



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 1738
10th – 17th June 2017 - The Holy Trinity

Diary

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)	

Sunday 11th	Coffee Morning – Live Simply First Holy Communion Church & Hall 2pm
Scout Hall	
Monday 12th Beavers 6-7pm Cubs 7.15-8.15pm	Parent and Toddlers Hall 9-11.15am Christian Meditation Group UCR 11.45am
Tuesday 13th Scouts 7-9pm	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm No Eucharistic Service Choir Practice Church 8pm
Wednesday 14th	Rosary Group Hall 9.30am RCIA UCR 7.30pm Praise Group LCR 10-12 noon
Thursday 15th	Italian Club Hall 1pm Christian Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 16th	Parent & Toddlers Hall 9-11.15am Lectio Divina LCR 2-3pm
Saturday 17th	Euch Ministers Morning Reflection Hall 8.30-2.30pm
Sunday 18th	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.

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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.

This week: Ex 34:4-6.8-9, Cor 13:11-13, John 3:16-18

Entrance Antiphon: Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.

Psalm: To you glory and praise for evermore

Intercession: God of Compassion

Response: Hear our Prayers!

Next week: Deut 8:2-3.14-16, Cor 10:16-17, John 6:51-52

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 7 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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A wooden cigar box was left in the porch last weekend with something valuable in it. If you left it please let Trish know.

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

“The true objects of enjoyment are the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, who are at the same time the Trinity, one Being, supreme above all, and common to all who enjoy Him The Trinity, one God, of whom are all things, through whom are all things, in whom are all things. Thus the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and each of these by Himself, is God, and at the same time they are all one God To all three belong the same eternity, the same unchangeableness, the same majesty, the same power.” (St Augustine, Christian Doctrine Book I. 5:5): The Father, Son and Holy Spirit live in a relationship of Love: the relationship that we celebrate today. It is a relationship they share with each of us. Jesus makes it clear that only in this relationship will we discover true life, be able to live life to the full whatever befalls us. Condemnation means he strongly disapproves of living outside this relationship. Wrong because it inhibits our true growth in love, leaving us morally culpable for the harm we do. To live without God is a selfish choice, means going it alone, refusing the support of others, making yourself the centre of your life, isolating yourself. The choice for God is a choice for others, a choice shared with and strengthened by others, to allow the presence of God to shine through us, to be creative, salvific and to empower. Most Holy Trinity bless us with your love!

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We had a joyous Celebration of the 85th Anniversary of the Guild of St Stephen in the Parish at the 8.30am Mass last Sunday. Two new Members received their Medals, Crystal and Jessica. Together with Fr Michael, they then cut the special Birthday cake in the Hall, where it rapidly disappeared! Our grateful thanks are due to those who helped set up, prepare and ensure everything went well for the Celebration. It was a wonderful moment in the great Pentecost Celebration of the Building of our new Church. We have had many MCs ensuring the celebration of all the Masses over many years, but we should have included the loyal and committed service still being rendered, for the Saturday evening Mass, by Anne Chamberlain. Without her faithfulness there would have been nobody to prepare for that Mass, so we are deeply grateful for Anne's generous gift of her qualities and talents to supporting that Mass. She has also been continuing the training given initially to our young Servers, when that has been necessary, to build their confidence and allow them to become teachers in their turn. Thanks, Anne, for all that you do for our Parish in this way and we hope to have your faithful service continue in the coming years, in serving God and helping the

People of God here in Hitchin to be strengthened in their Ministry of prayer and support to the Parish! Please accept our apology and we pray all continues to go well for the future

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NOTICE FOR ALL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

There will be a morning of reflection for all Ministers of the Eucharist On **Saturday 17 June 2017** – Eve of Feast – Corpus Christi. The morning will begin with Mass in the church at 10am. Coffee will be served in the hall before the session begins. Sr. Mary Crowley will then lead us into reflective time. We will close at 1pm with a shared packed lunch. Please come to be refreshed in thought and prayer for the awesome Ministry that we share. Contact: Teresa Lawrence-Hyde Mobile: 07751886525 Email: teresahyde@btopenworld.com

Dates for Diary

Wednesday 14

Praise Group Meeting in the LCR after Mass. All are welcome.

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2.30pm Mass at Foxholes. All are welcome.

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Friday 23 June 7.30pm Service in the Church hosted by the Bereavement team for the bereaved and their families and friends. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Hall. You are all very welcome.

