



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 1716

7th January – 14th January 2017 The Epiphany of the Lord



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
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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 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.



Parish Prayer Bless this parish, Lord. Let our community reflect your own communion of love. Help us to live peacefully and humbly, attending to the call of your Spirit and mindful of our duty to everything you have created. Strengthen the bonds of our families and friendships with patience and kindness. Make us joyful messengers of your kingdom and a source of comfort for those in need.

Diary

Sunday 8th	Coffee Morning – KISS
Monday 9th Scout Hall Beavers 6-7pm Cubs 7.15-8.15pm	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am Christian Meditation Group LCR 11.45am
Tuesday 10th Scout Hall Scouts 7.15-8.45pm	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30am-3pm New Year Party! Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm Thinking about Life and Faith LCR 7.30pm Choir Practice Church 8pm
Wednesday 11th	Rosary Group for All Hall 9.30am
Thursday 12th	Italian Club Hall 1pm Christian Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 13th	Parent & Toddler Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
Saturday 14th	First Reconciliation after 10am Mass
Sunday 15th	Coffee Morning – One World Group

Readings: Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3.5-6, Matt 2:1-12

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Psalm: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

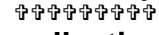
Intercessions: Lord, shepherd of your people

Response: **Show yourself to us.**

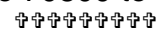
Next week Is 49:3.5-6, Cor 1:1-3, John 1:29-34

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 6 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.

Christmas Eve Nativity Service - Thank you to all those involved in the preparation and organising of the wonderful Nativity Service. Thank you to the Parish Parent & Toddler Group and to those who came to the Nativity Service with gifts for Family Matters Parent Group and for the Hitchin Food Bank. Over 140 individual items have been received and have been given to these groups, all of which will make a real difference now and in the months to come!

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Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Churches Together in Hitchin is marking this international week of prayer with the following:

- **Sundays 15th and 22nd January:** exchange of ministers at morning services

- **Sunday 22nd January** 6.30 pm at Tilehouse Street Baptist Church: united service, including the induction of the Rev Dr Jane Mainwaring of St Mark's as the Chair of Churches Together in Hitchin

- **Sunday 29th January** 6.30 pm at St Mark's: evening service in the style of the Taize Community.

The theme of this year's Week of Prayer, chosen by the churches of Germany, is *Crossing Barriers* based on 2 Corinthians 5:14-20. If you would like to use the material personally, go to www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer Further information about any of the above from John Richardson on johnrichardson891@btinternet.com or 07505 426876

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New year's resolution: Make a difference with CAFOD Make 2017 the year you meet new friends, inspire others to act for social justice, and use your skills to help our sisters and brothers working to overcome poverty around the globe. Are you a people-person who would relish involving and encouraging others in your local area? Or maybe you are a good communicator who would enjoy speaking in churches or presenting assemblies and workshops in schools? Please get in touch with us on westminster@cafod.org.uk or 020 8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of our Understanding CAFOD information sessions: on Sat 28 January in Stratford E15 and Sat 4 February in Waterloo SE1. The Stratford session has limited places so please contact us early if this is your preferred session.

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ADVANCE WARNING!! SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION On **Saturday January 14th**, our children who have been preparing to receive this sacrament will be doing so for the first time after 10am Mass. Parishioners who wish to receive the sacrament themselves are asked to wait until the

children have all had their opportunity - this may take an hour; you are welcome to stay but you may wish to make arrangements to go for a walk and return when most of the children have been seen. Please pray for the children - maybe pray and walk! Thank you for your understanding.

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Westmill Makes Music (Formerly known as "The Music Project") Will be restarting on **9th Jan 2017**, 7.30pm in the new Westmill Centre John Barker Place, Hitchin SG5 2PG. Come along to learn to play a new musical instrument in a calm friendly atmosphere. Light refreshments will be served. For more info contact Donald on 07737451105.

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 11 Jan

There will be Mass at 2.30pm at Foxholes. All welcome.

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There will be a Praise Group Meeting in the Lower Committee Room at 10.40am. All who love singing are welcome!

Friday 13 Jan

20th anniversary of the founding of **The Good Counsel Network** in the UK, thousands of Lives has been Saved from abortion since then. Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia on Thursday 12th January, the eve of this anniversary. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed.

www.goodcounselnetwork.com

Future Dates

Jan 18 6.30pm Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2017 If you are interested in finding out about a parish pilgrimage to Lourdes during this year please come to a meeting in the Upper Committee Room where there will be talk given by Adrian from Northern Star Travel. Please do come along.

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 14

Chapter 1 In the Light of the Word (continued)

The word of God tells us that the family is entrusted to a man, a woman and their children, so that they may become a communion of persons in the image of the union of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Begetting and raising children, for its part, mirrors God's creative work. The family is called to join in daily prayer, to read the word of God and to share in Eucharistic communion and thus to grow in love and become ever more fully a temple in which the Spirit dwells.

