



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 1780

31st March 2018 – 7th April 2018 – EASTER SUNDAY



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: Mobile: Website: E-mail:	01462 459 126 07547 171570 parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin hitchin@rcdow.org.uk

Diary

Sunday 1st Easter Sunday	Coffee Morning – Zoe's Place
Monday 2nd No Beavers	No parents & Toddlers Meditation UCR - 11.45am
Tuesday 3rd No Scouts	Morning Prayer Church - 9.30am No Bethany Club (Back on 10 April) Eucharistic Service - 7.15pm UCM – LCR – 8pm Choir Church 8pm
Wednesday 4th	Rosary Church - 9.30am No RCIA
Thursday 5th No Brownies	No Christian Meditation Group – (Back on 12 April)
Friday 6th	No Parents & Toddlers No Lectio Divina – (Back on 13 April)
Sunday 8th	Coffee Morning – UCM

Readings: Acts:10:34.37-43, Col3:1-4, John 20:1-9

Entrance Antiphon: I have risen and I am with you, still, Alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, Alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Psalm: This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

Intercession: Risen lord, we ask you...

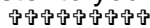
Response: Fill us with your life!

Next week: Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 5:1-6, John 20:19-31



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.

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 7 Monday Team: 2



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

Every morning presents us with a new page of the Gospel yet to be written. Easter Sunday is no different, but the brightness, joy, song, and the alleluias all mark this morning out as more than a special day. This is the morning that provides the template for all other mornings. The darkness, the crushing despair of that Cross on Friday last is transformed by a life-giving brightness that banishes all evidence of evil. Today the cross of pain and suffering blossoms with all kinds of beauty, breathing hope and love, opening its arm to all of us. The death and searing pain of Friday is replaced with vibrant new life and with songs of joy and praise that even the stones want to sing. Wherever you look, everything and everyone radiates the presence of the Risen Christ. A Christ victorious! For Jesus Christ is risen! Yes, Jesus Christ is risen. Jesus Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Let Sr. Macrina Wiederkehr have the last word: *“O Tree of God—Tree of Life, in the gift of your shade, I stand, my heart raised to your Creator. Your branches call me to reach out in all directions to many people. Your branches remind me of the sheltering arms of God. Your roots call me to be rooted in all that is good and nourishing. . . . Teach me, like you, to praise God in the silence of my being. . . . Draw me, like a magnet, into the abiding love of God.”* Into the arms of our Saviour. **Alleluia!**

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There will be a second collection this weekend in aid of Holy Places.

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Many thanks for your generous donations for Easter Flowers for the Church. A total sum of £314.30 was raised.

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Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St. Albans -. A group of us from Hitchin will be walking to St. Albans, mainly on footpaths. We will meet at The Three Moorhens carpark at 7:15am, aiming to leave at 7:20am in order to arrive in time for the service which begins at 3.00pm. Bring a picnic lunch. Walkers will need to make their own arrangements for transport home. It will also be possible to join in at various points along the route. For further details speak to Roger or Naomi Morris - 01462 458073).

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The Gardening Group Sunday Coffee Morning raised £105.15 last week. Many thanks to all who baked cakes and provided raffle prizes



 **Monthly Tip for March** – Carry reusable shopping bags - most UK supermarkets now have reusable bags that they will replace for free when worn out. Some people like reusable canvas totes. Others prefer to use a backpack. .Whatever works for you

Diary dates

Tuesday 3rd April

8pm UCM Business Meeting and a Discussion with a Twist in the Lower Committee Room.

Wednesday 4th April

11am Mass at Elmside. All are welcome

Thursday 5th April

10am St Pio Group Mass and afterwards in the LCR.

Future dates

Mass in Thanksgiving for Matrimony – 19 May at 3pm – All names have now been sent to Marriage and Family Life at the Diocese. Formal invitations will follow in due course. Couples with young families are most welcome to bring children along. The Cathedral is also wheelchair friendly. We have also been informed that names and addresses will be accepted up to 16 April. If anyone else wishes to attend this service and are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary, please let Cheryl know in the Parish office. Many thanks.

Other items of interest

Christian Aid Week 13-19 May 2018 Help Needed! The house to house collection in Hitchin & Villages organised through CTH is in need of two people to count out and distribute envelopes and supporting materials for the collectors. If you like a bit of admin this could be you! One person needed to support 4 collectors in streets off the Stevenage road such as Grange Close, Oaks Close. One person needed for 4 collectors in the Old Hale Way, Bearton Green area. Further explanation from Helen Richardson, Organiser for Hitchin & Villages. helenwrich@btinternet.com 07880 682681

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There is a vacancy for a f/t Catholic Chaplain at HMP Pentonville. Lay applicants will need the CCRS as a minimum qualification. The closing date for applications is 23 April 2018. Further information, if required, is available from Fr Paul Douthwaite, National Catholic Chaplain for Prisons: Paul.Douthwaite@CBCEW.Org.uk