



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 1782
14th April – 21st April 2018 – 3rd Sunday of Easter
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 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

Sunday 15th	Coffee Morning – One World Group
Monday 16th No Beavers	No parents & Toddlers Meditation - UCR - 11.45am
Tuesday 17th No Scouts	Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm No Eucharistic Service
Wednesday 18th	Rosary - Church - 9.30am RCIA - EC - 7.30pm
Thursday 19th No Brownies	Christian Meditation Group - EC - 6.30pm Choir - Church - 8pm
Friday 20th	No Parents & Toddlers Lectio Divina - EC - 2pm
Saturday 21st	FHC Session 5 – Hall – 9.30am
Sunday 22nd	Coffee Morning - Diapalante Confirmation Session 10 – Hall 6pm

Readings: Acts:3:13-15.17-19, 1 Jn 2:1-5, Luke 24:35-48

Entrance Antiphon: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O Render him glorious, praise, alleluia!

Psalm: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord, Alleluia!

Intercession: When we call...

Response: **Have mercy and hear us!**

Next week: Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 2 Monday Team: 4



collection this weekend after each Mass. Gift Aid Envelopes will be available in the Porch and from the collectors. We are still in the period when all donations to CAFOD until 12 May will be doubled by the UK Government. We have planned a £5 million programme to combat malnutrition - and with it we hope to be able to reach 245,000 people. But we need the full amount of match funding to make it happen. You can help us reach the full amount needed for this crucial programme. We still have some way to go yet.

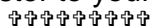


Coffee morning today in aid of **EMMAUS**, who supports people who need a fresh start.



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 For those who love, life is full of surprises. **SURPRISE** and **JOY** are the two common elements of the encounters with Jesus after the resurrection. The other key theme is **PEACE**. The peace Jesus offers comes with care and concern. He wants us to know that he truly and deeply loves us, that whatever the past, whatever our failures, at this moment we are fully loved and valued. But, this affirmation carries with it a belief and a trust that we too can be instruments of love, which inspires in us a spirit and desire for forgiveness, both given and received. Jesus' gift of peace is an affirmation that we, too, are capable of great things which is why that gift comes with the breath of life - the Holy Spirit. It is as though we begin to breathe an air that is truly refreshing that desires to be shared with others and is unlimited in its abundance. In fact, the resurrection air grows stronger the more it is shared. The great spiritual writers would call this 'Holiness' or 'Grace' for that is what it is. In Gaudete et Exsultate - Rejoice and be Glad, Pope Francis writes: "Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy. . . . We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves he contemplates the holiness present in the patience of God's people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families"

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EDAID, the charity founded by previous parishioner Doreen Rolfe will be closing this summer. Many of you have donated goods and cash over the past 30 years and the trustees would like to thank you all for your support in helping to equip schools in Gambia. A final shipment will be sent out in July after which we hope another similar charity will take over the premises in Kent and continue the work. I shall be attending the final meeting at the end of May so if you have any goods to donate please contact Pam Brannigan (01462 632587).

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Priest's training fund Next weekend, Good Shepherd Sunday, we pray for vocations to the priesthood. We will also have the annual collection for the Priest Training fund. As well as training this fund supports the ongoing formation of the ordained priests in the diocese. Donation leaflets are available in the porch. You can donate online anytime at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

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The Gift of the Holy Eucharist – six sessions which for a chance to focus on our love of Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament, the Mass and our Mission. Material will be provided. Please sign

up on the sheet in the porch. Sessions begin on Mon 23rd April and Wed 25th April.

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We pray for **Giuseppe Benucci** whose funeral is on **Tuesday 17 April 2018** at 10.30am and afterwards at Hitchin Cemetery. And for **Helen Snowdon** whose funeral is on **Wednesday 18 April 2018** at 10am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.



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Message from the livesimply team Come and help us show care for our common home on **Earth Day 22nd April**. Meet at 2pm in the church car park to pick up litter in the local area. Email Ann at oliasah-peace@yahoo.co.uk for info.

Dates for Diary

Tuesday 17 April

10.30am Funeral Mass for Giuseppe Benucci. No 10am Mass today.

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2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge. All welcome.

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No Eucharistic service tonight or next week.

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7 pm for 7.30 pm UCM reminder of get together for a meal at The Green Man, Great Wymondley.

Future dates

May 1 7-9pm Slaves On Our Doorsteps in our church hall. See posters in porch.

Other items of interest

An update on Baby Theo from Greg Hewitson – who met with Theo's Grandfather in Cyprus recently. Theo is now 8 months old and the family still firmly believes that Theo's and his daughter-in-law's survival of the horrific car crash was a miracle and that someone was indeed watching over them in their recovery - as they have both made so much progress from their critical state and Theo's premature emergency caesarean. Mother has had her pelvis rebuilt from the accident and she is now home. Theo is home; he is blind in one eye and the hospital will be monitoring his development and milestones, eg mobility - probably for the rest of his life but he is no longer in danger - and the family have been very grateful for parish prayers.

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 75

The family and the Church In their love the couple celebrates their happy moments and support each other in the difficult passages of their life together.

