



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

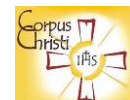
16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS
(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)

Newsletter No 1789

2nd June – 9th June – CORPUS CHRISTI - Year B



AUGUSTINIANS
OF THE
ASSUMPTION
Thy Kingdom Come



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| 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 |

Diary

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| Sunday 3rd | Coffee Morning – OLSSG |
| Monday 4th | Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30am |
| Beavers – 6.00-7.00pm | Meditation - UCR - 11.45am |
| Cubs – 7.15pm-8.15pm | Eucharist Course – LCR – 7.30pm |
| Tuesday 5th | Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am |
| Scouts - 7-9pm | Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm |
| | RE Session - LCR - 5.30pm |
| | Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm |
| | UCM – Hall – 8pm |
| Wednesday 6th | Rosary - Church - 9.30am |
| | Eucharist Course – LCR – 3pm |
| | Michaelmas Meeting LCR 6.30pm |
| | RCIA - EC - 7.30pm |
| Thursday 7th | Padre Pio Group – LCR – 10.30am |
| Brownies - 6.30-7.45 | Christian Meditation Group EC 6.30pm |
| | Italian Club – Hall – 1pm |
| | Choir - Church - 8pm |
| Friday 8th | Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30am |
| | Lectio Divina - EC - 2pm |
| Saturday 9th | Convention Meeting LCR 10.30am |
| Sunday 10th | Coffee Morning – Live Simply |
| | First Holy Communion 2pm |



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.

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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.

Readings: Ex 24:3-8, Heb 9:11-15, Mark 14:12-16.22-26

Entrance Antiphon: He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Psalm: The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.

Intercession: We call on the Lord's name

Response: **You give us living bread!**

Next week: Readings Gen 3:9-15, Cor 4:13-5:1, Mk 3:20-35

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 2 Monday Team: 3

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Thank you for your support for the recent coffee morning held by the Live Simply Group which raised £84.

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

Ramblings for Reflection: “Each hour has its own unique mood and special grace. You can learn to enter into the spirit of the hour wherever you are. No matter what you are doing, you can pause to touch the grace of the hour.” *Macrina Wiederkehr OSB*. In tuning in to Christ in a special way today we should remember that members of the Royal family are called “Blue Bloods” marking them out as special. We are far better than blue bloods because today we are reminded that Christ’s blood flows through our veins. A blood that purifies, strengthens, feeds, inspires, challenges, protects, guides, encourages, motivates and much, much more. Every reason for us to celebrate. Whenever we become aware of Christ’s presence, wherever we might be and with whom we might be, the Blood of Christ renews itself within us and slowly but surely our faith, our life, our vision, matures. And, just as it is difficult to clap with only one hand, this feast reminds us that we celebrate in community, with others, with Christ, so that as we recognise/experience Christ’s presence in the sacred bread and wine, we recognise/experience Christ’s presence in those around us and in ourselves. And the more we live this experience the more Christ becomes present in our world – no wonder the Church implores us to celebrate this feast every Sunday (and more if possible). For Christ’s presence heals, reconciles, harmonises, and brings peace. May Christ’s blood flow ever more freely through our lives and touch all whom we encounter.

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Offertory Collection Figures Details of the Offertory Collection figures for 2017 are on the Notice Board in the Porch. They show that, whilst there has been a noticeable fall-off in Envelope donations, which will have an impact on the Gift Aid claim, the overall figure has held up pretty well with only a small year-on-year reduction. If you have any questions, please contact David via the Parish Office



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This Sunday 3rd June 2.30pm Our healing and wholeness service. Parishioners are invited to share in this time of prayer with exposition of the



Blessed Sacrament, during which the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing will be celebrated. .

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Next Sunday 10th June is our **First Holy Communion Mass at 2pm.** 38 children will be receiving the Sacrament for the first time. It will be an occasion of real joy for



them and their families. Please keep them all in your prayers in the coming week.

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Sunday 17th June 6pm (after 5pm Mass) **Prayer service for Our Lady’s School** to pray for all the children, parents, staff and governors.



We will pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us all for the future, to comfort, heal and unite us. A reflective service with prayer and readings which will last about 30 minutes. All welcome.

