



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 1734

13th May 2017 – 20th May 2017 5th Sunday of Easter Year A

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

Sunday 14th	Coffee Morning – Flower Group Confirmation rehearsal Church 6.15pm
Monday 15th Scout Hall Beavers 6-7pm Cubs 7.15-8.15pm	Parent & Toddlers Hall 9.30-11am Christian Meditation Group LCR 11.45am
Tuesday 16th Scout Hall Scouts 7-9pm	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm Choir Practice Church 8pm UCM Hall 8pm
Wednesday 17th	Rosary Group Hall 9.30am RCIA UCR 7.30pm
Thursday 18th	Italian Club Hall 1pm Christian Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 19th	Parent & Toddlers Hall 9-11.15am Lectio Divina LCR 2-3pm
Saturday 20th	First Holy Communion Session – Hall 9.30-11am Confirmation 6pm Mass
Sunday 21st	Coffee Morning – One World Group



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.

This week: Acts:6:1-7, 1 Pet 2:4-9, Jn 14:1-12

Entrance Antiphon O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.
Psalm: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. Alleluia!
Intercession bidding: We trust in the Lord!
Response: **May His Love be upon us!**

Next week Acts: 8:5-8, 1 Pet 3:15-18, Jn 14:15-21

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 3 Monday Team: 4

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



There will be a second collection on **21st May** next weekend in aid of CAFOD.

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

Jesus' challenge was how to help us look beyond what we see, experience or feel, and hear more than just the words spoken. We proclaim Jesus as the light, but, if we only look at the light and not beyond, we will fail to see what the light uncovers or reveals. After all, we do not just look at the sun on a sunny day but are captivated by how the sunlight cheers our surrounding; how everything is brighter, more vivid and full of life. We feel invigorated and renewed. We turn lights on to see what's around us, not to gaze at the light. The light of Jesus, however, adds something more. It is not just revelatory, doesn't just provoke us to look beyond the initial image or experience, it also opens us up to a relationship. That is why Jesus kept talking about the relationship he had with his Father and how that relationship inspired, motivated and encouraged him. Anyone who has been in a close, loving relationship with someone begins to intuitively know what the other person thinks, feels and knows, even what they will say. Jesus had this kind of relationship with his Father. This is the intimate relationship the apostles received at Pentecost and which they wanted to share in their preaching. They spoke as if Jesus were speaking through them. They were of *one heart and one mind* with Jesus. Don't we want this kind of relationship with Jesus and to be this kind of light?

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Churches together in Hitchin

The Council of Churches Together in Hitchin (CTH) will meet on Tuesday 23 May, 8pm (tea/coffee from 7.30) at St Faith's Church on the corner of Woolgrove Road and Cambridge Road in Walsworth.

Dates for Diary

Tuesday 16 May

2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge. **All are welcome**

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8pm UCM Meeting in the lower committee room. Rosary and planning meeting.

Sunday 28 May

2.30pm Our next Healing and Wholeness service is on at an earlier time.

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Christian Aid Week 14 to 20 May.

Please pray for the hundreds of volunteers involved in the house to house collection across Hitchin, Ickleford, Pirton and St Ippollitts. If your street is missed and you would like to donate please use the envelopes supplied to your church or through

www.christianaid.org.uk

Helen Richardson 07880 682681

helenwrich@btinternet.com

Walsingham – Shefford and Hitchin Union of Catholic Mothers are running a coach to attend the UCM National Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Tuesday 4 July 2017. There are some seats available on the coach which will leave **Shefford at 8am returning at approximately 8pm**. For further information please contact Ann Cook on 01462 453893. Many thanks.

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Future Dates

May 15 Mark Gospel: 7pm - 8:30pm A basic handbook for discipleship with Fr John Hemer. Time: Venue: Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN. Registration is required. Email at livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk and indicate your name.

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Scripture from Scratch – Scripture May-June 2017. In the Footsteps of Saint Paul. An armchair pilgrimage into Europe. See parish website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/sacramental-prep/adult-formation/>

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 31

The Vocation of the Family continues:

"The Bible presents us with an ideal of life that, if made clear to us, causes us to say "How much I would like to attain such an ideal!" Only in a second moment do we come to compare that ideal with the reality of our own lives, and the disparity we discover can be very upsetting. In pondering this fact with children, a catechist asks the question "Would it be better not to know them? Would we live more peacefully without such difficult goals to attain?" And the answer of the children is a resounding "No," because the maxims challenge and inspire us to 'try and try again'.

In coming to know the norms, we must first see that they are beautiful and just. This realisation awakens our desire to put them into practice. The foundation of the moral life is, and always will be, that of falling in love. Measuring the distance between ideals and our ability to attain them is always a second step. Only if we respect both moments, both steps, will our practical application of the norms be an expression of love." Sofia Cavalletti *The Religious Potential of the Child, 6-12 years old* As we read this chapter Looking to Jesus in *Amoris Laetitia- The Joy of Love*, may we respect and love the existence of both steps.