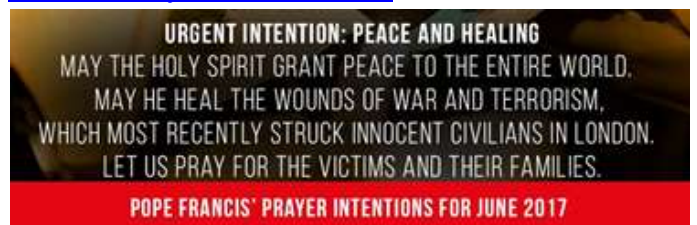
The Curry and Jazz evening has not sold many tickets and a decision whether or not it will happen will be made by Monday. All money will be refunded in the event of its cancellation.

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Studying in the sixth form at The John Henry Newman School

John Henry Newman school have a small number of places available to study from September 2017. If you would like the opportunity to achieve your very best at Level 3 study whilst being fully prepared for Higher Education or employment and enjoy the vast array of enrichment opportunities that make our school such a wonderful community then please contact Mrs W Howard, Director of Sixth Form on 01438 314643 or email howardw@jhn.herts.sch.uk



**Message from Ian McBain,
outgoing Chair of Governors
Our Lady's School**



You may have heard that I have stepped down from my governing body role at Our Lady Catholic School. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at the school and feel privileged to have been able to work alongside such dedicated people over the past twenty years. I frequently “popped in” to the school to talk to the staff and the children and really enjoyed learning from them and being involved in their activities. I have met so many of you, staff and parents, and seen you with your children over the years, both in the parish and at school and feel I want to share my thoughts with you all. I was introduced to the school by Trish Bonnett, our pastoral assistant, in 1997 and she supported me on my journey which took me to my role as Chair of Governors in 2003. During my time as Chair of Governors there have been many, many highlights which have contributed to making this parish school so special and part of our community. The Key Stage 2 SAT results over the past few years, when the school has been included in the top 200 primary schools in the country, is testament to the hard work, skill and love devoted to the school by all the staff and governors.

The awards the school has achieved in my time have been varied and phenomenal! I particularly remember the ‘Rights Respecting’ UNICEF award being achieved and eating a lunch specially prepared for the advisers, staff and governors, all cooked by the Y6 children. I also recall our work on the International award and seeing Old Hale Way bustling with parents and families queuing to get into the school, to sample the food cooked and prepared by our families, which make up the different cultures and nationalities of Our Lady School. I was incredibly honoured to be nominated for, and win, the Governor of the Year award in 2010.

I cannot reflect on my time without remembering our Assistant Head, Leda Bolden who so tragically died on Easter Sunday in 2013. I recall the community coming together and supporting the school, helping to make sure the children and their ‘well-being’ was paramount. With the support of the parish and community, our pupils, and those at John Henry Newman, came to hold hands and we were able to support and nurture our children through a truly difficult time. I thank all of you whom I have worked with, over the last twenty years and I wish Our Lady School all the very best for the continuation of its journey.

My very best wishes to you all, **Ian McBain**

Future Dates

June 24 12 – 4pm St. Elizabeth’s

Summer Fayre, Much Hadham. See poster in porch.

June 30 The Police are holding a free tool marking event is to be held at the Wyevale Garden Centre, The Rose Gardens, Cambridge Road, Hitchin.

Officers will be there between 10am - 1pm to mark items for free. In addition ProtectaVan and Selectamark will be attending the event and bringing along a van to exhibit products they have available, as well as provide information and advice to the public on how to make your vehicles more secure.

July 1 1.30- 4pm Please support a **VINTAGE TEA AFTERNOON** in aid of HITCHIN WEST GUIDES in our Parish Hall. Tickets IN ADVANCE £6.50 children under 10 £3.25 from Ann Cook 01462 453893.