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Sunday 8th July 10.30 Mass we welcome Our Lady’s School, children, staff and governors. Children, staff and governors will read at the Mass and take up the offertory. There will be no children’s liturgy on this occasion. This will be followed by our parish **Bring and Share picnic** in the gardens starting at **12pm**. All parishioners are invited to join us to celebrate our parish community and all its talents, gifts and service. Please sign up on the sheet in the porch to let us know what you are bringing.



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Sunday 8th July 5pm Mass is our Confirmation mass where our young people who have been preparing over the past year will receive the sacrament with Bishop Paul McAleenan. All are welcome to attend this Mass to support our confirmation candidates on this important and joyous occasion.

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Church Cleaning We have a particular need for more people to help keep our church clean on Mondays. Teams of 2-3 people can co-ordinate their time to suit themselves. If you can give an 1½ hours once a month to keep our church beautiful please speak to or email Trish.



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Share the Journey with CAFOD & Our Lady Immaculate and St Andrew, Hitchin, a new global campaign to stand up for the rights of refugees and migrants. As part of this campaign our parish has organised a pilgrimage around the London Outer Orbital Path (the LOOP) consisting of a series of prayerful day walks taking place in June 2018 led by Ann Milner. Everyone is welcome to join

part or all of the walk. This is still continuing and there are posters in the parish about it or details at: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/events/> You can find out where and when we meet for each walk by sending a request to oliasah-peace@yahoo.co.ukand we'll keep you in the loop!

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Dates for Diary

Monday 4 June

No Mass at Gosmore this month as residents are on a day trip.

Tuesday 5 June

8pm UCM meeting in the Lower Committee room. Walsingham Remembered, a service based on past pilgrimages.

Wednesday 6 June

11am Mass at Elmside. All are welcome.

Thursday 7 June

10am St Pio Group Mass followed by a meeting in the LCR. All are welcome.

Future dates

June 5 6pm Lift up your heads, O Gates! Explore the varied and fascinating history of the City of London - the Square Mile, from its ancient origins, as a Catholic capital, and then to the Reformation and beyond. Meet at the Church of the Most Precious Blood, Southwark. SE1 1TA. Nearest Tube: Borough or London Bridge.

June 5 6:30-8:30pm Interested in Volunteering? As part of Volunteers' Week, Caritas Westminster is hosting a Volunteer Fair exploring the impact and importance of volunteering, featuring stands and volunteer opportunities from a wide variety of organisations. Vaughan House, Francis Street, SW1P 1QN. Please RSVP to caritasvol@rcdow.org.uk or call 0207 529 8635

June 5 6.30-7.15pm Hitchin Town Talk- your opportunity to discuss with District Councillors matters of interest and concern at Peter Morrison Hall, Benslow Music School.

June 5 UN World Environment Day 2018 is the "people's day" for doing something to take care of the Earth. That "something" can be focused locally, nationally or globally; it can be a solo action or involve a crowd. Everyone is free to choose. The Theme Each World Environment Day is organized around a theme that focuses attention on a particularly pressing environmental concern. The theme for 2018 is beating plastic pollution.

June 10 3pm A Royal Walk - Queen's Birthday Special On this weekend of the Queen's

Official Birthday and today, Prince Philip's Birthday, join us for a walk through Westminster full of royal celebration and Catholic History. Meet on the steps of Westminster Cathedral. Nearest Tube: Victoria.

June 10 12-4.15pm Triangle Community Garden Open Day & Fun Dog Show

FREE (Dog show £2 per entry, Bake Off 50p per entry) Ransom's Recreation Ground, off Grove Road Hitchin. A fun day out for all ages in aid of your local community garden with loads of outdoor activities for everyone, including an All Age Bake Off! <http://www.trianglegarden.org/events/open-day-fun-dog-show-0> for details.

June 15 6:15pm for 6:30pm start at the Westminster Cathedral in the side chapel there will be the "Lampedusa Cross Service for Refugees and Migrants - part of Refugee Week 2018 - organised by Westminster Justice and Peace, CARITAS, and CAFOD. The theme is "Share the Journey", the invitation of Pope Francis to raise awareness of the rights of people on the move. Followed by a workshop at 7:15 pm in the Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace (behind the Westminster Cathedral) led by Safe Passage All are invited.

