



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 1786

12th May – 19th May 2018 – 7th Sunday of Easter – Year B

Diary



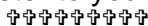
Mass Times	
Saturday anticipating 6pm	
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 5pm	
Monday – Saturday 10am	
Exposition Thursday 7pm-8pm	
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am during Exposition	
Contacts	
Parish Priest Fr Tom O'Brien	07547 171570 thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk
Fr Euloge Kasine Assistant Priest	07424 004647 eulogeka@gmail.com
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:	01462 459 126
Mobile:	07547 171570
Website:	parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin
E-mail:	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk

Sunday 13th	Coffee Morning – Flower Group Confirmation Session 12 Hall 6pm
Monday 14th Beavers – 6.00-7.00pm Cubs – 7.15pm-8.15pm	Parents & Toddlers – Hall 9.30am Meditation - UCR - 11.45am Live Simply/OWG – EC – 2.30pm PPC Meeting – LCR – 7pm Eucharist Course – EC – 7.30pm
Tuesday 15th Scouts - 7-9pm	Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm UCM – Hall – 8pm
Wednesday 16th	Rosary - Church - 9.30am Eucharist Course – LCR – 3pm RCIA - EC - 7.30pm
Thursday 17th Brownies - 6.30-7.45	Christian Meditation Group EC 6.30pm Italian Club – Hall – 1pm Choir - Church - 8pm
Friday 18th	Caritas Meeting – UCR – 9am Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30am Lectio Divina - EC - 2pm
Saturday 19th	FHC Session 6 – Hall – 9.30am
Sunday 20th	Coffee Morning – One World Group



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.

Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26, 1 John 4:11-16, John 17:11-19

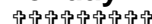
Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia
Psalm: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

Intercession: You are with us always
Response: **Lord, hear our prayer!**

Next week: Acts 2:1-11, Gal 5:16-25, Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 6 Monday Team: 4



There will be a second collection this weekend in aid of Catholic Communications.

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:

A Christian cannot think of his or her mission on earth without seeing it as a path of holiness, for "this is the will of God, your sanctification" (1 Thess 4:3). . . . This is a powerful summons to all of us. You too need to see the entirety of your life as a mission. . . . Allow the Spirit to forge in you the personal mystery that can reflect Jesus Christ in today's world. (19,23 Gaudete et Exultate) To sanctify" or "to consecrate" means to hand something over to God. Because something or someone is consecrated, they are given to God, and now they exist for others and are given to others. (Pope Francis) In baptism, we are handed over to God and given a mission. In confirmation, we accept that mission and are given the gifts of the spirit to help fulfil it. Our Mission is to offer ourselves in service of Jesus who is truth. It means we are willing to allow Christ to work within us and through us. Like the Apostles, we are set aside and become a source of holiness. This does not mean distancing ourselves from people. Quite the opposite. We are called to immerse ourselves among people that Christ can work more effectively through us. It is as though we live and breathe holiness, the holiness of Christ wherever we go. This is cause of great "rejoicing and gladness" (Gaudete et Exultate) as Pope Francis is and wants to remind us.

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Organ update We have received approval for the new organ and the order has been placed. As soon as we have a date for delivery we will update you with the plan. We should not be without an organ at any time.

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The young daughter of one of our choir members has Complex Regional Pain Syndrome which is a long term pain syndrome that can get worse over time. She is being treated at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) Her father Lee, is taking part in the London to Paris 300 mile bike Challenge for GOSH in the summer. He is training really hard for this and says that spending time at the hospital with his daughter this week has made him even more determined to raise as much money for the hospital at possible. Would you consider sponsoring this cause? If so please go to <http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Lee-walker32>. The young girl is continuing to exercise through pain and doing an event later in the Summer herself.

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Christian Aid week is 13th -19th May. You should receive an envelope through your door but in case you don't there will be some available in the church porch next weekend.

Party in the Square, Pentecost Sunday 20th May 11.30am-4pm Churches Together in Hitchin is holding this event next Sunday to show the life and work of the churches in the town centre. It begins with a service at 11.30 then there will be food, stalls, activities and fun, all free, until about 4pm. Our contribution will be a Sunseeker Sunday with arts and crafts.

We need your help in four ways:

1. **Volunteers** who will help for an hour on the Sunseeker stall with an craft activity. Please let Trish or Helen Bailey hbailey@talktalk.net know if you can help.
2. **We need cakes for the day.** Could you make a plate of cakes and deliver them to the church by the 10.30 Mass or take your contribution directly to the square.
3. Anyone who could **help to clear up at the end**, as we want to leave the square as we found it. Please let Trish know.
4. Anyone who would like to join the **prayer team**, praying for any and every need that people have, please let Trish know.

Many thanks to all who are contributing. Members of all congregations are invited to come along, and bring others , so that this can be a great demonstration that the churches are alive and well and the Gospel is being proclaimed in word and action!

Dates for Diary

Tuesday 15 May

2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge. All are welcome.

Other items of interest

Hertfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd, who, with the support of the his Independent Business Advisory Group and Hertfordshire Modern Slavery Partnership, are hosting a FREE seminar to raise awareness of modern slavery for Hertfordshire's businesses on **May 21st at Robertson House in Stevenage, 1300-1600.** For more information on this event and to download your FREE ticket - go to this link (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/unchaining-modern-slavery-in-your-business-seminar-tickets-44913291865>)

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 79

Our Daily Love In this passage of St. Paul we see some features of true love: 'Love is patient, kind, not jealous or boastful, not arrogant or rude, does not insist on its own way'. (1 Cor 13:4-7)

