



# 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 1793

30<sup>th</sup> June – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



## 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

<b>Parish Priest</b> Fr Tom O'Brien	07547 171570 <a href="mailto:thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk">thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Fr Euloge Kasine Assistant Priest	07424 004647 <a href="mailto:eulogeka@gmail.com">eulogeka@gmail.com</a>
Fr Michael Lambert Counselling Support	07958 575442 <a href="mailto:michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk">michaellambert@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Fr Andrew O'Dell Retired Priest	01462 459126
<b>Pastoral Assistants</b> Trish Bonnett <i>also Safeguarding Rep</i>	Tel: 01462 459126 <a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>
Susanna Hawksley <b>Catechetics</b>	<a href="mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk">susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b> Cheryl Saunders	Tel: 01462 459126 <a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Office</b> Tel:	01462 459 126
Mobile:	07547 171570
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## Diary

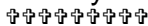
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b>	Coffee Morning – Diapalante
	Confirmation Rehearsal 5.45pm
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup></b> Beavers – 6.00-7.00pm Cubs – 7.15pm-8.15pm	Parents & Toddlers – Hall 9.30am
	Meditation - UCR - 11.45am
	PPC Meeting – LCR – 7.30pm
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Scouts – 7.00-9.00pm	Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am
	Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15pm UCM – LCR – 8pm
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Rosary - Church - 9.30am
	RCIA - EC - 7.30pm
	St Pio Group Hill Farm 6.30pm
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup></b> Brownies 6.30pm	Italian Club – Hall – 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group EC 6.30pm
	Choir - Church - 8pm
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Parents & Toddlers – Hall 9.30am
	Bereavement Service 7.30pm
	Lectio Divina - EC - 2pm
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Coffee Morning – KISS
	<b>Parish Picnic 12pm Gardens</b>
	<b>Confirmation Mass 5pm</b>

**H**

Hospital

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: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24, Cor 8:7.9.13-15, Mk 5:21-43**

Entrance Antiphon: All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

**Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me!**

Intercession: Lord have pity on us!

Response: **Come to our help!**

**Next week: Ezek 2:2-5, 2 Cor 12:7-10, Mark 6:1-**

This week's counting teams:

**Sunday Team: 6 Monday Team: 3**



## 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:

Some truths are extremely hard to accept especially that concerning death. When tragedy takes a life prematurely, through illness, tragedy or accident, we ask God why. Yet, Wisdom clearly states that *Death is not God's doing*. God did not prevent the little girl from dying but allowed Jesus to bring her back to life (as happened later with Lazarus.) We believe that Jesus died on the cross to gain life for us all; we believe that life with God is our deep desire even though we understand little of what it will be like. We even pray for a peaceful death. Why do we create such inner conflict for ourselves? Although we can terminate life (euthanasia, abortion, suicide), death refers to the passage from this life to the next. We have no control over what happens and approach it with uncertainty, with a sense of helplessness and many unanswered questions, powerless! This is when our faith, hope and love will reveal their true colours. We do know, however, that God wants our lives to continue. Ponder these words by Sr M. Wiederkehr OSB:

*Draw me into the depths.*

*Take me down to the holy darkness to Love's roots.*

*I lean into that darkness,*

*the darkness that surrounds me,*

*This nurturing room for my restless spirit.*

*Let me borrow your eyes, Beloved.*

*Then I shall see in the dark, though for answers I do not look.*

*It is enough to wait,*

*to wait in the holy darkness,*

*this nurturing womb for Love's yearning.*

*Listening to the sound of silence,*

*and leaning into the song of darkness, I wait for You.*

*Waiting with purpose for who I will become,*

*waiting without agenda for things I cannot change,*

*I become one with the One I love,*

*for I have seen too many stars,*

*too many stars to let the darkness overwhelm me.*

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We pray for Peter Appleyard whose funeral is on Thursday 5 July 2018 at 1pm here at Our Lady's Church and afterwards at Wilbury Hills Cemetery. We also pray for Patrick Joseph Walshe (Paddy) whose funeral is on Friday 6 July at 3pm at North Herts Memorial Park and Crematorium only. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.