July 1 **HOPE UK Education and Drugs**

Prevention charity is one that uses trained Christian volunteers to work with young people, of any background, to educate them about the dangers of being drawn into the use of drugs. The emphasis is on prevention rather than treatment. The charity is supported by the churches and volunteers will meet with youngsters (usually 11-15year olds) in various situations-schools, community centres, Scout groups, youth clubs etc. Sessions for parents of teenagers are also available. Preventive teaching about drugs is not statutory in schools and so it is vital that teenagers and their families are aware of the dangers and temptations in the community. The positive news is that statistics show that 11-15 year olds are not as involved with alcohol and substance abuse as previously. However Legal Highs are synthetic drugs which mimic the effects of traditionally illegal drugs so youngsters may believe they are acting legally and safely without fully understanding the risks involved. The cake stall at Christchurch on **Saturday 1 July** will be in aid of HopeUK-please support this event by offering to provide cakes or preserves for sale, volunteers to help run the stall would also be appreciated-as well as many sweet toothed customers! There will also be more information re HopeUK. The speakers we heard in November also asked for prayers for their work. Further details can be found on the charity’s [website www.hopeuk.org](http://www.hopeuk.org) or from Kathleen 452432/CC/CTH rep.

Other items of interest

Carers Week 2017
Monday 12 - Sunday 18 June



The charity **Carers in Hertfordshire** is holding a free drop-in Information Event in

Hitchin for people who look after someone who wouldn't manage without their support. Carers are invited to the Carers' Information Event at Hitchin Town Hall, Brand Street, Hitchin, on **Wednesday 14 June**, as part of the charity's programme of events to reach out to carers so they are identified and know about the services available to help them. If you look after someone due to their age, illness or disability, unpaid, you're welcome to this event, which runs from 11am to 2pm. You will be able to meet other local carers and receive information or advice from a range of organisations such as Money Advice Unit, Hertfordshire County Council and Herts Mind Network. You will also be able to speak to Carers in Hertfordshire staff about any questions or concerns you have related to your caring role. To learn more about the support Carers in Hertfordshire and other Carers Week events in Hertfordshire visit www.carersinherts.org.uk or call 01992 58 69 69.



Emotional First Aid please look at copies on the notice board of things we can do to help with emotional emergencies. This has been provided by PHASE.



Aletheia, Gardener and mentor at Getting Rooted CIC www.gettingrooted.co.uk is a parishioner and helped to create our community garden. She is making an appeal as follows:

I would like to invite you to join in with other interested parties in Hitchin to create a beautiful food growing and wildlife friendly community garden with forest school to help improve lifestyles and outcomes of users as we regenerate a neglected part of green space within Hitchin. I already have the front garden of my home open to the public as a #foodisfree 'Pick-Your-Own' community vegetable patch which appeared on Monty Don's BBC2 'Big Dreams, Small Spaces', Series 2, Episode 5. Autumn 2016 also saw volunteers from GSK and the local parish with donations of pallets from Brookers install raised vegetable beds at Our Lady's Catholic Church in Hitchin and now we would like to develop a much bigger food growing and sharing space for those who might need it within the Hitchin community. Our overall activity in this new space will be to demonstrate and teach models of sustainable and regenerative practice in order to

foster resilience within our communities using permaculture design principles rooted in horticulture: local food production and wild life protection as well as creating a beautiful outdoor space. We will be drawing from the permaculture ethics of 'care of the earth' (recycling and care of the environment); 'care of people' (social and therapeutic horticulture); and 'sharing fairly' (surplus seedlings and produce shared within communities and between projects) as we create this space within the Hitchin. The garden will have free and open access at all times to members of the public so that individuals and families can pick fruit and vegetables free of charge; in exchange for some voluntary service in the cultivation or on a 'pay as you feel' donation basis as they are able to. The garden will also be open for any related social activities. At this point we are in the process of negotiating a lease on the land with the owners and we would appreciate your input if you do see yourselves as the valued stakeholders in this project that you are. We would greatly appreciate it if you could email us back on gettingrooted@aletheiamashiri.com with any thoughts you have on the possibility of being a part of this opportunity, either directly or indirectly in order to help improve lifestyles and outcomes of your communities. Thanking you in advance.



ECHO is a retreat for young adults aged 16-25. It is an opportunity to explore the beauty and depth of what the Church teaches about what is to be human, and how we can be happy. More information: <http://dowym.com/events/echo-theology-body-retreat/>

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 35

The Vocation of the Family continues:

The covenant of love and fidelity lived by the Holy Family of Nazareth illuminates the principle which gives shape to every family, and enables it better to face the vicissitudes of life and history. On this basis, every family, despite its weaknesses, can become a light in the darkness of the world. 'Nazareth teaches us the meaning of family life, its loving communion, its simple and austere beauty, its sacred and inviolable character. May it teach how sweet and irreplaceable is its training, how fundamental and incomparable its role in the social order' (Paul VI, Address in Nazareth, 5.1.1964).

