



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 1706

29th October – 5th November 2016 31st 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:	01462 459 126
Mobile:	07547 171570
Website:	parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin
E-mail:	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Representative Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)	

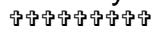
Diary

Sunday 30th	Coffee Morning – Beavers/Scouts
	All Hallows party Hall 4pm-6pm
	Youth Ministry Event Hall 2-7pm
Monday 31st	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Christian Meditation Group UCR 11.45am
Tuesday 1st	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am-3pm
	Choir Practice Church 8pm
Wednesday 2nd	Rosary Group for All Hall 9.30am
	Thinking about Life and Faith LCR 7.30-9pm
Thursday 3rd	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 4th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
Sunday 6th	Coffee Morning – Bethany Club
	Baptism Course Hall 3-4.30pm
	Confirmation Hall 6-8pm



If you are going into hospital please take a copy of the leaflet in the church porch and notify the RC Chaplain Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) on Tel: **01438 285138**
Via text message: **07876 526935**
Email: chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net

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.



Readings: Wis 11:22-12:2, Thess 1:11-2:2, Luke 19:1-10

Entrance Antiphon: Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!
Psalm: I will bless your name forever, O God, my King.

Intercessions: Lord when you call us....
Response: **Let us welcome you joyfully.**

Next week: Macc7:1-2.9-14, Thess 2:16-3:5, Luke 20:27-38

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 3 Monday Team: 4
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No cash for the collection? Just text Parish HITCH to 70800 to donate £5.

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.

Ramblings for Reflection:

Whenever we feel low and the stresses and strains of life seem to be pressing the life out of us, we feel alone as though cut off from others, from the world, and often wonder where God is - we feel excluded in some way. Read the first reading from Wisdom this week, it reassures us that we are always, yes always, loved by a God who wants the best for us otherwise we wouldn't even be here. Knowing and not just believing that we are loved makes a big difference! The tax collector in the Gospel is someone despised and cast out purely because of the job he does – NOT FOR WHO HE IS. In fact he is not given a chance to prove his worth. Most of all he felt unloved, an outcast. As always, Jesus accepts us for who we are, not for what we have or haven't done, and that makes all the difference. Not only do we know we are loved but also that we are welcome and belong and that we are valued. And this is how Zacchaeus felt when Jesus invited himself to his house: valued, welcomed and included. Only when he was welcomed and acknowledged was he able to change, to do the things he had probably wanted to do for a long time, correct any misdeed he may have done – knowingly or unknowingly - and be generous with his wealth. Something he was unable to do while he was an outcast!! Is there a message here for us???

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All Hallows Eve Party - Tickets can still be purchased for the party after 8:30 and 10:30 Masses this weekend and can also be bought on the door. The party starts at 4pm and we are looking forward to seeing lots of children there. for more information please contact Helen Bailey at hbailey@talktalk.net

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Next gardening Session - Saturday 5th November, 9 am - 12 pm. Everyone is welcome. We will be concentrating on the wild flower area, cutting back and leaf clearing. If you would like to help please just turn up in the car park around 9am or contact Helen Bailey at hbailey@talktalk.net.

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Worm food - We are in need of your vegetable peelings for our wormeries located in the new vegetable beds. The brown tubes (with lids on) need to be frequently replenished with fresh vegetable peelings to keep our vegetable beds full of nutrition. Please feel free to add more peelings

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Flame 17 - There is a list in the porch below the Flame17 poster, to register your interest in attending this incredible event. This is not binding and you can change your mind. We need to know if this is of interest to the young people of our parish and how many tickets we need to buy. For more

information please visit their website: <http://catholicyouthwork.com/booking-open-flame-2017/>

Sunday 30 October

2-7pm Youth Ministry Event in the Hall

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3-4.30 pm Session 1 of the Baptismal Course . Session 2 will be on Sunday 13 November in the Hall 3-4.30pm.

Tuesday 1 November

Feast of All Saints

Masses will be at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm

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UCM - Discussion Evening in the Lower Committee Room at 8pm

Wednesday 2 November

All Souls' Day

Mass will be celebrated at 10am and 7.30pm

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11am Mass at Elmside Care Home all parishioners welcome

Thursday 3 November

10am to 12 noon St Pio Mass

Sunday 6 November

Session 1 for Confirmation Candidates will take place in the Hall at 6pm and Session 2 for Confirmation Candidates will be in the Hall at 6.30pm

Monday 7 November

8pm in the Hall Session 2 in preparation for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 4

In speaking of marriage, Jesus refers us to yet another page of Genesis, which, in its second chapter, paints a splendid and detailed portrait of the couple. First we see the man, who anxiously seeks 'a helper fit for him' (v 18,20) capable of alleviating the solitude which he feels amid the animals and the world around him. The original Hebrew suggests a direct encounter, face to face, eye to eye, in a kind of silent dialogue, for where love is concerned, silence is always more eloquent than words. It is an encounter with a face, a 'thou', who reflects God's own love and is 'the finest (gift) he will ever have - a helper fit for him and a pillar of support.' (Sir 36.24) Or again, as the woman of the Song of Solomon will sing in a magnificent profession of love and mutual self-bestowal: "My beloved is mine and I am his...I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine" (2:16;6:3).

