



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 1771

27th January – 3rd February 2018 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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 Euloge Kasine Assistant Priest	07424 004647 eulogeka@gmail.com
Fr Michael Lambert Counselling Support	07958 575442 michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Andrew O'Dell Retired Priest	01462 459126
Pastoral Assistants Trish Bonnett <i>also Safeguarding Rep</i>	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:	01462 459 126
Mobile:	07547 171570
Website:	parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin
E-mail:	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk

Diary

Sunday 28th	Coffee Morning – Diapalante
	NH Sanctuary AGM Hall 2pm
	Confirmation Session 3 Hall 6pm
Monday 29th	Parents and Toddlers 9.15am
	TWG LCR 10am
	Meditation UCR 11.45am
Tuesday 30th Beavers 6-7pm Cubs 7.15-8.15pm Scouts 7-9pm	Morning Prayer Church 9.30am
	Bethany Club Hall – 10.30am-4pm
	Eucharistic Service 7.15pm
Wednesday 31st	Rosary Church 9.30am
	Lourdes Pilgrimage Mtg LCR 7pm
	RCIA – EC 7.30pm
Thursday 1st Feb	Italian Club Hall 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group Emmanuel Meeting Room 6.30pm
	Choir 8pm
Friday 2nd	Parents & Toddlers 9.15am
	Lectio Divina – EC 2pm
Sunday 4th	Coffee Morning – Diapalante
	Confirmation Session 4 Hall 6pm

Readings: Deut 18:15-20, Cor 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations to give thanks to
your holy name and make it our glory to praise you!
Psalm: O that today you would listen to his
voice! Harden not your hearts.
Intercession: Lord, we come before you!
Response: We belong to you!

Next week: Job 7:1-4.6-7, Cor 9:16-19.22-23, Mark 1:29-39

This week's counting teams:
Sunday Team: 5 Monday Team: 1

There will be a second collection this weekend
(27th/28th January) in aid of Racial Justice.

There will be a second collection next weekend
in aid of The White Flower Appeal (SPUC).

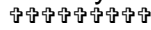
Faith Development Helpline

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 you are going into hospital please take a
copy of the leaflet in the church porch and
notify the Chaplain 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.



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: Authority is one of those words that has a number of understandings. People in authority have power to make certain decisions that we must respect: Church leaders, the police, councils, judges etc. Yet, if asked by someone to do something unjust, we would challenge or refuse. Therefore, ultimately, we are the ones who bestow power on those in authority because we recognise that what is asked for or ordered is good for us and for others. This is evident in Jesus. Some recognised that what Jesus said and did was good and listened to him, not just with their ears but with their hearts and minds; others did not accept that Jesus had any authority and refused to listen. *“When each citizen submits himself to the authority of law he does not thereby decrease his independence or freedom, but rather increases it. By recognizing that he is a part of a larger body, which is banded together for a common purpose, he becomes more than an individual, he rises to a new dignity of citizenship. Instead of finding himself restricted and confined by rendering obedience to public law, he finds himself protected and defended and in the exercise of increased and increasing rights.”* CALVIN COOLIDGE, speech, May 30, 1924. Just change the word citizen to **disciple** in the above quote and you will realise that living under the authority of Jesus, of the Church, not only is your freedom increased but your dignity enhanced and the possibility of doing good boundless.

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A message from Neil Adams, Chair of Governors of Our Lady’s School. 24/1/2018



As a result of concerns being brought to our attention by The John Henry Newman School and otherwise, an investigation has taken place into historic practice concerning the assessment, testing and reporting of pupil progress at Our Lady Catholic Primary School. The investigation has now concluded and significant concerns have been found. As you are aware the School is part of the Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust. The Trust Board and the Governing Body of the School take these matters very seriously and the full implications of the findings of the investigation are currently being considered.

A full review of practice has been undertaken by Mrs Nicholson and I can assure you that the School currently complies fully with all regulations and guidance regarding testing, assessment and reporting of pupil progress.

The safety, education and well-being of pupils at the School are and continue to be the highest priority. Please be reassured every effort is being made to minimise disruption during this period. The

School is fortunate to be able to rely upon additional support from other schools within the Academy Trust and this will continue for as long as it is deemed necessary.

At this point, the Trust and the Governing Body is not in a position to communicate further information to parents, however, a meeting will be arranged in due course to provide further information.

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Our next **Baptism Course** is Sunday 25th Feb 3pm - 4:30pm and Sunday 4th March 3:30pm - 4:30pm, followed by 5pm Mass at which the children will be given the first anointing of the Rite of Baptism. Please sign up on the sheet in the Link (between the church porch and the hall).

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We pray for **Angiolino Pilla** whose funeral is on **Monday 29 January at 11am** here at Our Lady’s Church and afterwards at Hitchin Cemetery. We pray for **Kristian Adams** whose funeral is on **Friday 2 February at 5pm** at North Herts Memorial Ground and Crematorium. We pray for **Emilio Di Salvo** whose funeral is on **Monday 5 February at 11.15am** here at Our Lady’s Church 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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Thank you all for your kind donations to CAFOD last week. A sum of £460.66 was raised. Thank you also for your donations to PAX Christi on Peace Sunday. A sum of £208.63 was raised. Thank you all.

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Live-in au pair wanted for parishioner English/Spanish speaking family with two boys aged 9 & 11. Required from February – April (possibly longer) Contact Yamile **07813 822645**

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The John Henry Newman School is looking to appoint a Catering Assistant with effect from February. Please contact Emma Taylor on 01438 314643 or email Taylor@jhn.herts.sch.uk for further details

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 65

The transmission of life and the rearing of children

“If the family is the sanctuary of life, the place where life is conceived and cared for, it is a horrendous contradiction when it becomes a place where life is rejected and destroyed.”

