



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Mass Times
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 5pm
Monday – Saturday 10am
Exposition Thursday 7pm-8pm
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am
during Exposition

Newsletter No 1810

27th October – 3rd November 2018 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

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.

Entrance Antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seeking his face.

Psalm: **What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

Intercession: Lord, heal our blindness

Response: **Help us follow you!**

Ramblings for Reflection: There was once a man who lived by himself who was completely blind. Yet, he carried a lighted lamp with him whenever he went out at night. One night on his way home, after having dinner out, he came across a group of people. They saw that he was blind, yet he was carrying a lighted lamp. They started passing comments and making fun of him. One said to him, "Hey Man! You are blind and can't see anything! Why do you carry the lamp then?" The blind man replied, "Yes, unfortunately, I am blind and I can't see anything but the lighted lamp which I am carrying is for people like you who can see. You may not see a blind man coming and you might end up pushing me over. That is why I carry a lighted lamp!" It is only when we meet blind people and encounter some of the difficulties they face that we truly thank God for our sight and what it allows us to do. Our story above introduces the idea that our sight is something we should be using for others, those in need of care, the lonely, the marginalised, the sick etc. The gospel also suggests that the kind of sight that Jesus offers us enables us to see the things that are hidden: the inner struggles and challenges that people face. The sight Jesus offers prompts and motivates us to actively seek to remedy the need we see just as Jesus did.

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KISS Coffee Morning - thank you to all who supported the recent KISS Coffee Morning which raised £115.00. You are all so generous!

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World Mission Sunday - Thank you all for your kind donations to last week's second collection.

A total of £212.64 was raised.

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Diocese Finance Manager vacancy - Are you or someone you know a qualified and experienced Financial Reporting Manager? Go to parish website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/job-vacancies/> for details

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Living simply & in solidarity: Plan early to give ethical Christmas presents – eg CAFOD World Gifts, buy Fair Trade products from the parish Fair Trade stall, or see websites such as <http://www.traidcraft.co.uk/fairtrade-the-definition>, <http://www.zaytoun.org>, <https://www.sharedearth.co.uk>

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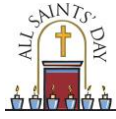
CONFIRMATION If your child is going to be in Y9 next year, he or she is eligible to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation. The course does not start until January, so don't panic! Watch this space and the parish website for information about how to apply and when.

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Marriage Preparation Are you getting married in the next year? Our next marriage preparation course is being held on Saturday 17th November. Places are limited so book soon if you need to do the course. Bookings should be made through this address: catholicmarriageprep@outlook.com

Diary Dates

Sun 28 th Oct		
Coffee Morning – Diapalante		
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2.30pm Son seekers All Hallows Eve Party in Hall. Tickets on the door		
Mon 29 th Oct		
Half Term	Christian	11.45am
	Meditation Grp	EC

Tues 30th Oct			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am		
Bethany Club Hall	10.30am -3pm	Eucharistic Service	7.15pm
Wed 31st Oct			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
Thurs 1st Nov All Saints Day			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC
 This is a Holy Day of Obligation Masses will be celebrated at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm. There is no St Pio Mass today but the group will still meet in the LCR after 10am Mass.			
10.35am - St Pio Prayer Group – LCR			
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7.30pm – Finance Committee Meeting - LCR			
Fri 2nd Nov All Souls			
Half Term		Lectio Divina EC	2pm
Blessing of graves will take place after the 10am Mass. Meet up at St John's cemetery at ~11am.			
Sat 3rd Nov			
10.30am – Reconciliation during Exposition.			
Sun 4th Nov			
Coffee Morning – Live Simply			

Future Dates

Lectio divina Retreat Day: Saturday, 3 November (10.00 - 3.00 pm ends with Vigil Mass) Praying and Living the Sacred Scriptures please go to parish website for details

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/sacramental-prep/adult-formation/>

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Other items of interest

CAFOD Memorial Mass - You are warmly invited to the CAFOD Memorial Mass, in memory of all our Supporters and Volunteers, at the Church of Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood,

London N14 4HE at 11am on Wednesday 7 November. Refreshments will be served after the Mass. If you would like someone to be included in our Book of Remembrance, please send us their name by calling CAFOD Westminster on 020 8449 6970 or emailing westminster@cafod.org.uk

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Armistice Day service 11th November at St Mary's at **2.30 pm** to mark the Centenary of the end of the First World War. The Royal British Legion and uniformed organisations will take part and all are welcome to attend. During the service, the names of the Hitchin men who died during the War will be read out. If you would like to help in reading these names, please contact John Richardson - johnrichardson891@btinternet.com or 07505 426876. Please let him know if you had a relative who is among these names so that he can include that name among the ones you read.

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Tues 13th Nov Gen Verde is an international performing arts group of the Focolare Movement. There are 20 artists from 14 different countries; their work is full of variety and has a well-deserved excellent reputation as both a great evening out and an opportunity to explore and celebrate faith. They are coming to Christ Church Baptist, Tewin. More information is on the noticeboard in the porch. Ena Chapman has some tickets and is usually at 10:30am Sunday Mass. Tickets are also available online, see the information posters.

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'Slaves in our City' – Thursday 22 November Caritas Westminster is hosting an evening raising awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery in our communities. More details on <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/events/>

If you have a need for prayer, please contact **Mary** on **07759195487** and let her know your prayer intentions

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

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 101
Our Daily Love - Love is not rude The deeper love is, the more it calls for respect for the other's freedom and the ability to wait until the other opens the door to his or her heart. (Catechesis 13 May 2005: L'Osservatore Romano, 14 May 2015, p 8).



Contacts for email details see <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/contact/>

Parish Priest Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	Assistant Priest Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647	Counselling Support Fr Michael Lambert 07958 575442
Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders	01462 459126	E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Pastoral Assistants Susanna Hawksley Trish Bonnett		Website: www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin

This week's counting teams:
Sunday Team: 2 Monday Team: 4



If you are going into hospital please notify the Chaplain on Tel: **01438 285519** or Email: spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net