



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 1682
14th – 21st May 2016 Pentecost Sunday 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
Fr Euloge Kasine	eulogeka@gmail.com
Pastoral Assistants Trish Bonnett	Tel: 01462 455577 trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk
Susanna Hawksley	susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders	Tel: 01462 459126 cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk
Sacramental Administrator Eve Krol	Tel: 01462 455577 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 15th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Bring and Share picnic 11.45 ~ 2ish Garden or hall depending on weather
Monday 16th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Christian Meditation Group LCR11.15-12.30pm
Tuesday 17th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30 – 3.30pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Come and See Hall 7.30 – 9pm
	UCM LCR 8 -10pm
Wednesday 18th	Choir practice Church 8pm
	Rosary Group for All Hall 9.30am
Thursday 19th	Sacramental Prep LCR 4.30 – 6pm
	Rosary - Church after Mass
Friday 20th	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Sunday 21st	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
	Coffee Morning – Flower Group

Readings: Acts 2:1-11, Rom 8:8-17, John 14:15-16,23-26

Entrance antiphon The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

Psalm: Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth

Intercessions: Father hear our prayer

Response: Renew us in your Spirit

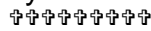
Next week Prov 8:22-31, Rom 5:1-5, John 16:12-15

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team 7 Monday Team 4



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.

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 10.30am Mass Bishop Paul is presiding at the Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr Michael's ministry in our parish and for the gift of the Spirit to Fr Tom as he is inducted into our parish as parish priest. This is followed by the shared lunch, which will be an occasion of thanksgiving and greetings and support to Fr Tom. My last "Fr Michael writes": "Dear sister and brothers, 16 years is a long time and I have much for which I give thanks: what I have been able to achieve with and through your gifts and talents and the many people who have become involved over those years. I rejoice in the blessings that I have received from you and those I have been able to offer to you through who I am and what I have to offer.

I know I have not always got things right, but I have always tried to do what I felt to be right, but not necessarily in the best of ways for achieving the results I had expected. For this I seek forgiveness from you and I hope that my ministry in the future will be of quite a different kind to what I have done so far – the vocation of presence and accompaniment. I do hope you will feel free to drop in and just chat, ask questions or seek guidance, when you wish to. I will also continue my ministry of counseling with those who are walking with me, or anyone else who might feel the need of such a ministry.

I am still going to be in the Parish House for the time being, until Fr Christopher's House is ready to receive me. I am absent from the parish for a week after the Induction and later I shall be in America, for three months, as I share in a sabbatical, which hopefully will also refresh and renew me and hone my pastoral skills.

Thanks again to all of you for your love and support offered to me over these years. I shall hold you all in my heart and, I hope, be a hub of prayer for you all as you continue your journey of faith and life with Fr Tom. I pray that the Lord will guide and inspire him as he journeys with you; may his gifts and talents be further enhanced and enriched through your love and support to him! May the Lord and His Holy Mother, hold you and yours, ever more closely to them now and into the future! Michael aa"

††††††††††††

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**

††††††††††††



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

††††††††††††

Our parish brownie pack has been lucky enough to recruit an extra leader and can therefore expand. If you have a daughter between the ages of 7 – 11years, this is a very lively, friendly group and would love to hear from you. For more information please contact Clare Fletcher on 07969 098070 or apply to join online via girlguiding, join us.

††††††††††††

Dates for your diary

Monday 16 May

7.30 for 8pm
THE HITCHIN SOCIETY at the British Schools Museum, Queen Street, Hitchin SG4 9TS.
A talk by Peter Robbins, illustrated with slides, on the restoration of the redundant medieval church, in Caldecote, near Ashwell.
Refreshments available. All welcome

Tuesday 17 May

8pm Union of Catholic Mothers will be celebrating WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations) day in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

††††††††††††

Future Dates

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

Other items of interest



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.

††††††††††



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.

††††††††††



church.