June 16 An invitation from Matt Summerfield, Hitchin Christian Centre, to a **Make a Difference Dinner**; Enjoy a fabulous night out with friends, all the while knowing that you are making a positive difference in the world.-

*Free glass of Prosecco upon arrival (then pay bar available)-

*Three course meal

*Pledge auction and raffle with a range of very special gifts (come ready with your cheque book!!!)

*Finish off the night dancing in the after party
This year, 100% of the profits from this evening will support a group of twenty young people and leaders from the local community who will travel in August 2018 to Moldova, the poorest country in Europe, to build a house - together with Moldova young people - for a family in poverty. £42 per person for a great night out with friends! Book your place or table today - <https://hcc.churchsuite.co.uk/events/hzooshrk>

June 17 3pm to 6pm The Welwyn Hatfield Inter Faith Group (WHIFG) extends a warm invitation to an afternoon of storytelling "Tales of Wisdom" from different faiths by the Khayaal Theatre Company, based in Luton.

This event will appeal to all ages (from 4 - 94!) and to all faiths and those who just enjoy good stories at the Focolare Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JG. Refreshments available from 3pm. For contact details and ticket prices and more information, see the poster in our church entrance porch.

June 21 Solstice Day, the longest day, also designated national "Clean Air Day 2018". This year's theme is "make a clean air day decision/action. here is much information and advice from the Clean Air Day website: <https://www.cleanday.org.uk/news/clean-air-day-2018> for school, commuters, workplaces, etc. Let's make that day, the first day of a "new cleaner air year ahead" time to make a Clean Air New Year's resolution that will benefit us and the local and global community! Air pollution is real and harms the health of millions. But there are lots of simple things we can do to improve air quality and look after our own and other people's health. Clean Air Day is a chance to find out more about air pollution, share information with friends and colleagues, and help make the air cleaner and healthier for everyone. Please make use of the good and useful information available.

June 23 The Friends of Holy Saviour Church are organising a Coach trip to Rousham Gardens, nr Bicester Saturday June 23rd. This delightful and unspoilt landscape garden retains the design of William Kent, the 18th century garden designer. The site also includes a walled garden, with espalier apple trees, parterre and dovecote. The House is not open, but the estate church will be. There are no catering facilities on site, so a picnic lunch is essential. Please note that children under 15 are not admitted to the gardens. The coach will start from Woodside carpark at 9am, returning by 6pm. The cost is £26, which covers coach fare, admission to the gardens, and tea and cake at a nearby hotel before we start for home. For more details about Rousham visit www.rousham.org. To book a place, or for more information about the trip, email alan.fleck@ntlworld.com or ring 01462 646257.

June 30 2.30-4.30pm **LORETO COLLEGE PAST PUPILS REUNION** Did you attend Loreto College St Albans? If you did why not come along to the past pupils' reunion? Please email loretoreunion@outlook.com for more information or to let us know you are coming

June 30 12:30pm at St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HR. Mass of Thanksgiving "Sharing the Gospel of Joy" for 100 years of Columban mission, from 1918-2018 for the Missionary society of St. Columban. See poster in our church entrance porch

Other items of interest

Meeting needs at Christchurch is a project run from Christchurch which aims to re-locate good quality items that are no longer needed to families in need who would be able to use them. If anyone can help please call me on 01462 816658 or email stephaniefkirby@hotmail.com

Job Vacancy for Director of Education in the Diocese of Wrexham. See website for details. <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/job-vacancies/>

6th June 9.30am-2pm FREE Safety Information, Help and Advice for the older person at Hitchin Town Hall includes FREE lunch donated by Herts Independent Living Service To book your free place & for more information please contact 07812 324 407 or email Julie.springett@hertfordshire.gov.uk or see poster in porch.

A Guide to supporting rough sleepers is available in the porch for advice to give to any homeless person you encounter in the local area. There is help out there for them.



AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 82
Our Daily Love - Love is Patient We encounter problems whenever we think relationships or people ought to be perfect, or when we put ourselves at the centre and expect things to turn out our way. Then everything makes us impatient, everything makes us react aggressively.