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There will be a **second collection** this weekend (30<sup>th</sup> June/1<sup>st</sup> July) in aid of Peter's Pence.



## Live Simply Tip for June -

Stop using harsh cleaning chemicals. Baking soda is a fantastic scouring powder, vinegar and water is good for sinks

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**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 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. We welcome all new parishioners to this Mass too. Please sign up on the sheet in the porch to let us know what you are bringing.

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**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 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. We hope to have the blessing of our new organ on this occasion also.

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As you will notice our new organ has arrived and been installed. We hope that it will be blessed by Bishop Paul next Sunday at the confirmation Mass. There will be a formal opportunity to say goodbye to the old organ before it is dismantled. Just

watch this space. We hope you enjoy the improved quality of sound and are grateful to John Murfet & the late Kathy Morgan for their generous contributions to this wonderful instrument.

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There are various items in the **lost property box** in the porch which is now quite full! Please do check if any of these items belong to you and they can be reunited with their owner. Also, there are various items to collect in the Parish Office. If you are expecting to collect something, please pop in to the Parish Office to collect. Many thanks.

Michaelmas



**Saturday 6th October** Many thanks for the offers of goods, services and time for the popular Promises Auction. All offers may

be made via Pam Brannigan 01462 632587 or [pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com](mailto:pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com).

We now need some help from our younger parishioners. Our theme is **Save our Oceans**. We want to create a reusable shopping bag to sell with a picture on this theme. So we are asking all the children in the parish to design an eye catching logo for the bag (example shown) on the theme

**Save our Oceans.**

It will be printed as one colour - blue on white. The design needs to be suitable for being printed on the side of a bag. You need to do your design on a sheet of A4 paper with your name, age and telephone number on the other side. Please return to the school or parish office by Monday 16th July. We will let everyone know the design that has been chosen by the end of July. All designs will be on display at the Michaelmas Fair.



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**As I Am – LGBTQ+** In November 2017, our Cardinal, Vincent Nichols, asked parishes in Westminster Diocese to look at how they could become welcoming parishes to the LGBT community. In response, in the same month, a small group of parishioners and priests began to meet to pray, discuss and discern our next steps as a parish. This group calls itself ‘**As I am**’, as they came to believe it was important that everyone in the parish feels they are loved and accepted by God and the parish as they are. Monthly meetings have taken place and members of the group have been to LGBT Catholics Westminster who assist at the 5.30pm Farm Street Parish Mass and host a social afterwards on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. The next action of the group was to set up a web page on the parish website.

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/lgbtq-all-are-welcome/> It features a very helpful video clip. We



ask you to search this out and give us your feedback. This will achieve two things – your suggestions can improve what we are offering and

the more people who click on the page via google, the higher we go up on that page making it more accessible to those who are searching. Thanks for your help.

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Copies of the Eucharistic Ministers Rota from 8th July until 4th November and next Readers rota are available in the Parish Office for collection for those who have not received it by email. They are also available on the parish website

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/parish-ministry-rotas/>

### **Date for Diary**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

2.30pm Mass at Gosmore at. All are welcome

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

11am Mass at Elmside. All are welcome.

### **Future dates**

#### **July 7/14 Alpha Introduction Days – July 2018**

The Agency for Evangelisation in partnership with Alpha UK has arranged for two ‘Introduction Days’ for those who may be interested in running an Alpha Course in their own parish. The days are: Saturday 7th July 10am – 4pm at St Joan of Arc Catholic School, High St, Rickmansworth WD3 1HG and Saturday 14th July 10am-4pm at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN The Alpha Introduction Day is an opportunity to learn how Alpha can be a tool for evangelisation in your parish. Through hospitality, sharing and open conversation Alpha introduces people to the initial proclamation of the ‘Good News’.