Love Divine booklets with group reflections on the grace we receive in the sacraments are available in the porch for use. Priced £2 – please put all monies in the pamphlet box in between the two doors inside the

††††††††††

Please have a look at the parish website Justice and Peace page. It features dates of J & P events and various campaigns and petitions for us to consider including the following:

"Switch your Energy" (<http://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/One-Climate-One-World/Switch-your-energy>). To help us act now to cut carbon emissions and create a brighter future. There's no time to lose.

and "Power to the People" with a petition to Nick Hurd MP, Development Minister, asking him to focus the DFID funds to support delivery of local, renewable energy services overseas that is a practical, affordable way for the poorest people to benefit. <http://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/One-Climate-One-World/Power-to-the-People>

Pope Francis reminds us in Laudato Si that we each have a role in tackling the environmental crisis. CAFOD is helping us do that.

††††††††††

Can you spare a couple of hours a week? A Parishioner who lives in Hitchin is in need of some help with light housework. If you can help at all, or know anyone who can, please contact Trish.



Can you help prisoners & their families?

You are invited to come & see the opportunities for you to volunteer to help those in prison, prisoner's families, and ex-offenders. The Catholic prison charity Pact (Prison Advice & Care Trust) works in several prisons across London and relies heavily on volunteers to help those in need. **Saturday 11th June Drop in any time between 9.30am – 1.00pm** **St George's Cathedral (Southwark), Amigo Hall** For more information contact Tom: Thomas.Brindle@prisonadvice.org.uk or call 0203 031 6869

††††††††††



New 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 this month **Thank you for all your support.**

STEVENAGE DEANERY MISSION OF MERCY

AT OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES,

141 WOODHALL LANE,

WELWYN GARDEN CITY

AL7 3TP

**COME ON PILGRIMAGE TO OUR DEANERY
CHURCH WITH DOORS OF MERCY!**

MONDAY 6TH JUNE

7.30PM Reflections on Mercy led by Hitchin Parish

8.30PM Social time and refreshments

TUESDAY 7TH JUNE

7.30PM Mercy through the Sacrament of
Reconciliation

led by Letchworth Parish with
priests available for Confession

8.30PM Social time and refreshments

WEDNESDAY 8TH JUNE

7.30PM Mercy through Prayer before the Blessed
Sacrament

led by Baldock Parish with reflections
and silence

8.30PM Social time and refreshments

THURSDAY 9TH JUNE

7.30PM Mercy through healing in the Sacrament
of the Anointing of the Sick led by
Stevenage Parishes with priests available for the
Anointing of the Sick

8.30PM Social time and refreshments

FRIDAY 10TH JUNE

7.30PM Mercy poured out in the Mass led by
Welwyn Garden City Parishes

8.30PM Social time and refreshments

PLENARY INDULGENCE

The Plenary Indulgence is an extra grace which comes from the recitation of the Creed, Prayers for the Pope's Intentions (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be), Reception of Holy Communion and going to Confession one week before or after a visit.

It is an invitation to change and share with others the mercy experienced in encountering God. Also, the Plenary Indulgence can be applied to the Holy Souls in Purgatory or to a sick or infirm person who cannot get to church. What a great gift we can offer others!

STEVENAGE DEANERY

*is made up of St. Thomas of Canterbury and the
English Martyrs, Royston,*

*Holy Trinity and St. Augustine of Canterbury,
Baldock,*

Our Lady Immaculate and St. Andrew, Hitchin,

St. Hugh of Lincoln, Letchworth Garden City,

*Transfiguration (Old Town), St. Hilda's
(Shephall) and St. Joseph's (Bedwell), Stevenage,*

*St. Thomas More, Knebworth, Marychurch and St.
Peter's, Hatfield,*

*St. Bonaventure's, Our Lady Queen of Apostles
and Holy Family, Welwyn Garden City*

CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS

*will preach on the 'Jubilee of Consolation' on
Sunday 3rd July at 4pm in Our Lady's, WGC.*

*There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
and Confessions from 5.30pm*

and Mass at 6.30pm followed by a social.