



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 1807

6th October – 13th October 2018 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Diary

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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 |

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| Sunday 7th | Coffee Morning – SPUC |
| Monday 8th Scout Hut Beavers 6pm Cubs – 7.15pm | Parents & Toddlers - Hall 9.30am Christian Meditation Group EC – 11.45am |
| Tuesday 9th Scout Hut Scouts 7pm | Morning Prayer - Church - 9.30am Bethany Club - Hall - 10.30am-3pm Praise Group – LCR – 10.35am Poppy Making – LCR – 2.30pm RE Session – LCR – 4.30pm Eucharistic Service – 7.15pm |
| Wednesday 10th | Rosary - Church - 9.30am Bethany Meeting – Hall 10am RCIA – EC – 7.30pm |
| Thursday 11th Scout Hut Brownies 6.30pm | Italian Club – Hall – 1pm Christian Meditation Group EC 6.30pm Choir Practice – Church 8pm |
| Friday 12th | Parents & Toddlers - Hall 9.15am Lectio Divina – EC – 2pm Jumble Sale set up–Scout Hut 6pm |
| Saturday 13th | Jumble Sale – Scout Hut 10am |
| Sunday 14th | Coffee Morning – KISS |



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.



Readings: Gen 2:18-24, Heb 2:9-11, Mark 10:2-16

Entrance Antiphon: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth; and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Psalm: May the Lord bless us all the days of our life

Intercession: Lord, give us your help!

Response: Guide us in your ways!

Next week: Wis 7:7-11, Heb 4:12-13, Mark 10:17-30

This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 6 Monday Team: 1



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: One of the great things about God is that he comes to us as a Trinity. We reflect that Trinity in many wonderful ways. We look at ourselves inwardly e.g. self-esteem, outwardly to others and creation and upwards to God - a threefold movement. It is also present in our relationship with another person, for God is part of every relationship as the source of the love that unites. Jesus tells us that the best example of a loving relationship is marriage. And, unless the marriage relationship recognises and values the love that God offers, it cannot truly be called a marriage. Jesus is very careful in his teachings. *“What God has joined together man must not divide!”* Most of the divorces numbered in the media were never really marriages in the first place because God had not brought the two people together and was not present in the relationship. Many celebrities jump from one relationship to another, showing they have very little self-esteem and little understanding of the love God offers them. They must be poor, lonely creatures, devoid of any true relationship, living very miserable lives. Marriage is a sacred place where true happiness and self-fulfilment can be found. This is why God wants to be part of it, wants to make it work. In recognising God’s integral presence in our relationships, we come to realise with St James, that, *the one who sanctifies (God) and the ones who are sanctified (us), are of the same stock!!*

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Many thanks to all who supported the Coffee Morning last Sunday in aid of the Bereavement Group. A total of £136 was raised.

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MICHAELMAS FAIR; Many thanks for all your support for the fair this weekend and over the previous months. We shall know how much was raised soon and will let you know in next week’s newsletter. Meanwhile the list of Raffle prizewinners is on display in the porch.

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Missio Red Boxes; The annual collection and count of them will be next weekend (13th/14th). Your donation can be left in the parish office after any Mass and the collection from our parish will be counted and sent to support the good work of overseas missions. Thanks for all that you donate. It is greatly appreciated.

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DO YOU NEED TO DO A BAPTISM COURSE? If you want your child to be baptised, you need to have completed a preparation course within the last three years. Our next

baptism course is on Sunday 18 November 3pm - 4:30pm and Sunday 25 November from 3:30pm - 4:30pm, immediately



followed by the rite of the first anointing of baptism at the 5pm Mass. If you have a baby needing baptism or are expecting a baby and want to get ahead with the preparation for this sacrament, please sign up on the notice board in the Link (down the steps to the hall).

Date for Diary

Wednesday 10th October

10.40 am Praise Group meet in the Lower Committee Room. All who love singing are welcome. We sing with enthusiasm with the help of a guitar, choosing the hymns from the last month’s liturgy.

2.30pm Mass at Foxholes. All are welcome.

Saturday 13th October

10.00 -11.30am Jumble Sale in the Scout Hall. Proceeds to go to the Michaelmas Fair charities. Goods may be left in the red baskets in the porch all week. If you are able to help to set up on Friday afternoon please contact Pam on 01462 632587

Saturday 27th October

9:45am Laudato Si Retreat to reflect on Care for Our Common home.

