



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 1754

30th September – 7th October 2017 26th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A



Mass Times	
Saturday anticipating 6pm	
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 5pm	
Monday – Saturday 10am	
Exposition Thursday 7pm-8pm	
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
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)	

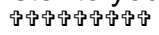
Diary

Sunday 1st	Coffee Morning – Bereavement Grp
	Harvest Fun Sunday 10.30 Mass
Monday 2nd Cubs 7.15-8.15pm	Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30 am
	Meditation UCR 11.45am
Tuesday 3rd Scouts 7-9pm	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm
	RE Session EC 5.30pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm
	Reconciliation programme Session 1 Hall 7.30pm UCM LCR 8pm
Wednesday 4th	RCIA EC 7.30pm
Thursday 5th	Padre Pio Group Hall 10.30am
	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Emmanuel Meeting Room 6.30pm
	Choir Practice Church 8pm
Friday 6th	Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30am
	Lectio Divina – EC 2pm
	Michaelmas Fair Prep Hall
Saturday 7th	Michaelmas Fair 10.30am-3pm
Sunday 8th	Coffee Morning – KISS

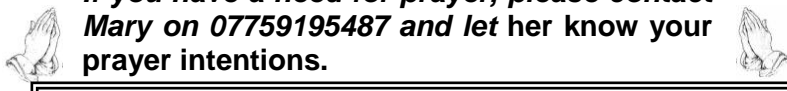


If you are going into hospital please take a copy of the leaflet in the church porch and notify the RC Chaplain Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) on Tel: **01438 285138**
Via text message: **07876 526935**
Email: chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net

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 Ez 18:25-28, Phil 2:1-11, 27, Matt 21:28-32

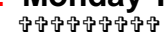
Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgment, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.
Psalm: **Remember your mercy, Lord.**

Intercession: **Lord, make us know your ways**
Response **Remember us in your love!**

Next week: Is 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Matt 21:33-43

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 2 Monday Team: 4



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



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

A bright young academic applied for a managerial position in a big company. At the final interview with the director, he explained that his mother had worked hard washing clothes to pay for his studies as his father had died when he was very young. Asked whether he had ever helped his mother wash the clothes, he answered, "Never! My mother always wanted me to study and read. Anyway, my mother washes clothes faster than me". The director asked him to return home and wash his mother's hands, then return in the morning. On returning home, he began cleaning his mother's hands. For the first time he noticed that her hands were wrinkled and bruised. Some bruises were so painful that his mother shivered as he cleaned them. Tears filled his eyes when he realised that this pair of hands had washed clothes everyday to enable him to study. The bruises in the mother's hands were the price paid for his graduation and academic success. After cleaning his mother's hands, he quietly washed all the remaining clothes for his mother. They spent that night talking together. Next morning, he went to the Director's office. The Director asked him what had happened and he told him he had cleaned my mother's hand, and then finished cleaning the remaining clothes. Asked what he had learnt, he said, "Firstly, I know now what appreciation means. Without my mother, I would not have been successful. Secondly, by working together and helping my mother, I now realize how difficult and tough it is to get something done. Thirdly: I have come to appreciate the importance and value of family relationship". He got the job and was a great success!

††††††††††

 At all Masses this weekend, there will be a short ceremony of dedication for the parents and children of the Reconciliation and Holy Communion programme, during the Mass.

††††††††††

The total raised for **Mexico** last weekend came to a staggering **£2060.79**. Thank you for all your donations. Leticia is making arrangements for the money to go to those in need.

††††††††††

Michaelmas
Fair

MICHAELMAS FAIR SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER We have had great support from the parish in the donation of goods, offers of help and promises for the auction. All we need now is your presence on the day. Do come along and have a really good time, try our wonderful international food and do some early Christmas shopping. There are lots of bargains to be had as well as children's activities and an entertainer. All our old favourites will be there, the bottle tombola, cakes and

produce, bric-a-brac among many others. Your entry programme includes everything you need to know including details and timing of the promises auction and also entitles you to a free drink and cake. A few things to remember:

- **RAFFLE TICKETS** The grand raffle will be drawn in the afternoon and we have some magnificent prizes. Please return your stubs, cash and any unsold tickets to the office or contact Pam Brannigan (01462 632587) who will collect or supply more books if you would like them.
- **HELPERS CHART** Do sign up for an hour at your favourite stall. The chart will be on display in the porch until next Saturday morning.
- **PROMISES AUCTION** A list of pledges received is attached to this newsletter. Silent bids may be made before the auction takes place.
- **LOOSE CHANGE COLLECTION** will be taken after all Masses this weekend to help supply floats for the stalls.

