



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 1801

25th August – 1st September 2018 – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - 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 26th	Coffee Morning – OLSSG
Monday 27th Bank Holiday	Christian Meditation Group EC – 11.45am
Tuesday 28th	Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am
	Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm
	No Eucharistic service
Wednesday 29th	Rosary - Church - 9.30am
Thursday 30th	Italian Club – Hall – 1pm
	Christian Meditation Group EC 6.30pm
Saturday 1st Sept	Creation Service 11.30am Church
Sunday 2nd Sept	Coffee Morning – Gardening Group
	Healing Service - 3pm - Church

Readings: Josh 24:1-2.15-18, Eph 5:21-32, John 6:60-69

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your ear O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Psalm: Taste and see that the Lord is good

Intercession: Lord, you give us life

Response: Keep us close to you!

**Next week: Deut 4:1-2.6-8, James 1:17-18.21-22.27,
Mark 7:1-8.14-15.21-23**

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 7 Monday Team: 3

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

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Next Sunday 2nd September at 3pm (please note change of time – this is a one off) we are holding our next Service of Healing and

Wholeness. Parishioners who feel the need for these gifts are invited to share in this time of prayer, during which the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing will be celebrated



If you are going into hospital please take a copy of the leaflet in the church porch and notify the Chaplain on Tel: **01438 285519**

Email: spiritualcare.enh-tr@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.

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: If you were able to reflect on the readings this past week, one of the main questions has been whether we choose God or not. In the past few weeks, this choice has been tested, because it seems that Jesus asks us to do the impossible: to eat his flesh and drink his blood. This week, we see that it was impossible for some of Jesus' followers. So, let us ask the question in a different way: *"Do you choose to love others or not?"* Of course, we would choose to love, even though it is difficult to love all others in the same way; some even seem impossible to love. If we choose to love, then we choose God, because God is love and the source and origin of all love. But, to love is not just a feeling or a desire, it is something that is lived daily at every moment, sometimes perfectly, sometimes dismally, but it is lived. In loving, we want the very best for those we love and will do anything, whatever the cost, to show this. Thus, we reflect God's love for us, for God, too, wants the very best for us. Just as God's love for us was incarnated in Jesus Christ, our love is incarnated in every loving action. And, just as God is eternal so, too, is love and any truly loving relationship is eternal. No wonder that marriage is the very best example of this - a relationship of *flesh and blood!*

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We pray for Mary McNeilly whose funeral is on Thursday 6 September here at Our lady's Church at 10am. May she rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort her family.

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Like an organ pipe from the old organ as a memento? After all Masses this weekend you can browse among a pile of them (all sizes) on the floor of the Hall stage. Please make a donation to the Michaelmas Fair charities.

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There will be an event in the Hall next Saturday 1st September between 1pm and 7pm. Please bear this in mind when you attend Mass that day as the car park may be busy.

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION If you have a child who will be in Y3 next year and you wish her or him to be enrolled on the programme of preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, you are asked to attend an information evening on Tuesday 11th September in the church hall, at 7:30pm. Dates for the course and the application form are available on the parish website. Hard copy application forms are available in the church porch. Applications need to be submitted by 16th September. I look forward to meeting you all.



ADULTS! Is there a reason you'd like to explore your faith? Are you returning to the Church after an absence? Looking to prepare for a sacrament missed in youth? Maybe you want to join the Church? Look no further! Come and see what's on offer, on Wednesday 5th September, 7:30pm in the church hall. The RCIA group is inviting you to come and see. We look forward to meeting you.

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Thank you so much for your very generous donations in response to Sr Michela's appeal last weekend on behalf of the Comboni Missionaries – Sisters' Mission Committee. A total of £1151.91 was raised.

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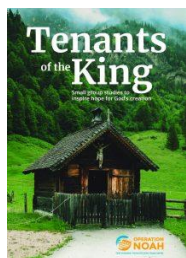


Season of Creation begins **1st Sept** and we are starting it with an ecumenical prayer service at **11.30am on 1st Sept** in our church. Please do come to this

service and show your commitment to looking after the earth that God has given us.

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Tenants of the King study groups What does the Bible have to say about the changes in the climate and our stewardship of the earth? This guide is designed to discover more of God's answers to this important question. Booklet provided (£2)



Groups are Monday evenings 7.30-8.45 pm (led by Fr Tom) and Wednesday afternoons 3-4.15pm (led by Fr Andrew).

Session 1 Monday 10/9 and Wednesday 12/9
Session 2 Monday 17/9 and Wednesday 19/9
Session 3 Monday 24/9 and Wednesday 26/9
Session 4 Monday 1/10 and Wednesday 3/10
Please sign up on the sheets in the porch

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OCTOBER 6th. We are delighted that it has been decided that part of the proceeds from this year's fair will be used to provide furnishing for our new side chapel. Many thanks to all those who have donated bottles and jars for the Bottle Tombola. More are needed and can be brought to the office or collected by Pam Brannigan (01462 632587) or pambrannigan2004@hotmail.com. Next weekend we are asking for nearly new items for our bric a brac stalls. Goods may be placed in the red baskets in the porch or collected by Pam. Thanks to all for your support.

Michaelmas

Fair