During the Introduction Day participants will learn how to effectively run in their parish the series of sessions that make up Alpha. Alpha is widely used in Catholic parishes across the world. To register for one of the Alpha Introduction Days and for more information please e-mail Warren Brown at [catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catadmin@rcdow.org.uk) Telephone contact is 0207 798 9152. For more information on Alpha, please visit the website <https://alpha.org/catholic-context/home>

#### **July 8**

St Francis Ramblers invite you to join them on their walk. Meet Knebworth station (walkers' train due 1038). Distance 7 miles with lunch stop (at The Red Lion, 26 London Rd, Woolmer Green), finishing at Knebworth. Please call Paul on 07847 282626 for more details. Here is a link to our website



for more information about our club:-  
<http://www.stfrancisramblers.ukwalkers.com>

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**July 10** 10am - 3.30 pm Garden Retreat in the beautiful grounds of Rosary Priory and the Niland Centre with Sr Laurentia Carroll OP & Sr Anne Walsh OP. We hunger for beauty. Nourish your soul and your senses. Please bring a packed lunch (tea/coffee provided) & rain gear (precaution). Suggested donation £14. Registrations welcome at nilandcentre@gmail.com or 020 8950 4000. Niland Conference Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE.

**July 20-22 ANNUAL JUSTICE & PEACE CONFERENCE (20th—22nd July 2018)** at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire – with the theme: ‘In the Shelter of Each Other the People Live’ – There will be a programme of activities for children and young people, and a Just Fair with information and resources from many organisations. Discount available for families. This year, Fr Tom is due to attend part of the conference. It would be good for the parish if more parishioners were interested and willing to take part as well. Booking forms from NJPN, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX; phone: 020 7901 4864 Registration forms are available on-line, but can also be provided by e-mail: [admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk](mailto:admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk).

See parish website for more details.  
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/live-simply/>

### Other Items

**URGENT PLEASE HELP** Can anyone help a mother and son (2 and a half years old), who has 2been given a notice of eviction through no fault of her own. She urgently needs a one bed flat on Hitchin. The rent will be paid by North Herts District Council. If anyone can help or need any further information please contact Charmaine Ball on 01462 850850.'

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It is very encouraging to hear from parishes of their work to share the Good News through local Evangelisation. There are a wide range of different activities in areas of liturgy, parish community building, faith formation, community service and welcoming that are helping people to get to know Jesus for the for first time, or as if for the first time. Many parish teams have said how they enjoy being able to share what they are doing in their parish, and hearing about what other parishes are doing for evangelisation. They can pick up on new ideas and consider new activities or approaches in their own parish. To help the sharing of ideas and learning from others, there will be three Parish Evangelisation Network Meetings on:

Wed 4th July at St Matthew's parish, Northwood

Thurs 12th July at Holy Apostle's parish, Pimlico

**Monday 16th July at Our Lady Immaculate & St Andrew's parish, Hitchin** (Please can everyone make an effort to come to this meeting so we can show what we ae doing and get new ideas of where to go from here. Let Trish know if you can attend.)

Each meeting will run from 7.30pm to 9.00pm, with light refreshments provided.

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**World Youth Day** is an international event with the Pope, and Catholics from across the world. The next WYD will be in Panama, Central America, in January 2019. The Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry are organising a pilgrimage for young adults to attend this life changing event. Scholarships for 50% are also available to support young adults wishing to go. More information: [dowym.com/events/wyd-panama-2019](http://dowym.com/events/wyd-panama-2019) or email: [youth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdow.org.uk)

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We still need volunteers for our Children's Liturgy Team at the 10.30 Mass. You do not need to be a catechist or teacher but you do need to feel

comfortable about talking to children about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Training for being a part of the team is 'on the job' and materials for the liturgy are all provided.

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**LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT MINISTRY** Invite you to a Seven day Retreat at Mem Soares, Castelo De Vide, Retreat House, Portugal on Thursday September 06th – Wednesday September 12th 2018. For more details see parish noticeboard.or email [lovehealsbodymindspirit@gmail.com](mailto:lovehealsbodymindspirit@gmail.com)

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Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit [www.catholicssingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicssingles.org.uk) or tel. 0161 941 3498

### AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 86

*Our Daily Love - Love is Patient Love always has an aspect of deep compassion that leads to accepting the other person as part of this world, even when he or she acts differently than I would like."*

