

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 1686

11th – 18th June 2016 11th Sunday in ordinary time Year C



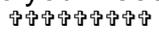
Mass Times
Saturday anticipating 6pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm
Monday – Saturday 10am
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am

Contacts	
Parish Priest Fr Tom O'Brien	07547 171570 E-mail: frtomaa@gmail.com
Fr Euloge Kasine	07424 004647 eulogeka@gmail.com
Fr Michael Lambert Pastoral Support	07958 575442 michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Pastoral Assistants Trish Bonnett	Tel: 01462 455577 trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk
Susanna Hawksley Catechetics	susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders	Tel: 01462 459126 cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Office Tel: Mobile: Website: E-mail:	01462 459 126 07547 171570 parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin hitchin@rcdow.org.uk

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



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.



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.

Diary

Sunday 12th	Coffee Morning – UCM
Monday 13th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Christian Meditation Group LCR11.15-12.30pm
Tuesday 14th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30 – 3.30pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm Choir practice Church 8pm
Wednesday 15th	Rosary Group for All Hall 9.30am
Thursday 16th	Rosary - Church after Mass
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 17th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina - Pastoral Office 2pm
Sunday 19th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Laudato Si reflection UCR 3.40-4.30pm

Readings: Sam 12:7-10.13, Gal 2:16.19-21, Lk 7:36-8.3

Entrance antiphon Oh Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; Be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, Oh God, my Saviour!
Psalm: Forgive, Lord, the guilt of my sin.
Intercessions: Lord Hear Us
Response: Lord, Graciously Hear Us!

Next week Zech 12:10-11;13:1 Gal 3:26-29, Lk 9:18-24

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team 4 Monday Team 4



No cash for the collection? Just text Parish HITCH to 70800 to donate £5. See posters in porch.

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

Ramblings for Reflection: It is possible to lose a good reputation overnight but it is very, very much harder to lose a bad reputation. Burn the toast a couple of times and you will be known for burning toast for the rest of your life even though you have



given up eating bread!! What is so refreshing about Jesus is that he only looks at us in the present just as he did to the women who came to him in the Pharisee's house. A woman full of love and remorse, of joy and sorrow and, most of all, a woman who had been set free from the shackles of the past and whose response to this freedom was an abundance of gratitude, of thanksgiving. Isn't that what mercy does? Isn't this what Jesus, what God, wants for us? To be set free from all that drags us down, hinders or shackles our growth, cages us in. This MERCY sets us free so that we are able give of an abundance (the very best) of ourselves to others in heartfelt love and thanksgiving, just like the woman in the gospel!!

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This week marks the anniversary of the publication of Pope Francis' great letter to all of us (**Laudato Si**) about our world. In it he shows us how we are connected both with each other and with our environment. We will mark this anniversary with a meditation about the encyclical next **Sunday 19th June at 3.30-4.30pm** in the upper committee room. The meditation will consist of images, music and prayer – both spoken and silent reflection. Please join us to reflect on how the words of our Pope can inspire us and help us realise how great God is, how He is present in and working through us and the world. We are grateful to Ann Milner (our parishioner in China – due back in July) for preparing this for us.

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Amoris Laetitia, "The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family"

Thursday 30th June you are invited to a supper at 7– 8.30pm. How are we going to look at this letter and share? What kind of support would people like? We want to share the key things that have come out of it for us. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the letter? We will try to develop a mental map of where we are going. We can feed this back to the Pope. He is inviting response from everyone. Susanna will facilitate this. In preparation for this we had copies of Chapters 3 & 4 last weekend (spares are now available) and this week we have now printed

Chapters 5 & 6 on the table in front of the blue board. Please sign up to attend the evening (for catering purposes) We would encourage as many people as possible to take part. We are all part of "The Joy of Love: On Love in the Family".

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Thinking About Life and Faith

The search for happiness. Does God exist? Why do we need the Church? How do I discover the purpose of my life? These are just a selection of the topics covered in our new series: **Thinking About Life and Faith**, which starts on **7th July at 7:30pm** until 9pm and continues on Thursday evenings each week. You don't have to come to every session but you might find you want to! Absolutely anyone is welcome – it doesn't matter what stage your faith is at. If you are interested, please sign the sheet in the porch – just so Susanna has an idea of where to hold it.

