



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 1730

15th – 22nd April 2017 – Sunday of the Resurrection



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| Mass Times | |
| Saturday anticipating 6pm | |
| Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm | |
| Monday – Saturday 10am | |
| Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am during Exposition | |
| Contacts | |
| Parish Priest Fr Tom O'Brien | 07547 171570 thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk |
| Fr Euloge Kasine | 07424 004647 eulogeka@gmail.com |
| Fr Michael Lambert Counselling Support | 07958 575442 michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk |
| Pastoral Assistants Trish Bonnett | Tel: 01462 459126 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

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| Sunday 16th | Coffee Morning – One World Group |
| Monday 17th | Bank Holiday |
| Tuesday 18th | Morning Prayer Church 9.30am |
| | Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm |
| | Choir Practice Church 8pm |
| Wednesday 19th | Rosary Group for All Hall 9.30am |
| Thursday 20th | Italian Club Hall 1pm |
| | Christian Mediation Group UCR 6.30pm |
| Saturday 22nd | First Holy Communion Workshop Hall 9.30-11.30am |
| Sunday 23rd | Coffee Morning – Diapalante |

Readings Acts:10:34.37-43, Col3:1-4, John 20:1-9

Entrance Antiphon I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

Psalm: This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad

Intercessions: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Response: His love has no end.

Next week: Acts:2:42-47, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 6 Monday Team: 4
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No cash for the collection? Just text Parish HITCH to 70800 to donate £5.
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The collection this weekend will go to the priests of the parish. All donations can be gift aided. It would be appreciated if cheques for the Easter collection are made out to the Parish, and not to the Order.
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Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard over this week to make our Holy week and Easter celebrations truly wonderful and full of praise for our risen Lord.

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.

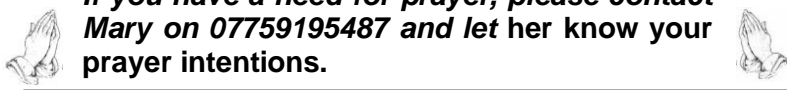
Confidential service provided. No need to identify yourself



If 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.
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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.



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

In case we might miss it on the day, the sunshine of Easter Glory has filled the sky over these past couple of weeks. We've never had so much sun, and, doesn't it lift the spirits and inspire hope? The paradox is that it has more effect when we have been through dark, dreary, cold, damp days beforehand. We are resurrection people. People of light and hope and above all JOY. A kind of joy that is infectious, that radiates through the whole of our being, that influences others (even our enemies), that seeps into our conversation and thinking, like the little baby, we are a 'Bundle of Joy'! Macrina Wiederkehr reminds us that "Some of our light has not yet reached our family, our friends, our world. There are pieces of compassion, forgiveness, courage, hope and love in us that have not been fully discovered." Easter tells us that, when we look at our lives and see the cracks and fault lines and even the gaps, these are the places through which Jesus will let his light shine in a special, captivating way. A light that not only reveals to you your hidden treasures but enlightens the rich treasures in the lives of all those you encounter. And look around you, new life is springing up everywhere: in the fields, the gardens, the trees, and the birds sing their morning melody with such joy they already herald Easter. We are the Easter people, we are people of light, of hope and of JOY, because Jesus has risen indeed! Halleluia! Halleluia! Halleluia!

Halleluia!
HE IS RISEN

Dates for Diary

Tuesday 18 April

7 for 7.30pm UCM meal at the Millstream. Please remember to bring your payment for the theatre tickets.

Saturday 22 April

9.30am First Holy Communion workshop in the hall for parents and children.

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10.30 am Earth Day 2017 Know the Creator through Creation: The [@livesimply](#) team are holding a session of prayer, discussion, video and reflection using the materials from the Catholic Climate Covenant. It takes place in the Lower Committee room. The session will last approximately an hour. We ask you to come and embrace our call as Catholics to increase awareness of care for creation and climate change issues.

#Mercy2Earth Sunday 23 April

2pm Respond to Pope Francis' call to show mercy to our common home. The livesimply team are collaborating with the local Triangle Community

Garden committee to take part in a Litter Picking event along Grove Road and the river. Please come and join us. We will meet at 2pm in the church car park. Bring wellies!

Future Dates

April 26 10am-3pm **Mindfulness in the Christian Tradition** with Fr Malachy Keegan. How does it differ from secular mindfulness? What is its place in our life of faith and prayer? Suggested donation £14 please bring a packed lunch. (Part II Wednesday 24 May). Venue: Niland Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE. For information 020 8950 4000.

June 7-14 DIVINE MERCY PILGRIMAGE

Following the footsteps of St Faustina and St John Paul II Package includes: return flights from Heathrow - full board - 7 nights accommodation in en suite shared rooms - **£849**. Space still available. For details contact 02089980925 or email info@divinemercury.org.uk

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 27

The experiences and challenges of families (cont)

The Synod Fathers have another 15 subchapters (!) acknowledging some of the challenges families around the world currently face. Pope Francis concludes, "I thank God that many families, which are far from considering themselves perfect, live in love, fulfill their calling and keep moving forward, even if they fall many times along the way."



The Synod's reflections show us there is no stereotype of the ideal family, but rather a challenging mosaic, made up of many different realities, with all their joys, hopes and problems. The situations that concern us are challenges. We should not be trapped into wasting our energy in doleful laments, but rather seek new forms of missionary creativity. In every situation, that presents itself, 'the Church is conscious of the need to offer a word of truth and hope... The great values of marriage and the Christian family correspond to a yearning that is part and parcel of human existence.'

If we see any number of problems, these should be, as the Bishops of Colombia have said, a summons to "revive our hope and to make it the source of prophetic visions, transformative actions and creative forms of charity."