



# 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 1743

15<sup>th</sup> July – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2017 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Diary

<b>Mass Times</b>	
Saturday anticipating 6pm	
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am and 5pm	
Monday – Saturday 10am	
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am during Exposition	
<b>Contacts</b>	
<b>Parish Priest</b>	07547 171570
Fr Tom O'Brien	<a href="mailto:thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk">thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Fr Euloge Kasine	07424 004647
	<a href="mailto:eulogeka@gmail.com">eulogeka@gmail.com</a>
Fr Michael Lambert	07958 575442
Counselling Support	<a href="mailto:michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk">michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Pastoral Assistants</b>	Tel: 01462 459126
Trish Bonnett	<a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Susanna Hawksley	<a href="mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk">susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Catechetics</b>	
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Tel: 01462 459126
Cheryl Saunders	<a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Office</b> Tel:	01462 459 126
Mobile:	07547 171570
Website:	<a href="http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin">parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin</a>
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Safeguarding Representative</b>	
Trish Bonnett	Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning – One World Group
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent and Toddlers Hall 9-11.15am
<b>Scout Hall</b>	Christian Meditation Group
<b>Beavers 6-7pm</b>	UCR 11.45am
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
<b>Scouts 7-9pm</b>	Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm
	Eucharistic Service 7.15pm
	Choir Practice Church 8pm
	UCM Hall 8pm
<b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary Group Hall 9.30am
	Healing Ministry Meeting UCR 2pm
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group
	UCR 6.30pm
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Parent & Toddlers Hall 9-11.15am
	Lectio Divina UCR 2-3pm
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Coffee Morning Cystic Fibrosis

**This week: Kings 4:8-11, 14, 16, Rom 6:3-4, 8-11, Mat 10:37-42**

**Entrance Antiphon:** As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory

Psalm: **Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.**

Intercession: May we be rich soil

Response: **So we can produce a harvest!**

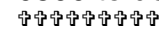
**Next week: Zech 9:9-10, Rom 8:9, 11-13, Mat 11:25-30**

This week's counting teams:

**Sunday Team: 5 Monday Team: 1**



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



**CAFOD collection** will take place after this weekend's Masses (15/16th July) Giftaid envelopes are available in the porch or from the collectors.

### Faith Development Helpline

If you (or someone you know) needs to chat about your faith or have been feeling lost ring

**07582 648433**

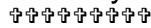
Tues/Wed/Thurs 8pm-10pm.

Confidential service provided. No need to identify yourself

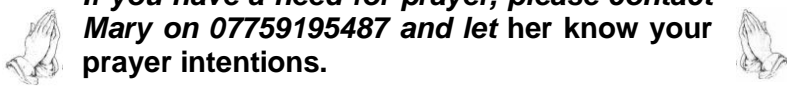


If you are going into hospital please take a copy of the leaflet in the church porch and notify the RC Chaplain Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) on Tel: **01438 285138**  
Via text message: **07876 526935**  
Email: [chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net](mailto:chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net)

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.



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:

Aren't we funny people? We call the parable this week the parable of the Sower when, in fact the whole story is about the seed and its fruitfulness. The story helps us understand the power of the Word – both the person and what he said. We are told at the very beginning of the bible that the Word of God is a word that brings life, that is creative, is the source of all that is good and beautiful. This week's story shows the abundance of life that comes from receiving and welcoming the Word, which is why we are encouraged to spend time with the Word of God reflecting on how it is bearing fruit in our lives. The story reminds us that a seed doesn't bear fruit all at once, it has to die, to form roots, and be nourished. It needs time to develop and grow. It would be a great shame if, all the time we are bearing fruit, we were completely unaware of it, wouldn't it? It follows that the words we speak to others, words of comfort and support, of forgiveness and love, of laughter and joy, of beauty and praise, are spoken with the power of God's Word that is positive, creative and affirming. The Sower uses us to continue to sow His word. Let's get on with it!

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**Advanced notice** There will be **no 5pm Mass on Sundays in August**. 5pm Mass will resume again on 3rd September. There will be Mass at 10am on Saturday mornings and Reconciliation after Mass. If a Eucharistic minister wishes to lead the Adoration they can expose and depose the Blessed Sacrament after the Mass.

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Our volunteer who very kindly sharpens the pencils and updates the children's colouring packs will be unavailable from 26 July for six weeks. Anyone who could spare an hour a week to cover this period, please contact the office. Many thanks.

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**APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA** Many thanks for your generous donations. A grand total of £494.02 was raised. The proceeds from this Sunday's One World Group Coffee morning will also go to this charity, supporting seafarers from across the world.

## Dates for Diary

### Tuesday 18 July

2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge. All are welcome.

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8pm UCM Social evening in the Hall

### Wednesday 19 July

2-3pm UCR Churches Together in Hitchin - meeting on healing ministry aims to have a conversation in which we hear how this ministry is practiced in our different traditions and learn from

each other. All are welcome - and that includes those who are actively involved in healing services, those who lead prayers for healing in regular church services, those who are thinking about healing ministry but not sure what to do, and those who are uncertain, even skeptical.

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If you have a child, who in September will be in Year 3 or above, you want to prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, and you were not able to attend the meeting last Monday, application forms are now available on the table in the porch and dates are on the parish website under Sacramental preparation. The sign up sheets for the inscription Masses and Family chats are now available to complete in the link between the porch and the hall.

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Choir members welcome! From September the choir practice night will be Thursdays from 8-9pm. If you are willing to sing in praise of Our Lord come and join us. If you have not been available on a Tuesday evening now is your chance to join! We sing at 10.30 Mass on the first Sunday of the month and are also doing a concert in November for the parish. We have a particular need for male bass voices. Please speak to Trish or Samantha Wilkins or email [trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk) if you can help.



## Future Dates

**July 19** 12.30-14.30 Angela Westwood, Hate Crime Officer for North Herts and Stevenage, will have a **Hate crime stall** in Hitchin town centre. She will be with pupils from Brandals School who have asked to assist and have been put forward to be 'Hate Crime' mentors in the school. If you need to speak to Angela about a hate crime you can meet her on her stall or ring her on 01438 757697.

**July 29** LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT TEAM. One day Retreat of quiet Reflection. Sat 29 July 11am-5pm. Catholic Church of Our Lady of Assumption & St Gregory, Warwick Street, Piccadilly, W1F 9JR.

## AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 39

*The Family in the Documents of the Church:* "Guadium et Spes: True love between husband and wife involves mutual self-giving, includes and integrates the sexual and affective dimensions, in accordance with God's plan."