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Michaelmas SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER

Many thanks to all those who supported the recent planning meeting by attending or making suggestions. The next meeting will be on **Monday 4th July at 8pm** in the Lower Committee Room and everyone is invited to attend. Meanwhile could you put aside any items suitable for sale at the fair? In September we will place baskets for collecting goods which will include bottles and jars, produce, new items, good quality bric a brac, toys and games. On the day we will be looking for cakes and plants. At the moment we are compiling a list of 'promises' for the auction. If you can offer to cut and style hair, bake a cake, cook a meal, do some gardening or promise any service at all, please contact Pam Brannigan (01462 632587 or email pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com) who will send you a form to complete.

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Message from Annette Field I will be leaving Hitchin with my husband shortly , for a new life on the South coast and would like to say goodbye to my many friends in the Parish. I have lived in Hitchin since I was 4 years old so will miss so many people but looking forward to our new adventure and being near our eldest daughter and first grandchild , expected in a few months . A special thank you to those in the Parish who supported, helped and prayed for me when I underwent cancer treatment. I will still be a visitor to Hitchin as my elderly Mother remains a member of the Parish.

Weekend Masses during the summer. Over the summer Fr Michael and Fr Tom will be away at various times and occasionally Fr Euloge will be on his own. It is, therefore, proposed to not have the 10am Saturday Mass and the 5pm Sunday Mass for the month of August (as has happened in past summers) If this is a particular problem for anyone could you please speak to Fr Tom.

Dates for Diary

Monday 13 June

6.30pm Family BBQ and AGM Our Church Scout Group would like to offer an invite to anyone in the parish who may be interested in coming along to our **Family BBQ and AGM**. This is a great opportunity to meet other families and learn more about our group and what Scouting may be able to offer you and your family. Venue is Wymondley Woods at 6.30pm. Follow us on www.7th-hitchin.org.uk and on Twitter @7thhitchin. Contact Group Scout Leader Karen Kennedy for further information on kd.kennedy@ntlworld.com

Saturday 18 June

 **9am** at Hitchin Christian Centre meet for the next Extra Smile project for gardening jobs this time - a single lady on Westmill whose garden is getting out of control. All help welcome.

Future Dates

June 18 **10.30 am - 4pm Movements in the Soul Towards Union** Led by Julienne McLean, Sister Melanie Kingston and Judy Barber House of Prayer, 35 Seymour Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PB A day of teaching, creative reading and silence with writings from the Spanish mystic, St Teresa of Avila. Cost: £20. Please bring a packed lunch. *Please contact us on: 020 8941 2313 or e-mail: houseofprayer@hotmail.co.uk to reserve a place.*

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Vocations Pilgrimage to Walsingham, A day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, consecrated and married life. For further details and bookings, contact Fr Richard at richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk

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You are all warmly invited to join the above **Northampton Diocese Justice & Peace Commission Conference**. Registration at 09.30am for a 10am start. The keynote speaker will be Barbara Kentish (Field worker with the Westminster Diocese J&P Commission) on "Laudato Si". There will be workshops to identify parish level activities. The venue is St John the Apostle Church, 296 Sundon Park Road, Sundon

Park, Luton, Beds, LU3 3AL. Please bring food for a shared lunch. For further details, contact Fr. Tony Brennan on 01582 502400.

June 21

12.30-2.30pm I would like to draw your attention to an event in the forthcoming refugee week: a vigil of prayer for refugees in Whitehall, outside Downing Street, where there will be commemoration of those who have died while trying to reach places of safety. This is organised by the London Catholic Worker.

June 25

10am-4pm Moving into the Disposition of the 'Principle and Foundation': Opening ourselves up to freedom and joy. Led by Sister Kate Stogdon House of Prayer, 35 Seymour Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PB

This day takes its inspiration from a key text in the 'Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola': the Principle and Foundation. Participants will be invited to reflect on the gift of creative movement and how it helps to nurture the life of the spirit - through input, sharing and personal reflection. Cost: £20. Please bring a packed lunch. *Please contact us on: 020 8941 2313 or e-mail: houseofprayer@hotmail.co.uk to reserve a place.*

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2.30 to 3.30 pm We are holding a 'pilgrimage' service in the church of Notre Dame de France, Leicester Place, off Leicester Square, to pray for refugees, using a 'Lampedusa Cross', that is, a cross which has been made by an island carpenter from one of the refugee boats from Africa,. See the CAFOD website for details of the Lampedusa crosses.