FINALLY a word of thanks to you all. The Michaelmas Fair is a wonderful occasion for everyone in the parish and beyond to come together for a day of fun and friendship. It is also an opportunity for us to offer financial support to our parish, Our lady's School and

Diapalante's Education Centre in Senegal.

CAFOD
just one world

††††††††††

Friday, 6 October, is

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. CAFOD works with poor communities overseas on our behalf, helping them to tackle poverty and injustice. Fast Days are our opportunity to support this vital work. Please consider fasting and praying in solidarity this Friday. There will be a CAFOD collection on 14th/15th October. Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

The Romero Prayer: A step along the way

"This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities. ...It is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but we are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." Amen



in Our Lady's Scout Hall
14th October 10-11.30am
Fill a bag £2 small £5 large

Have a ball, help us clear the scout hall and contribute to a range of needs of the parish, the school and Diapalante. Please take a poster from the table in the porch to display in your window or car.

If you have any jumble to donate please bring it to the porch at Our Lady's church anytime from October 8th onwards

††††††††††

Congratulations to Grace Wills & Erin Pearce who organised a charity cake sale on Friday at Our Lady's school to raise money for Caritas Westminster and Dementia UK.

Dates for Diary

Monday 2 October

2.30pm Mass at Gosmore with Fr Euloge. All welcome.

††††††††††

2.30-5pm in London: Pax Christi Non-Violence seminar at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark. Please note: access to Amigo Hall from Lambeth Road. Open event, for info see <http://paxchristi.org.uk/news-and-events/events-calendar/>
 RSVP: Pax Christi, info@paxchristi.org.uk

Tuesday 3 October

7.30pm Reconciliation Session 1 in the hall for parents of children on the Sacramental programme.

††††††††††

8pm UCM Meeting in LCR to arrange mugs for the Michaelmas Fair

Wednesday 4 October

11am Mass at Elmside Care Home with Fr Tom. All welcome.

††††††††††

6:30pm-8:30pm. Place of Welcome Join Caritas Westminster, West London Mission, and Housing Justice for an evening about homelessness, setting up night shelters, and how you can help. Westminster Cathedral Hall, RSVP to caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk

Thursday 5 October

10am Padre Pio Mass followed by a meeting in the Hall. All are very welcome.

Future Dates

Oct 19 7:30pm - Inter-Faith St. Albans invitation to a meeting with talks on the theme of "Faith and Tolerance - Living with Difference" at the St Albans Diocesan Office, 41 Holywell Hill, St. Albans, AL1 1HE, with speakers: Jenny Kartoupelis

the Strategy and Development Officer for the World Congress of faiths and Peter Adams the conflict mediator and peace builder in Inter Faith. All are welcome, to book, See poster in the porch.

Oct 28 10am to 4pm Human Rights in a post-Brexit era Talks and workshops. West Green Parish Centre, 386 West Green Road, London N15 3QL. See poster on noticeboard for details.

Other items of interest

Result from Christian Aid Week Door to Door Collection May 2017 Hitchin & Villages



Grand total £16,698 - gift aided amount of this which is included £8,427. 2016 total was £17,950 - gift aided amount £7,798. What we don't know is money donated by text or online. Interesting that the gift aid was up. Although the figure has gone down that's still a lot of money that Christian Aid would lose if we stopped doing this. **A Big Thank you** for those who did much organising, footslogging round the streets sometimes in pouring rain, or ran fundraising events.

Helen Richardson CTH Organiser for Hitchin and Villages.

††††††††††

RECYCLING NEWS: Terracycle have added




the newly launched L'OR coffee capsules (for Nespresso machines) as one of our accepted waste streams. From this Summer we can

collect not only your Tassimo and Kenco waste, but also L'OR capsules for recycling - unfortunately NO other brands will be credited to us, funds raised will go to support the work of **PHASE** in Hitchin schools. We are still collecting all brands of spent writing instruments, all brands of empty sweet biscuit wrappers (NO savoury biscuit wrappers please) and milk bottle tops.

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 50

The Family in the Documents of the Church: "The family is the image of God who is a communion of persons. At Christ's baptism, the Father's voice is heard, calling Jesus his beloved Son, and in this love we can recognise the Holy Spirit." (Cf. Mk 1:10-11)





Our Lady's Parish

Faith Development Helpline

Problems or doubts
about your faith?
Are you feeling a
bit lost?

**Try ringing
07398 821315**



**Tues, Weds,
Thurs
8pm – 10pm**

