



# 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 1751

9<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

## Diary

**Mass Times**  
Saturday anticipating 6pm  
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 5pm  
Monday – Saturday 10am  
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am during Exposition

Contacts	
<b>Parish Priest</b> Fr Tom O'Brien	07547 171570 <a href="mailto:thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk">thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Fr Michael Lambert Counselling Support	07958 575442 <a href="mailto:michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk">michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Fr Andrew O'Dell Retired Priest	01462 459126
<b>Pastoral Assistants</b> Trish Bonnett	Tel: 01462 459126 <a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Susanna Hawksley <b>Catechetics</b>	<a href="mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk">susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b> Cheryl Saunders	Tel: 01462 459126 <a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Office</b> Tel: Mobile: Website: E-mail:	01462 459 126 07547 171570 <a href="http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin">parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin</a> <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a>

**Parish Safeguarding Representative**  
Trish Bonnett Telephone: 01462 459126 (Parish)

<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning - KISS Baptism Course Hall 3.30pm
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup></b> Cubs 7.15-8.15pm	Meditation UCR 11.45am Kick off for Fun Sunday EC 7.30pm
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b> Scouts 7-9pm	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm Choir Practice Church 8pm
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Praise Group LCR 10.30am RCIA EC 7.30pm
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Italian Club Hall 1pm Christian Meditation Group Emmanuel Meeting Room 6.30pm
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.15am Lectio Divina – EC 2pm
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning – One World Group

**This week: Ez 33:7-9, Rom 13:8-10, Matt 18:15-20**

**Entrance Antiphon:** You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

**Psalm:** **O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.**

**Intercession:** Lord, we come before you

**Response:** **Help us to love our neighbour!**

**Next week: Ecc 27:30-28:7, Rom 14:7-9, Matt 18:21-35**



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](mailto: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.

This week's counting teams:

**Sunday Team: 6 Monday Team: 1**  
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**No cash for the collection?** Just text **Parish HITCH** to 70800 to donate £5.  
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There will be a second collection this weekend in aid of the Catholic Education Service.  
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A total of £504.02 was raised in aid of the Apostleship of the Sea recently. Thank you for all your donations - Deolinda Eltringham.

### 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

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** Rights and responsibilities! People are more aware and vociferous about their rights than they are about their responsibilities. They believe that what another person does or believes is their choice and nothing to do with anyone else, that is, until it affects them personally. True, we are not responsible for other people's decisions but Jesus is very clear that we do have a responsibility to care for others and, if what they do adversely affects others, we have a duty to challenge them. We have a responsibility and duty to work for the common good and, more and more, we need to work together to achieve this. Schools have structures to help safeguard the well-being of its pupils/students and create an environment that fosters healthy growth and spiritual development, some of them statutory. Although the Church also has a code of practice, we have only one rule: to Love God and to Love our neighbour. Followers of Christ always want the best for their neighbours and those who are vulnerable or marginalised. This is a responsibility we share. Today, Jesus gives us the power to set people free (Loose) from all that oppresses them and to defend them (Bind) from all that would harm them and, as Jesus showed us, Love is the key we need to do this. That is why we gather together in his name each week to see how we can do this better.

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**MICHAELMAS FAIR 7TH OCTOBER**

This week your newsletter will have been delivered in an envelope which also contains up to date information about the Michaelmas Fair. It includes a poster for you to display, an invitation to offer goods or services for the Promises Auction, information about children's activities and four books of raffle tickets for you to purchase and/or sell to your family and friends. Please support the fair in any way you can. Proceeds from the raffle tickets should be returned to the parish office or to Trish or Pam Brannigan.

**BOTTLE TOMBOLA** we are requesting bottles for this very popular stall. All bottles can be put in the red baskets in the porch which are emptied every day. However, if your bottles contain alcohol e.g. beer, wine, spirits etc. please take them to the office. Very many thanks for the excellent quality of the goods already donated. They ensure that this year's fair will be as enjoyable as ever. If you would like your items to be collected, please contact Pam Brannigan (01462 632587)

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☀ We have received our first payment of **£85** for electricity we have generated with our new solar panels. See more details on website. ☀

**Dates for Diary**

**Wednesday 13 Sept**

After **10am Mass Praise Group** in the LCR. All are welcome.

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2.30pm Mass at Foxholes at. All are welcome.

**Future Dates**

**Sept 20** 7.30 pm update on Phase followed at 8 pm by **Churches Together in Hitchin Council meeting** in Friends' Meeting House at the top of Brand Street. We will begin with a presentation from the police about their work and what they look for in their relationships with the churches.

We will then have a few items of business and report. We will close with a short introduction to Christian Vision for Men by Keith Garrell of Hitchin Christian Centre.

**Sept 23** 10am-2pm **Fair in the Square** Hitchin market square raising money for **PHASE**. Raffle, cake stall, bouncy castle, arts & crafts, physical challenges and much more. Bring the family.

**Other items of interest**

**Part-time companion required** Reliable and interesting companion required twice a week for 2 hours / visit for a 79 year old gentleman living off Ninesprings Way. Must be a good listener, and willing to chat about a range of topics, including faith, politics and health issues. Occasionally needed to accompany the gentleman to appointments at local hospitals. £10/hour. Please contact Trish Bonnett on 07801 752141 or trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk to express your interest.

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**After school supervision** required on Wednesdays and Thursdays for two secondary school children in the St Ippolyts area. Childcare qualifications not necessary but must be able to drive. If interested, please call Helen on 07919 272339.

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**Current vacancies** at St. Margaret Clitherow School, Stevenage. Deputy Headteacher and an Admin Assistant for the school office. Please look at the vacancy page on the parish website.

**AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 47**  
*The Family in the Documents of the Church:* Pope Benedict XVI in 'Deus Caritas Est' returned to the topic of the truth of the love of man and woman, which is fully illuminated only in the love of the crucified Christ.