July 2

10am-4pm "Made in God's Image" – A day workshop at Mount Street Jesuit Centre organised by the LGBT Catholics Younger Adults Group (YAG) of the Westminster Diocese, on self-acceptance and reflecting on our journeys. Through input from Mgr. Keith Barltrop, spiritual guide for LGBT Catholics Westminster, and through the sharing of experiences of members of the LGBT Catholics Westminster community as well as group and individual reflection sessions, we hope that those taking part will be able to see God's work in their lives and feel encouraged and supported by the Westminster diocese in being who they are.. Suggested donation of £10 which will include lunch. For more information and to register to this event please contact email lgbtcatholicisyag@gmail.com website www.lgbtcatholicisyag.org.uk.

Other items of interest

Childminder needed to look after a 4 year old girl from September. Needs to be able to start from 7am and be willing to accommodate shift work with the potential for set days. Needs to be able to drop off and pick up at school times from Our Lady's School. Please contact **Francesca Barnard** on 07584065422.

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HOME HELP REQUIRED - STOTFOLD BASED

We are looking for somebody to help prepare meals and supply a small amount of company to our elderly relative on a daily basis. There will be no personal care involved. Hourly pay is to be negotiated. The successful applicant will be required to undergo a DBS check. If you are interested please call Francesca on 07956 369887

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The **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** is once again looking to recruit volunteers to help on this summer's pilgrimage., and the following words, which were written by James Kelliher, Communications and Events Coordinator at Westminster Youth Ministry really say it all!

If you are over 18, your help would be very much appreciated as a St Frai Helper. Some of our sick pilgrims in most need of support and medical care stay in a hospital-like building called the Accueil St Frai in the centre of Lourdes. It is well-equipped for their care and they are looked after by a team of doctors, nurses and volunteer St Frai Helpers.

The role of a St Frai helper is to support the nurses and provide the sort of care for which you don't need a medical qualification. This includes helping the pilgrims get up and ready in the morning; making large amounts of tea; taking the pilgrims to various pilgrimage events; shopping and socialising with them and other helpers; and putting them to bed at night. The timetable is shared across two shifts so there is enough time to rest, make your own pilgrimage, spend time with your groups and make new friends. Helping in the St Frai is an extremely moving and rewarding experience. Working in the St Frai is an opportunity to give our care and company to our pilgrims and make a huge difference in their lives.

If you're interested in helping in the St Frai in Lourdes, please email chief helpers Nick Leonard or Laura Simmonds at nickleonard507@gmail.com or laurasimmonds@ymail.com

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Free safeguarding training available to all members of the Catholic Community! The National Catholic Safeguarding Commission (NCSC) has worked with Educare to provide an online, interactive E-Learning safeguarding course which is now available to all in the Catholic

Church. If you have a role (voluntary or paid) working with children/adults at risk or have an interest in safeguarding, the online training is a great opportunity to learn how to better protect children/ adults at risk in your care and community. Some of the modules available include: Child Exploitation & Online Safety and Adult Safeguarding. To register please email: safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk with the following details: full name, parish/order/congregation, and your role e.g. parent, catechist leader. For more information please ask for a brochure from your safeguarding rep Trish Bonnett.

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2017 is a special year for us at **The John Henry Newman School**, as it the 30th Anniversary of our formation. This is an event that we would like to celebrate with as many of our ex pupils, students and staff as possible, along with friends of John Henry Newman and we would like to ask for your help in reaching as many alumni from your parish as possible.



We have set up a dedicated Facebook page to make as many connections as possible, where publications and information is shared on a regular basis. There is also an area on our school website where people can join our database. If people prefer they can email or call us with their details so that we can add them to our database. Here are our details

Facebook page - www.facebook.com/The-John-Henry-Newman-Catholic-School-Alumni-Page. Email - alumni@jhn.herts.sch.uk

Telephone - 01438 314643

Website www.jhn.herts.sch.uk/HistoryoftheSchool

Many thanks for your continued assistance and support of our school, and we look forward to as many of you signing up as possible.

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St John Bosco Children's Children's Camp: Boys aged between 8 and 13 and girls, aged between 9 – 12, are cordially invited to consider joining a Holiday Camp: for boys the weeks of July 23rd to August 6; the girls for August 6 to 13th. There is an Application form in the Parish Office, if parents would like to consider allowing their children to go on these events, which have been running for many years. They can take 140 children per week. The suggested donation is £145 per child. Further details may be obtained from Paul Hayes, on 01992 914117, 6.00pm to 9.00pm (for boys) and for girls: Yvonne Durkan, on 01634 311350.