



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 1745

29th July – 5th August 2017 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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 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 30th	Coffee Morning – Diapalante
Monday 31st	Christian Meditation Group UCR 11.45am
Tuesday 1st	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm
	Eucharistic Service 7.15pm
Wednesday 2nd	Rosary Group Hall 9.30am
	No RCIA
Thursday 3rd	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group UCR 6.30pm
Friday 4th	Lectio Divina UCR 2-3pm
Sunday 6th	Coffee Morning OLSSG

This week: Kings 3:5.7-12, Rom 8:28-30, Matt 13:44-52

Entrance Antiphon: God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Psalm: Lord how I love your law!

Intercession: Help us build your Kingdom

Response: **Make us true disciples!**

Next week: Is 55:1-3, Rom 8:35.37-39, Matt 14:13-21



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's counting teams:
Sunday Team: 7 Monday Team: 3



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

In the hall there is now a **display of furniture** in the hall that is no longer needed from the newly converted flats in **Christopher House**. Please help yourself and take away anything you would like.

There will be **no 5pm Mass on Sundays in August**. 5pm mass will resume again on 3 September. There will be Saturday morning Mass at 10am on and Reconciliation after Mass. Exposition will happen if a Eucharistic Minister leads this.

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:

G.K. Chesterton was the father of paradox. It was the paradox of Christ that led him to become a Catholic. Solomon was blessed with wisdom and discernment in order to best serve his people. Yet, wisdom, like truth, is never something that we can possess any more than we can possess Christ, who is truth, or the Spirit, source of wisdom. We can act, live and think wisely and be guided by the truth in everything that we do and say. Wisdom and Truth are like the air we breathe, they enter in and sustain us, leave and return refreshed. They flow through us continually but are never static. They can be nurtured, strengthened, be sources of inspiration, motivation, and challenge but never ever owned. This is why we call them gifts from God, gifts to be cherished, gifts that move us to proclaim God's praises and cry out with gratitude. The stories in this week's gospel speak of treasures, pearls, of rewards, in an attempt to reveal the many ways in which our hearts yearn for God. God, our true treasure, our true richness, beyond value; a presence that enriches, sustains, leads, guides, colours, motivates and inspires. God who teaches us about true love and develops within us a passion to share all these gifts with others just as Jesus shares them with us. We are blessed with gifts we can never own but, the more we share them, the stronger they become. In dying for us, Christ became fully part of all our lives. How paradoxical is that!!

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Lift needed We have a lovely parishioner who lives off the Charlton Road, who is no longer able to walk to Mass. She comes to the 10.30 Mass on Sunday. Is there someone who can help to give her a lift even occasionally? She may not live too near you, but even if you could pick her up once a month (and two other people also offered to do the same) it would not be too great a commitment but would mean the world to her. Please speak to Trish if you can help. Thank you.

Dates for Diary

Wednesday 2 August

11am Mass at Elmside Care Home. All are welcome.

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7.30pm – 9pm Prayer Service at Built on Faith at Westmill Centre, John Barker Place, Hitchin SG5 2PG (purple room). We are praying for healing for both spiritual and physical conditions. God is still healing today. The Wednesday prayer meeting is open for all. Please join us. For more info and to send in your prayer requests or testimonies of divine healing contact Pastor Donald on 07737 451105 or email bof_biblewaychurch@yahoo.co.uk.

Saturday 5 August

9am The next church gardening morning to keep the church gardens under control. All are welcome to help.



Future Dates

Aug 11 7.30pm Built on Faith Free Film Night We will be showing "Left Behind" Starring Nicholas Cage This is a brilliant dramatisation of the "rapture" or snatching away of the church and what happens to those who are left behind. Held at Westmill Community Centre in the purple room, John Barker Place SG5 2PG. Popcorn and refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

Sept 9 Livesimply Care for Creation Pilgrimage Join us to pray for Creation with your feet. September is **Care for Creation** month. To mark this and in answer to Laudato Si there will be an All Faith Pilgrimage on the Hitchin Outer Orbital Path (the HOOP). We will pray using texts from different faith traditions. **Come for a couple of hours, a morning or the day.** Email Ann at oliasah-peace@yahoo.co.uk for more info.

Sept 23 10am - 2pm Can you help? - HRJ Foreman Laws are supporting a fundraising event in aid of **Phase** in Hitchin Market Square and we need your help! There are a variety of ways that you can get involved, check out the list below, if you can do any of these then please let Kieran know. Donate cakes for the bake sale books, DVD's and CD's to be sold, donate items for a raffle, donate items for a tombola, help run a stall - cakes, bric-a-brac or bouncy castle, help set-up for the day, help pack down after the event, help run some craft activities, be on hand to help. If you can help in any of these ways please contact Kieran either via email, or by contacting the office. kieran.murphy@phase-hitchin.org or tel. 01462 422940

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 41

The Family in the Documents of the

Church: "Guadium et Spes: In the incarnation, Christ assumes human love, purifies it and brings it to fulfillment. By his Spirit, he gives spouses the capacity to live that love, permeating every part of their lives with faith, hope and charity."

