



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 1783

21st – 28th April – 4th Sunday of Easter – Year B

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 22nd	Coffee Morning – Diapalante Confirmation Session 10 Hall – 6pm
Monday 23rd Beavers - 6-7pm Cubs - 7.15-8.15pm	Parents & Toddlers - Hall - 9.30am Meditation - UCR - 11.45am Eucharist Course – EC – 7.30pm
Tuesday 24th Scouts - 7-9pm	Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm RE Session - LCR - 5.30pm No Eucharistic Service Toddlers Meeting - Hall - 8pm
Wednesday 25th	Rosary - Church - 9.30am Eucharist Course – EC – 3pm RCIA - EC - 7.30pm
Thursday 26th Brownies - 6.30-7.45	Christian Meditation Group - EC - 6.30pm Choir - Church - 8pm
Friday 27th	Parents & Toddlers – Hall – 9.30am Lectio Divina - EC - 2pm
Sunday 29th	Coffee Morning – St Elizabeth's Confirmation Session 11 - Hall 6pm

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

Entrance Antiphon: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord, the heavens were made, Alleluia!

Psalm: The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. Alleluia!

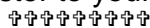
Intercession: Lord we take refuge in you
Response **Lord, hear our prayer!**

Next week: Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8



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: 3 Monday Team: 1



Planned Giving Envelopes – There are a few boxes that still need collecting. Please do collect them from the Parish office. Thanks.

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

Pope Francis reminds us that our life is a mission – a mission of holiness. This helps us understand better that Vocation is the way we choose to live our mission. Vocation is not really the work we do be it in the service professions, nursing, as a doctor, a teacher, or the apostolates of a priest or religious. Vocation refers to the way, the manner in which we work, the love, care, concern with which we act and inspires us to want to give of our best for those we serve. Only in this way will we recognise that our choice of vocation has been inspired by God and see more clearly how we are true witnesses of the Good News and how God works within us in everything we do, say, think and are. Think of it as if everything we offer to others is gift wrapped in holiness, invisible but no less real than the gift itself. Pope Francis: *“Faith is no refuge for the fainthearted, but something which enhances our lives. It makes us aware of a magnificent calling, the vocation of love. It assures us that this love is trustworthy and worth embracing, for it is based on God’s faithfulness which is stronger than our every weakness.”* (Lumen Fidei 53) He also wrote: *“In the diversity and the uniqueness of each and every vocation, personal and ecclesial, there is a need to listen, discern and live this word that calls to us from on high and, while enabling us to develop our talents, makes us instruments of salvation in the world and guides us to full happiness.”*

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Today is Good Shephard Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. Today’s second collection will support the Priest Training Fund. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ’s call to dedicate their lives to serve God’s people. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests.

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A message from Zoe’s place Baby Hospice Coventry – “I am writing to you on behalf of everyone at Zoe’s Place Baby Hospice to say thank you for your kind donation of £150. This truly is a wonderful sum and please pass on our sincere thanks also to all at the Church in respect of the Coffee Morning and Cake sale they recently held” – From the fundraising team.

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Thank you all for your ever kind generosity to CAFOD last weekend. A total of £411.48 was raised.

Herts Welcomes Syrian Families - Thanks to everyone who offered sewing machines. 4 families received machines. Donations have enabled them to buy 3 lawnmowers also. They are looking for bikes especially adult ones. If you have one in a reasonable condition contact Vicky Woodcraft woodcraftvicky@gmail.com. HWSF is now recruiting Befrienders/ESOL volunteers, individuals or as support, in the new classes starting in June. See the poster in the porch. The next induction evening is on 24 April in Welwyn Garden City 7-9pm. Contact our ESOL volunteer coordinator, Caroline Herring carolineherring52@gmail.com for details.

Dates for Diary

Monday 23 April

11am Mass at Sue Ryder at Stagenhoe with Canon Daniel Cronin. Trish is **not** able to give a lift to this Mass. All welcome.

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3-4pm Eucharist Course in the Emmanuel Centre meeting room with Fr Andrew. Materials will be provided.

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7.30-8.30pm Eucharist Course in the Emmanuel Centre meeting room with Fr Tom. Materials will be provided.

Tuesday 24 April

No Eucharistic service tonight.

Future dates

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

Other items of interest

LOVE HEALS BODY MIND and SPIRIT MINISTRY One Day Retreat of quiet Reflection, Saturday 28th April 2018, 11am – 5pm at the Catholic Church of our Lady of Assumption & St Gregory, Warwick Street, Piccadilly, W1F 9JR. Rosary, Latin Mass, Lunch (Please bring your own Lunch - Tea and Coffee available), Scripture Talk - Christian Meditation - Blessed Adoration, Healing Prayers - Praise & Worship.

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 76

The family and the Church The beauty of this mutual, gratuitous gift, the joy which comes from a life that is born and the loving care of all family members - from toddlers to seniors - are just a few of the fruits which make the response to the vocation of the family unique and irreplaceable, both for the Church and for society as a whole.”
(Relatio Finalis 2015, 49-50)