Starting with Registration and followed by Mass at 10:00 and Adoration, the retreat consists of meditation & reflection material to enable us to Hear Creation’s Song, Hear her Cry and Discern Actions in response to Pope Francis’ call ‘to acknowledge the appeal, immensity and urgency of the challenge we face.’ (LS 15) and consequently ‘awareness of the gravity of today’s cultural and ecological crisis [will] be translated into new habits’ (LS 209). We will have a shared lunch and the retreat will finish at 4pm. Email oliasah-peace@yahoo.co.uk for more details and to book a place.

Future Dates

Oct 9 7.45pm-9:15pm; The Energy Transition: Can Renewables Power our Lives?

At Mrs Howard Hall, Norton Way South, Letchworth garden City, SG6 1NX. Currently renewables account for about 30% of the UK’s electricity generation. Can storage batteries - both domestic and industrial - even out the sun-less, wind-less energy gaps? Join us as we explore the steps needed to move to a resilient 100% renewable electricity supply. Admission free, but a £2 donation to cover costs is appreciated. Join us from 7.30pm for refreshments.

Oct 11 **Refugees: Where to Start? A Parish Response'** – Join us for an evening of practical advice on understanding the nature and challenges of the refugee crisis and how parishes, groups and individuals can play their part in alleviating 'the wounds of refugees' (*Pope Francis*). Bishop Paul McAleenan will be leading the event, and will be joined by other organisations including the Jesuit Refugee Service, Enfield Welcome Group, Notre Dame Refugee Service and the Haringey Migrant Support Centre, as well as many others. The event will be held on **Thursday 11th October, 7-9pm**, at **Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN**.

Tea and coffee will be available from 6.30pm. Please RSVP to caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk, or call on 0207 798 9030. Alternatively, you can register your attendance on Eventbrite, by searching for 'A Parish Response to Refugees: Where to Start?'

Oct 14 A Novena of Intercession to St. Oscar Romero and of thanksgiving for his canonisation (14th October in St Peter's in Rome), will take place at St Ignatius Church, Stamford Hill. Bishop John Sherrington will have celebrated Mass on 5th October. During this liturgy a new painting of Oscar Romero and Rutilio Grande will be unveiled, blessed and installed. The Romero Novena begins that evening with prayers and brief reflections at every Mass, and will continue until the Vigil of the canonisation, Saturday 13th October, with Mass at 7.00pm, at which Bishop Paul MacAleenan will preside and preach. A sculpted bust of Romero will be unveiled, blessed and installed in the church. Following both the opening and Vigil events, there will be refreshments and a chance for informal conversation in the Old Refectory. All are most welcome to attend.

Oct 20 **11am to 4pm**; The Southwark Justice and Peace, the Westminster Justice and Peace and the Seeking Sanctuary organisation are inviting those interested to a "Friends in Solidarity across the Channel" day of reflection and exchange of experiences, on ways to improve our welcome of exiles, the welcoming and accompanying Exiles at our Border. This will take place at St. Paul's RC Church, Maison Dieu Road, Dover.

Oct 30 **7-8.30pm** Calling all Catholics aged 18-30 to join an evening of prayer and conversation with Cardinal Vincent about the recent synod on young people and their role in the church. See poster in porch or to register go to youth@rcdow.org.uk

Nov 3 **12.30pm**; A thanksgiving Mass for St Oscar Romero will take place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. Archbishop Peter Smith will preside and Archbishop Bernard Longley will preach. Mass will be followed by a celebratory drink in Amigo Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Further information www.romerotrust.org.uk romerotrust@gmail.com See poster in the porch.

Nov 6 **6.15pm Celebration of Vespers** (in English) at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Family, Duke Street Mayfair, London W1K 5BQ followed by a Reception. RSVP by 31 October 2018 to Canon John O'Toole on john.otoole@cbcew.org.uk or invitations are available from Fr. Tom.

