



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 1826

16th February – 23rd February 2019 6th Sunday in ordinary time – Year C

A prayer for Yemen Giver of life, who hears the cries from Yemen: of mothers choosing between medicine or food; of parents grieving children lost to starvation; of those who have given up everything in hunger. In your mercy, soften hardened hearts, change closed minds. Let people come before power. Let life be holy again. Let your justice and peace shape the lives of all people. Amen.

Ramblings for Reflection

Have you ever wondered why Jesus worldview is different to ours? Isn't this why we say that Jesus turned everything on its head. The Gospel uses the word 'Happy'. In Greek, however, although 'Blessed' implies happiness, it does not always follow that happiness implies we are blessed. Blessed carries the belief that God is present and at work in us. In the first reading from Jeremiah he writes, "Place your trust in the Lord!" This kind of trust nurtures hope, reassurance and a sense that whatever happens, however awful, everything will turn out all right: we feel blessed. Jesus certainly had this kind of trust. His trust in the Father is based on a world-view that saw God's presence in everyone and in everything. We all respond to someone or something held to be sacred e.g. the relic of a saint, the Eucharistic bread and wine that is the Body and blood of Jesus Christ, the Pope. Jesus saw/sees the sacredness of each of us. Jesus also realised that this kind of trust or blessedness is only present among those who recognise their need for God. Poverty may not mean lack of money but of virtues or qualities of life – patience, tolerance, good-will, forbearance. We may not go without food but we hunger for justice and peace, for acceptance of others. And, these can never be achieved without God's help. But, the real secret of Jesus was not only his complete trust in the Father but his complete trust in us and what we can achieve and become in his name.

††††††††††



BAPTISM COURSE The next Baptism preparation course will run on **Sunday 31st March from 3pm - 4:30pm and on Sunday 7th April from 3:30pm - 4:30pm**, followed by the Rite of First Anointing at the 5pm Mass; the course consists of both Sundays. If you have a

Readings: Jer 17:5-8, Cor 15:12.16-20, Luke 6:17.20-26

Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Psalm: Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

Intercession: Hear us as we pray

Response We place all our trust in you!

child in need of baptism or are expecting a child and would like to do the course in advance, please sign up on the board in the Link (down the steps in the porch towards the hall door).

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

††††††††††

We pray for Marian Taylor whose funeral is on Thursday 21 February 2019 at 12 noon here at Our Lady's Church. We also pray for Carmel Gallagher whose funeral is on Monday 25 February 2019 at 12 noon here at Our Lady's Church. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.

††††††††††

The Traidcraft stall is open after 8.30 and 10.30 masses on Sunday

Fairtrade Fortnight Feb 25th - March 10th.

Please support the **Fairtrade Coffee Morning on March 3rd**. Let Frances or Trish know if you can: Buy cake ingredients, Make cakes, Help to serve tea / coffee or Offer a raffle prize.

††††††††††

A huge thank you to you all for your very kind contributions to CAFOD last weekend – a total of £344.65 was raised.

††††††††††

Church Cleaning **Begging request 3.** We have a particular need for more people to help keep our church clean particularly after the weekend

Masses when we get most footfall. If you are available on either Sunday evenings or during the day or evening on a Monday that would be great. If

you can give an 1½ hours once a month to keep our church beautiful please speak to or email Trish

††††††††††

Please donate your empty egg boxes to the Foodbank. Many thanks.



Tuesday 19th February – UCM - Talk about “Mary’s Meals” at 8pm in the Lower Committee Room.

††††††††††

Sunday lunch for the priests – a group of parishioners have been providing lunch at the weekends for our priests since Fr Michael died. Frs Tom, Andrew and Euloge are very grateful for this help. We would like to continue providing them with lunch on Sundays for the future. All expenses are reimbursed. If enough people offer to help then it will only be 2-3 times a year each that you provide a lunch. If you are willing to give such service please contact Catherine Muncaster at perrymuncaster@yahoo.co.uk or on 07590 118616.

Diary Dates

Sun 17 Feb

Coffee Morning – One World Group

††††††††††

6pm – Benediction in the Church

Mon 18 Feb

Parents & Toddlers	Half Term	Beavers Scout Hall	Half Term
--------------------	-----------	--------------------	-----------

Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am EC	Cubs Scout Hall	Half Term
--------------------------	------------	-----------------	-----------

Tues 19 Feb

Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall	Half Term
-----------------------	--------	-------------------	-----------

Bethany Club Hall	10.30am -3pm	NO Eucharistic service	
-------------------	--------------	-------------------------------	--

8pm UCM - LCR

Wed 20 Feb

Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
---------------	--------	---------	--------

6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hut

Thurs 21 Feb

Italian Club Hall	1pm	Brownies Scout Hall	Half Term
-------------------	-----	---------------------	-----------

Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC	No Choir Practice	
----------------------------	-----------	--------------------------	--

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

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

Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders
Pastoral Assistants Susanna Hawksley
Trish Bonnett

Parish no E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
01462 Website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/>
459126



This week's counting teams:

Sunday Team: 5 Monday Team: 4



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

Fri 22 Feb

Parents & Toddlers Hall	Half Term	Lectio Divina EC	2pm
-------------------------	-----------	------------------	-----

Sat 23 Feb

10.30am Exposition and Reconciliation

Sun 24 Feb

Coffee Morning – OLSSG

No Mass at Mildford Lodge at on Tuesday

Future Dates

Symbols of Faith Workshop – Preparing for the Sacraments and Participation in the Liturgy for people with learning disabilities – A workshop that trains individuals in the preparation of children and adults with special needs for the sacraments using symbolic catechesis. The workshop will be held at Our Lady Immaculate & St Andrew, on **Saturday 9 March 10am-2pm**. Details from Sue Day at sueday@rcdow.org.uk 020 8202 3999

††††††††††

Other items of interest

††††††††††

You are invited to attend Hertfordshire CAFOD Volunteering meeting on **Saturday 23 February 12-4pm**. The meeting will include a talk by CAFOD's Tony Gilbert who will give a first-hand account of our work in Zambia and South Sudan. The meeting will take place at: Holy Family, 194 Knightsfield, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 7RQ. Please bring packed lunch. All are welcome. For further details contact Ann Milner ann.milner@cafod.org.uk

††††††††††

Head of Security required at Westminster Cathedral. For more details, please visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/head-of-security-westminster-cathedral-complex/>

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 116

Our Daily Love - Love forgives Family communion (union) requires a ready and generous openness of each family member to understand, to be forbearing, to pardon, to reconciliation. (John Paul II, Familiaris Consortio 22 Nov. 1981).

