



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 1756

14th October – 21st October 2017 28th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A Diary

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)	

Sunday 15th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
Monday 16th Cubs 7.15-8.15pm	Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30 am Meditation UCR 11.45am
Tuesday 17th Scouts 7-9pm	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am Bethany Club Hall 10.30-4pm RE Session EC 5.30pm UCM Mass Church 7.30pm followed by reception in hall at 8pm
Wednesday 18th	Praise Group LCR 10.30am
Thursday 19th	Italian Club Hall 1pm Christian Meditation Group Emmanuel Meeting Room 6.30pm Choir Practice Church 8pm
Friday 20th	Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30am Lectio Divina – EC 2pm
Sunday 22nd	Coffee Morning – Mexican appeal

This week is 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14, 19-20, Matt 22:1-14

Entrance Antiphon: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

Psalm: In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Intercession: You are our Shepherd
Response: There is nothing we shall want!

Next week: Is 45:1.4-6, Thes 1:1-5, Matt 22:15-21



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: 4 Monday Team: 2
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No cash for the collection? Just text Parish HITCH to 70800 to donate £5.
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CAFOD just one world There will be a second collection this weekend (14th/15th October) in aid of CAFOD. Gift aid envelopes available in the porch or from the collectors.
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There will be a second collection next weekend (21st/22nd October) in aid of World Mission Sunday.

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:

Hillsong United sing a song, 'Grace to Grace', reminding us of how Jesus won freedom for us through his death on the cross and resurrection. "How wonderful! How glorious! My Saviour's scars, Victorious. My chains are gone. My debt is paid, from death to life and grace to grace. When I see that cross, I see Freedom. When I see that grave, I'll see Jesus. And from death to life I will sing your praise in the wonder of your grace." Do we live in this kind of freedom, set free from our chains? St Paul certainly did. We receive sacramental and sanctifying grace, which we refer to as the Power of the Spirit, a power given to us in baptism and strengthened in confirmation. Blessed John Henry Newman (9th October) was led into the Catholic Church by the Spirit. He sacrificed honour and power in the Anglican Church and faced superstition in the Catholic Church. He trusted in the Spirit. He had been set free and gave us a healthy guidance in thinking about God and Revelation. St Pope John XXIII (11 October) was elected as an elderly interim Pope and called the Vatican Council II that continues to guide the Church today. Did he not show great trust in the power of the Spirit? So! Do we really live in that kind of freedom? Do we really believe there is nothing we cannot master with the help of the one who gives us strength, the Holy Spirit? Do you?

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October is the month of the Holy Rosary. There are CD's of the Holy Rosary available free at the back of

the Church. They are compiled by Bishop Philip Egan of the Portsmouth Diocese. Our Lady continuously asked us to say this powerful prayer. Please take a copy and share it with friends.

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We pray for Esther Kennedy whose funeral was on Tuesday 10 October at North Hertfordshire Memorial Ground and Crematorium. We also pray for Vera

Bhamra whose funeral is on **Thursday 19 October at 2pm** here and afterwards at North Hertfordshire Crematorium and for **Peter Brown** whose funeral is on **Friday 3 November at 10am** here and afterwards at Wilbury Hills Cemetery. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.

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The Traidcraft stall will be open on 15th October. Christmas cards will be on sale.

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KISS Coffee Morning- Thank you to all who supported last Sunday's KISS coffee morning which raised **£125.00** Many thanks.

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Michaelmas



A special word of thanks to, Steve the Balloon man from Steve's Balloons and Bubbles

in Stevenage who gave his services free of charge. We are delighted to report that the fair itself together with the Jumble Sale raised just over £5.000 which will be shared between the parish, Our Lady's School and Diapalante's Education Centre in Senegal. A notice in the porch gives further details. There will be a review meeting in a few weeks so if you have any comments for us to consider please contact Pam Brannigan on (pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com) or 01462 632587.

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Confirmation 2018 This year's Confirmation course begins in **January**; the deadline for applications is **December 17th 2017**. If your child is in Y9 or above and wishes to join, please fill in and return the application form, which is available both on the website and in the Link (down the steps to the hall). Please also fill in the sign-up sheet in the Link.

Dates for Diary

Tuesday 17 October

2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge. All are welcome.

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7.30pm UCM's 50th Anniversary Mass followed by a reception in the Hall.

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There will be no RCIA on 18 and 25 October. The RCIA meeting on **1 November** will take place in the Emmanuel Centre after the **7.30pm** evening Mass for All Saints Day.

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 51

The Sacrament of Marriage: The sacrament is not a 'thing' or a 'power'. In it Christ himself "now encounters Christian spouses...He dwells with them, gives them the strength to take up their crosses and so follow him, to rise again after they have fallen, to forgive one another, to bear one another's burdens."...(and) inspires us to beg the Lord to bestow on every married couple an outpouring of his divine love."

