



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 1708

12th November – 19th November 2016 33rd 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)	

Diary

Sunday 13th	Coffee Morning – Diapalante
	Baptism Course in Hall 3.30-4.30pm
	In Memoriam service 6.15pm
Monday 14th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Christian Meditation Group UCR 11.45am
Tuesday 15th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30am-3pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Choir Practice Church 8pm
Wednesday 16th	Rosary Group for All Hall 9.30am
	Thinking about Life and Faith LCR 7.30-9pm
Thursday 17th	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Pastoral Office 6.30pm
Friday 18th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Lectio Divina Pastoral Office 2pm
Saturday 19th	Reconciliation Session 3 Hall 9.30am
Sunday 20th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
	Confirmation Course Hall 6pm

H Hospital

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.

Readings: Mal 3:19-20, Thess 3:7-12, Luke 21:5-19

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Psalm: The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness

Intercessions: Lord we pray
Response: **Give us wisdom and endurance.**

Next week: Sam 5:1-3, Col 1:12-20, Luke 23:35-43

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.

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 5 Monday Team: 2

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:

As we approach the end of the present cycle of year C, our scripture readings become much more troublesome, worrying and challenging. And yet, Jesus tells us not to be afraid whatever happens. What is encouraging for our faith is that Jesus never tried to hide the reality of what could happen to us. He made it very clear that following him would not be all sweetness and happiness. But, as with any true relationship, he repeatedly encouraged us to trust him. There is always the danger of focusing on the end time so that it clouds our vision of the present. We end up worrying about things that might happen. Which, if they do not occur, all our worrying will have been in vain and, if they do happen, all our worrying beforehand will not change what happens. If anything, these readings should encourage us to work harder in loving our neighbour, working for peace, protecting our environment, being people of Good News. Of all the calls Jesus makes to us to trust in him, let us remember that Jesus places his complete trust in us; otherwise you would not be baptised (or be reading these Ramblings?). And Trust lies at the heart of every sustaining, energising, supportive and loving relationship. *“Now, God be praised, that to believing souls gives light in darkness, comfort in despair.”* William Shakespeare

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ADVENT CALENDARS will be on sale in the Hall after the 8.30 and 10.30 Masses. Each calendar pays for the 25 gifts described in its windows. These gifts will be distributed to adults and children in West Africa over the coming year. Enjoy opening each window to reveal its gift: reading glasses, a storybook, craft materials, a pack of seeds etc. A mix of useful, fun and educational items. Suitable for all ages and produced by Diapalante. Christmas cards, lavender bags and notebooks will also be on sale.

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There will be a second collection this weekend in aid of **Sick and Retired Priests**. Please give as generously as you can. Many thanks.

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Message from the Counting and Banking Teams - New £5 notes are very difficult to handle when in large quantities in the weekly banking process if folded. It would be much appreciated if they are left unfolded if at all possible. If necessary do not fold them more than once and please never folded twice. Thank you for your co-operation.

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A key on a key ring was found in the Church on Tuesday 8 November. If you have lost a key, please come to the Parish Office. Thank you.



Care job opportunity Gentleman in Letchworth with Parkinson's needs a personal assistant to provide support and a sitting service. Personal Care. 4 hours per week. Slot(s) between 12:00 and 16:00, day(s) to be agreed. £10per hour. Contact 01462 439000 - Quote Ref: GRX1

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There are four **coffee mornings** for 2017 still not taken! The dates are February 5th, July 9th, July 23rd and August 6th. Please let Cheryl know if you can fill these.

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There are two **Red Missio boxes** that have been emptied ready for collection. If they belong to you, please call into the Parish Office.

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When **Mass intentions** are booked, please could the person who requests them provide a contact telephone number and name. Sometimes it is necessary to change the date due to unforeseen circumstances. We want to be able to offer you an alternative date should this happen.

Dates for Diary

Tuesday 15 November

2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge. All are welcome

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8pm UCM There will be a talk from a Probation Officer, in the lower Committee Room.

Thursday 17 November

Vigil of the Dedication of the Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting; www.goodcounselnetwork.com

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 6

Chapter 1 *In the Light of the Word (continued)*.

Let us once more take up the song of the Psalmist. In the home where husband and wife are seated at table, children appear at their side "like olive shoots" (Ps 128:3), that is, full of energy and vitality.



If the parents are in some sense the foundations of the home, the children are like the 'living stones' of the family (cf. 1 Pet 2.5) Significantly, the word which appears most frequently in the Old Testament after the name of God (YHWH, "the Lord"), is "child" (ben, "son"), which is itself related to the verb "to build" (banah).