Nov 14 **7:30pm** Open invitation to the North Herts Inter Faith forum AGM at at the St. Mark's Church Hall, Lancaster Avenue, Hitchin, SG5 1PA, followed by a talk on, "Voices from Exile - from Sweden, India, UK", by guest speaker Rev. Dr. Canon Andrew Windgate, Inter Faith Adviser to the Bishop of Leicester, founding Director of the St Philip's Centre for Interfaith Study and Engagement in Leicester, and was a lecturer at Tamilnadu Theological College, India for 6 years. All welcome, doors open at 7:15 pm and refreshments will be available at the start. See poster in the porch.

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The Council of European Episcopal Conferences is seeking a Collaborator as secretariat assistant in its offices in St.Gallen, Switzerland. Candidates interested in the post are requested to send a CV and supporting letter to the General Secretary, Fr Martin Michalicek (email: martin.michalicek@ccee.eu) no later than 26 October 2018. For further information, please call the General Secretary on +41 71 227 6040



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Next March marks the return of the biggest Catholic youth event in the UK – **Flame**. As with last time, we have reserved hundreds of tickets for young people in the diocese and will be selling them to anyone interested for the reduced early-bird price of £20. To find out more, here is the official website: <https://cymfed.org.uk/flame2019/>. To book your tickets please contact us at dominiccuncliffe@rcdow.org.uk.



Thursday 8th November 2018 at 7pm Our Lady school will be holding an Open Evening for parents interested in applying for their child to join Our Lady School in September 2019. The Head teacher will give a short presentation and then there will be an opportunity to look around the school and speak to staff and governors. If you would like to attend this event please contact the school office to book a place on 01462 622555. For details see the notice board in the porch.

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It's nearly Panto time....
(Oh yes it is!) Please consider supporting **Imajica Theatre Company's community**



Pantomime project this year in December. Their aim is to allocate 60% of their seats to children and adults with additional needs. This year's original, interactive production is "Frosty's Snowday Adventure" and is suitable for the whole family. It will be at St. Christopher School Theatre, Letchworth. Tickets, VIP experiences and 'gift' ticket options (that enable a child or adult with additional needs to access the panto) are available. See <http://www.imajicatheatrecompany.co.uk/> Alternatively, donations towards the panto project can be made via this link; www.gofundme.com/community-theatre-pantomime

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We have received from **CAFOD** a letter that parishioners signed in support of the "POWER TO BE" campaign last year asking Melanie Robinson the UK representative at the World Bank, on behalf of UK citizens, to support renewable energy projects instead of fossil fuel projects in developing countries, CAFOD writes: Thank you for supporting our "POWER TO BE" campaign by signing a postcard or on-line petition ... Along with you, more than 30 000 people across England and Wales - including schools, parishes, MPs, and Bishops, and religious, called on the World Bank to support local, renewable energy projects that tackles poverty. *The World Bank announced that they will no longer finance oil and gas exploration and production after 2019.* This is a big step forward and shows that the World Bank is prepared to transform its energy spending. Together we refused to accept that one-in-six people across the world live without access to electricity. Thank you to all that signed the petition. To follow on from this success, CAFOD is looking closer to home, with its new campaign, to Climate

Minister, Claire Perry, asking that the UK government begins a new phase of global leadership by example, and brings our own Climate targets in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement, which aims to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. Meeting the target would require the government to pursue what is called a "net zero emissions" goal. This would mean that the UK would be legally obliged by 2050 not to emit more carbon dioxide than is taken out of the atmosphere. Read more about it: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Campaigning-news/Committee-review-carbon-target>

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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 <http://www.catholicsingles.org.uk/> or tel. 0161 941 3498.

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Living sustainably: Support a project that plants trees to help the environment – see www.nationalforest.org/sponsor/plantatree/ or www.treesforlife.org.uk/plant-trees/ or plant one in your own garden – see Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/

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Garden help needed in the church grounds. There is an ongoing need for people to just pop in and do an hour or so whenever they feel like it. We have a garden manual which shows the various areas of the church grounds and what needs to be done when. If you can give an hour or two even monthly then please let Helen Bailey know on 07771 552058 who will show you where the sheets and gardening equipment is kept. This is important work which makes our grounds look lovely and also helps keep our costs down by not having to employ a gardener.



AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 98

Our Daily Love - Love is not rude

To love is also to be gentle and thoughtful and this is conveyed by the word Paul uses: *aschemonei*. It indicates love is not rude or impolite, it is not harsh. Its actions, words and gestures are pleasing and not abrasive or rigid. Love abhors making others suffer."

