



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 1749

26th August – 2nd September 2017 21st Sunday Ordinary Time Year A



Mass Times

Saturday anticipating 6pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am no 5pm during August
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
Fr Andrew O'Dell Retired Priest	01462 459126 ext 208 andrew.odellaa@gmail.com
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

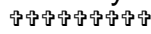
Parish Safeguarding Representative

Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

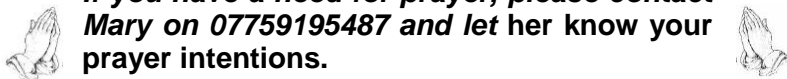


If you are going into hospital please take a copy of the leaflet in the church porch and notify the RC Chaplain Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) on Tel: **01438 285138**
Via text message: **07876 526935**
Email: chaplancy.enhtr@nhs.net

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.

Diary

Sunday 27th	Coffee Morning - EDAID
Monday 28th	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 29th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm
	Eucharistic Service 7.15pm
	Choir Practice Church 8pm
Thursday 31st	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Emmanuel Meeting Room 6.30pm
Sunday 3rd Sept	Coffee Morning – Gardening Group
	Healing Service Church 2.30pm
	Baptism course Hall 3-4.30pm

This week: Is 22:19-23, Rom 11:33-36, Matt 16:13-20

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Psalm: Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

Intercession: Lord hear our prayer

Response: In the name of your church.

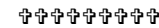
Next week: Jer 20:7-9, Rom 12:1-2, Matt 16:21-27

This week's counting teams:

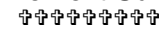
Sunday Team: 4 Monday Team: 3



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



5pm mass will resume next Sunday 3 September.



We welcome **Fr Andrew O'Dell** back to our parish. Fr Andrew, a parish priest at Hitchin previously, has taken up retired living in Flat 1 of Christopher House. We look forward to his involvement in parish life. He is happy to be seeing his friends from the past and meeting parishioners of the present. Do ring his bell and say hello.

Faith Development Helpline

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

07398821315

Tues/Wed/Thurs 8pm-10pm.

Confidential service provided. No need to identify yourself

Ramblings for Reflection:

Questions, questions, questions! General questions often seem more difficult to answer because we want to know why the question is being asked. Questions about people are easier. We speak from experience, encounters, listening to what others have said and more. Our question is how would we describe Jesus? We could talk about his power, what he has done, refer to the titles he has been given, grapple a bit with his humanity and divinity, what he came to do. However, would we choose to speak about our relationship with him, our understanding of him? In what way is Jesus a true friend? Is he reliable, supportive, always there, trustworthy and at the same time challenging and motivating, able to share your sorrows and joys? Do you experience his presence and his love throughout the day? Is he sensitive warm and kind? Does he judge? Does he help at difficult times, in the impossible times and in times of despair? Is he gentle or severe, demanding or easy going or a bit of both? Is he a friend you cannot do without? Our founder, Emmanuel d'Alzon, called Jesus our everyday friend and encouraged us to carry a crucifix around with us as a constant reminder. After all, this is a kind of friend we will always want to share with others!

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The baptism course begins next weekend. Two sessions: Sunday 3rd September 3 – 4:30pm and Sunday 10th September 3:30 – 4:30pm and then into 5pm Mass for the first anointing. The sign up sheet is in the Link, between the church porch and the hall. Babies welcome!

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A reminder to parents of children in Y3 this year: if you wish your child to prepare for the sacraments of **Reconciliation and Holy Communion** this year, please send in your application by August 28th. Forms and dates are available on the parish website or on the table in the porch. Please also sign up for a Family Chat: sign up sheets are in the Link (between the church porch and the hall).

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2.30pm Sunday 3rd September, we are holding our next Service of Healing and Wholeness. Parishioners who feel the need for these gifts are invited to share in this time of prayer, during which the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing will be celebrated.

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MICHAELMAS FAIR SATURDAY

7TH OCTOBER Many thanks for the goods donated in the red baskets in the porch. This week we are collecting toys and games as well as items suitable for our raffle. If you have goods to be collected, please contact Pam Brannigan (01462 632587)

PROMISES AUCTION This is a very popular part of the Michaelmas Fair. In previous years we have had promises of gardening, general labouring, hairdressing, beauty treatments, bespoke cakes, will writing and many more. We have a parish of many talents so please don't hide them under the proverbial bushel but share them with the rest of us. Please contact Liz Rice on lizrice@metrobroadcast.com or Pam Brannigan on pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE

The Michaelmas Fair is an opportunity for visitors to see our beautiful church and in recent years our parish artists have exhibited their paintings along with lovely displays from our flower arranging group and posies from the Brownies. Along with these we would like to include examples from potters, knitters, quilters, woodcarvers, embroiderers, weavers and all other crafts. For further details Contact Trish on trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk

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UCM members are reminded to get mugs and items to put into the mugs for the Michaelmas Fayre

Other item of interest

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.

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 46

The Family in the Documents of the Church: St. John Paul II offered a general vision of the vocation of men and women to love, and proposed basic guidelines for the pastoral care of the family and for the role of the family in society.

(‘Gratissimam Sane’ and ‘Familiaris Consortio’)

