



# 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 1784

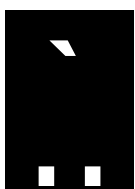
28<sup>th</sup> April – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – Year B



## Diary

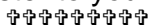
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| <b>Mass Times</b>   |   |
| Saturday anticipating 6pm   |   |
| Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 5pm  |   |
| Monday – Saturday 10am  |   |
| Exposition Thursday 7pm-8pm   |   |
| Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am during Exposition                           |   |
| <b>Contacts</b>   |   |
| <b>Parish Priest</b><br>Fr Tom O'Brien                                      | 07547 171570<br><a href="mailto:thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk">thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk</a>  |
| Fr Euloge Kasine<br>Assistant Priest  | 07424 004647<br><a href="mailto:eulogeka@gmail.com">eulogeka@gmail.com</a>  |
| Fr Michael Lambert<br>Counselling Support                                   | 07958 575442<br><a href="mailto:michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk">michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk</a>  |
| Fr Andrew O'Dell<br>Retired Priest  | 01462 459126  |
| <b>Pastoral Assistants</b><br>Trish Bonnett<br><i>also Safeguarding Rep</i> | Tel: 01462 459126<br><a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>   |
| Susanna Hawksley<br><b>Catechetics</b>                                      | <a href="mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk">susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk</a>  |
| <b>Parish Administrator</b><br>Cheryl Saunders                              | Tel: 01462 459126<br><a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>   |
| <b>Parish Office</b> Tel:<br>Mobile:<br>Website:<br>E-mail:                 | 01462 459 126<br>07547 171570<br><a href="http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin">parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin</a><br><a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a> |

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| <b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>  | Coffee Morning – St Elizabeth's<br>Confirmation Session 11 Hall 6pm  |
| <b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup></b><br>Beavers - 6-7pm<br>Cubs - 7.15-8.15pm | Parents & Toddlers - Hall - 9.30am<br>Meditation - UCR - 11.45am<br>Eucharist Course – LCR – 7.30pm  |
| <b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b><br>Scouts - 7-9pm                    | Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am<br>Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm<br>No Eucharistic Service<br>Human Trafficking Event Hall 7pm<br>UCM - LCR - 8pm |
| <b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>  | Rosary - Church - 9.30am<br>Eucharist Course – LCR – 3pm<br>RCIA - EC - 7.30pm<br>Michaelmas Meeting LCR 6.30pm  |
| <b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup></b><br>Brownies - 6.30-7.45                 | Christian Meditation Group<br>EC 6.30pm<br>Local Elections in the Hall all day<br>Choir - Church - 8pm   |
| <b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup></b>   | Parents & Toddlers – Hall – 9.30am<br>Lectio Divina - EC - 2pm   |
| <b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup></b>   | Coffee Morning – Bethany Club  |



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](mailto: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.



**Readings: Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations, he has shown his deliverance, Alleluia!

**Psalm: You Lord, are my praise in the great assembly...Alleluia!**

Intercession - Lord, make your home in us

Response: **Help us to bear fruit!**

**Next week: Acts 10:25-26.34-35.44-48, 1 Jn 4:7-10, Jn 15:9-17**

This week's counting teams:

**Sunday Team: 4 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

Jesus uses such interesting ways of describing the importance of family; most of which are taken from creation. We may not be a nation of vine growers, although they have increased in recent years, but the imagery of a vine is very comforting and reassuring. It shows us that we share in the same nourishment and yet the branches allow for all sorts of difference. There is also the indication that fruit is more of a joint effort than the result of any one individual. On face value, pruning is often seen as something negative, demeaning, degrading but, in the case of a vine, the better the pruning the better the health and nourishment of the fruit. Pruning is not only very positive it is welcomed. The other paradox of the vine is that although the grapes are great in themselves, it is only when they are crushed that they produce of their best: wine (at least wine lovers think so!). Doesn't this help us reflect more positively about living more simply and therefore more sustainably. Those who live more simply (who have pruned their lifestyle and habits) will speak about feeling healthier, having more energy and feeling more positive about themselves. *A simple lifestyle is good for us, helping us to better share with those in need. . . . Our efforts must aim at restoring hope, righting wrongs, maintaining commitments, and thus promoting the well-being of individuals and of peoples.* (Pope Francis)

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We pray for Carmela Canella whose funeral is on Wednesday 9 May at 11.30am here at Our Lady's Church and afterwards at North Herts Memorial Park and Crematorium. May she rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort her family.

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Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Priest Training Fund last weekend and for the response of prayer for vocations, love and concern for the clergy and for the current seminarians. The formation of Priests is of top priority – it is our future. Thank you all for your generosity. A total sum of £242.72 was raised.

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With effect from Monday 30 April, the Eucharist Course will be held in the Lower Committee Room. However, the Course on Monday 14 May will be held back in the Emmanuel Centre.

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Roofing Ladder Needed ..does anyone have a roofing ladder - a ladder with a hook on the top to go over a roof ridge ? The maintenance team need

to borrow one to complete this season's parish gutter clearing. John 07966 800517 or Mike 07831550857

## Dates for Diary

### Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April

**7.30-8.30pm Eucharist Course** in the Lower Committee Room with Fr Tom. Materials provided.

### Tuesday 1st May

**There will be no Eucharistic Service tonight due to the event taking place in the Hall – “Slaves on our Doorsteps” 7-9pm.**

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**8pm UCM** - talk by a PCSO in Lower committee room.

### Wednesday 2nd May

**11am Mass at Elmside.** All are welcome.

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**3-4pm Eucharist Course** in the Lower Committee Room with Fr Andrew. Materials will be provided.

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**6.30pm MICHAELMAS FAIR PLANNING MEETING** in the Lower Committee Room. You are warmly invited to a meeting to plan this year's Michaelmas Fair which will take place on 6th October. New ideas and helpers are very welcome. The fair is a most enjoyable event for all the parish and we want to ensure that all ages and tastes are catered for.

### Thursday 3rd May

There will be a Padre Pio Group Mass today. There will be no meeting afterwards as the Hall is being used for local elections.

### Other items of interest

St Richard Reynolds Catholic College is advertising for the following roles:

RE Teacher - closing date 30th April

PE Teacher - closing date 30th April

College Chaplain/Youth Worker - closing date 4th May

Subject Lead in Physics - closing date 7th May

Please contact Claudine Richardson on 020 8325 4630 or to follow the link provided:

<http://www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/recruitment>

### AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 77

*Love in Marriage* All that has been said so far would be insufficient to express the Gospel of marriage and the family, were we not also to speak of



love. We cannot encourage a path of fidelity and mutual self-giving without encouraging the growth, strengthening and deepening of conjugal and family love.