



# 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 1820

5<sup>th</sup> January – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – The Feast of the Epiphany – Year C

**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.

### Ramblings: The Epiphany 2019

Deep down what are you searching for? Initially, it may be for money to pay the bills? The Magi were looking for the one who they believed would be the true hope of the world but they also wanted to pay him tribute – a sign of their gratitude for all that they had received in life - thanksgiving that they were given the opportunity to see him - thanksgiving for his presence. Whatever our search, whether for abilities or virtues or anything else, do we reflect on what we want to offer Jesus in thanksgiving? When I was small, I would receive one big gift at Christmas each year. One year it was a scooter, another time a pair of metal roller skates. I used my scooter so much the metal eventually wore out but my dad repaired it at work. I loved that scooter. I used my skates the same way but left them outside one day and they were taken. I mention this because one way of reverencing Jesus is to use the gifts he has given us to their fullest - in thanksgiving. If we could look on each of our gifts with this kind of gratitude, we will want to use them until they wear out – although Jesus would never let that happen. Look and see and experience everything with gratitude and your whole life will be a life of thanksgiving. Remembering that Eucharist means Thanksgiving surely we can't do better. It leaves very little time to search for anything else!

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**Saturday 12 January** – There will be an event in the Hall between 1pm and 10pm. Please bear this in mind when coming to Mass that day as the car park may be busy. Many thanks.

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**Scout Hall Keys Missing** – The bunch of keys belonging to the Scout Hall which are kept in the Office is missing. We have no spares. Please

**Readings: Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3.5-6, Matt 2:1-12**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One has come and kingship is in his grasp and power and dominion.

**Psalm:** All Nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

**Intercession:** Hear us we pray.

**Response: Give us your saving help!**

**Next week: Is 40:1-5.9-11, Tit 2:11-14.3.4-7, Lk 3:15-16.21-22**

could you check to see if you have these keys and if so, please could you return them to the office as soon as possible. If any keys are taken from the office in future, please could you return them as soon as you have finished with them so that others may use them if needed. Many thanks.

### Diary Dates

Sun 6 Jan			
<b>Coffee Morning</b> – Action Against Hunger			
Mon 7 Jan			
Parents & Toddlers	9.30am Hall	Beavers Scout	6pm Hall
Christian Meditation Grp	11.45am EC	Cubs Scout	7.15pm Hall
<b>2.30pm Mass at Gosmore.</b> All welcome.			
Tues 8 Jan			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall	7pm
Bethany Club Hall	10.30am -3pm	Eucharistic Service	7.15pm
<b>5.30pm One World Group Meeting EC</b> ††††††††††			
<b>7.30pm Confirmation Parents Evening</b> in the Hall. <i>All parents of candidates need to attend this.</i>			
Wed 9 Jan			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
<b>2.30pm Mass at Foxholes.</b> All welcome. ††††††††††			
<b>10.40am Praise Group LCR</b> - 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. ††††††††††			
<b>4.30pm RE Session LCR</b> ††††††††††			
<b>6.30pm CC Street Food Scout Hall</b>			

Thurs 10 Jan			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Brownies Scout Hall	6.30pm
Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC	Choir Practice Church	8pm
Fri 11 Jan			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am		
Sat 12 Jan			
<b>9.30am Reconciliation Session 3</b> (Parents and children) in the Hall			
Sun 13 Jan			
<b>Coffee Morning – KISS</b> ††††††††††			
<b>5pm Mass</b> includes Confirmation Enrolment for the confirmation candidates and then after Mass is their Session 1 in the Hall until 7:30pm.			

### Future Dates

**18th to 25th Jan: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** - This annual week of prayer is marked throughout the world and we shall be doing so in Hitchin in the following ways:

Exchanges of preachers at morning services on Sundays 13th & 20th January. Prayers in different churches on each day of the week as follows:

**Fri 18th 6pm** – Redeemed Christian Church of God (at the Town Hall).

**Sat 19th 9.30pm** - with Hitchin Street Angels (at Walsworth Rd Baptist Church).

**Sun 20th 6.30pm** – Christchurch - CTH United Service including the induction of Rev Donald Smith as Chair of CTH.

**Mon 21st 7.30pm** - Zeo Church (at Zeo Centre).

**Tues 22nd 7.15pm** - Our Lady's Church.

**Wed 23rd 9.15am** – St Mark's Church.

**Thurs 24th 11am** - Tilehouse St Baptist Church.

**Fri 25th 9.30am** - Walsworth Road Baptist

Church.

Everyone is welcome at any or all of the above times of prayer.

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### Other items of interest

There will be a second collection next weekend (**12/13 Jan**) in aid of the White Flower Appeal (The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children – SPUC).

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**Details of the following events are on the Justice and Peace page on the parish website.**

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/live-simply/>

**Sat 19 Jan 11am** - Pope Francis calls us all to be peacemakers - Pax Christi responds at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Harpenden.

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**Sat 19 Jan 10am-3pm or Wed 6 Feb 2.30-4pm** **CAFOD** invites supporters to attend either of the two new year volunteers' meetings.

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**20 January 2019 Peace Sunday** - The theme for 2019 is "Good politics serves peace" and the message from the Pope Francis can be read in:

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/live-simply/>

There will be a second collection to support the work of Pax Christi in the UK at the end of all the Masses, please be generous.

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**New Year's Resolution - Volunteer for CAFOD** in the Westminster Diocese.

CAFOD needs volunteers to speak on our behalf in parishes and/or schools in the Westminster Diocese about our work in the developing world.

To find out more details or book a place on our next Volunteer information day in London on Saturday 19th January 2019 call CAFOD on 0208 449 6970 or email [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk)

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 110

*Our Daily Love - Love is not irritable or resentful*



To nurture interior hostility helps no one. It causes hurt and alienation. Indignation is only healthy when it makes us react to a grave injustice; when it permeates our attitude towards an other or others, it is harmful.

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

<b>Parish Priest</b> Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	<b>Assistant Priest</b> Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647
<b>Parish Administrator</b> Cheryl Saunders <b>Pastoral Assistants</b> Susanna Hawksley Trish Bonnett	<b>Parish no</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a> <b>01462</b> Website: <a href="https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/">https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/</a> <b>459126</b>

This week's counting teams:  
**Sunday Team: 5 Monday Team: 2**



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