15-21 May 2016. Typically 50 envelopes per street. If you are able to help in this way please contact Colin on 07980 934491.

Also Trish has a need for one collector for a block of flats off the Stevenage Road. You can contact her on 07801 752141.



The SVP St John Bosco Children's Summer Camp (held at Aldham, Essex) is an activities camp with a Catholic ethos that runs as follows:

Week One Saturday 23 July - 30 July for Boys
Week Two Saturday 30 July - 6 August for Boys
Week Three Saturday 6 August - 13 August for Girls

It is for children aged 8 to 13 and costs £145 per week.

Transport available from various parts of London
Should you require an application form or more information then please contact (between 6pm and 9pm) the boys' camp on 01992 914117 or the girls' camp on 01634 311350.

More information can be found on the website <http://svpboscocamp.org.uk>



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.



A parishioner recently attended the '**Beginning Experience Weekend**' and writes 'I would just like to recommend this to anyone who feels the need for a practical and spiritual reflection, regarding their experience of divorce or the loss of a spouse. I found it a supportive and healing process regarding grief, loss, and the challenge of looking to a new future. The next course is in the Autumn.'



Your help needed A family of 4 who attend our church would appreciate any donations of furniture to help furnish their new unfurnished house. If you have anything to offer please contact Charmaine Ball on 01462 850850.

**Your
Help is
Needed**



The Life of Christ

The greatest story of all time, movingly recreated by a cast of over 200 – authentic detail, outstanding quality sound and music – the Life of Christ is an experience not to be missed. It is both educational and entertaining, amusing and serious.

Enjoy the beauty of the Wintershall Estate while you experience the biblical presentation of the life of Jesus. Running from 10am to 3.30pm, this is a performance in three acts with a brief interval. Experience the emotions and events of the Biblical characters and the lasting story.

Trish Bonnett has seen this about 15 times and has joined the cast this year and really hopes you will want to come to see her (currently she is in the crowd and also playing a leper – nothing to say so that's a first!)

Play is performed from 21-26th June but the cast can get half price tickets for their parishes on Sunday 26th June. Trish is willing to organise a bus for the parish to come on that day. For that day ticket prices will be £12 for adult and £6 for children or £30 for a family of two adults and two children. (prices are double on other days) Not sure yet of the cost of a bus. If you are willing to come and experience this wonderful occasion please sign up on the notice in the porch. You won't regret it!

If you wish to experience Wintershall before June please see the notice on the board about

**Our Lady's Day at Wintershall
Friday 13th May 2016**