



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 1829

9th March – 16th March 2019 - 1st Sunday of Lent – 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.

Readings: : Deut 26: 4-10, Romans 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13

Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Psalm: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Intercession: We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord, hear us!

Next week: Gen 15:5-12.17-18, Phil 3:17-4:1, Luke 9:28-36

Ramblings for Reflection

Spring is the season of new flowers, buds opening, and new animal life, creating a sense of renewal and hope. It lifts the spirits and it lifts the soul. Why, then, do we not greet LENT with the same uplift and anticipation. Our wise forebears gave Lent the same name. Lent means 'Springtime'. The Lenten journey is one of discovery and adventure as well as a test. This journey with Jesus gives us the opportunity to discover how he is present in our lives and our daily encounters. The journey will take us down difficult paths and present us with tough challenges and hard truths about ourselves. We will want to change the way we live and remove habits that prevent us being open to God's presence. It may call us to change the way we engage with people, especially those we dislike or who purposefully make our lives difficult. As in spring, there will be sunny days and rainy days, peaceful days and wild days. We will experience frosts that kill our desire to move forward. We will get things wrong, make terrible mistakes, and shy away from difficult decisions. Yet Jesus promises to be there with us, calling us to put our trust, our hope, our belief in him. By the end, we will have shared in Jesus' passion for life, for forgiveness, of suffering and pain. But, we will also share in the glory of the resurrection with a joy we will want to proclaim and share - truly a *springtime* to new life in God.

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There will be a **Planned Giving Offertory Appeal this weekend.**

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There will be a second collection next weekend (16/17 March) in aid of CAFOD.



Beginning **Tuesday 12th March at 7.15pm** there will be a series of Eucharistic services focused on Lent taking material from **At the Cross**, reflections on Christ's Passion from the perspective of The Centurion, The Criminal, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary, Thaddaeus and Martha. We pray for our needs and the needs of others and share a Eucharistic meal. **Please do join us every Tuesday at 7.15pm during Lent.**

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Sat 16th March There will be an event in the Hall next weekend. Please bear that in mind when coming to Mass as the car park may be busy.

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Mon 18th March, Lenten Meditation, LCR, 7:30pmThe parish is invited to a Meditation for Lent given by Fr Andrew followed by a light Lenten Supper. All welcome. Organised by the One World/livesimply team.

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We pray for Pietrina Campisi whose funeral is on Tuesday 19 March 2019 at 11.30am here at Our Lady's Church.

We also pray for Beryl Osborne whose funeral is on Friday 22 March 2019 at 4pm at North Herts Crematorium only. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.

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It has recently been noted that vehicles have been parked in disabled bays without displaying a disabled badge inside the vehicle. Also, vehicles have been parked blocking the fire exit to the Scout Hut. Please ensure that fire exits are kept clear at all times and that disabled bays are only used if there is a genuine reason to park there and that a blue disabled badge is displayed.

Diary Dates

Sun 10 March			
Coffee Morning – KISS ††††††††††			
6pm Confirmation Session 7 Hall			
Mon 11 March			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Beavers Scout Hall	6pm
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am EC	Cubs Scout Hall	7.15pm
6.30pm – One World Group Meeting - EC ††††††††††			
7.30pm – Pastoral Council Meeting - LCR			
Tues 12 March			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall	7pm
Bethany Club	10.30am	Eucharistic service	Church 7.15pm
Wed 13 March			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
10.35am Praise Group – Lower Committee Room All who love singing are welcome. We sing with enthusiasm with the help of a guitar, the hymns from the last month's liturgy. ††††††††††			
4.30pm RE Session - LCR ††††††††††			
2.30pm Mass at Foxholes. All welcome. ††††††††††			
6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hut			
Thurs 14 March			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Brownies Scout Hall	6.30pm
Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC	Choir Practice	Church 8pm
Fri 15 March			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Lectio Divina EC	2pm
Sun 17 March			
Coffee Morning – KISS			
6pm Confirmation Session 8 Hall			

Other items of interest

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

POST-SYNOD REFLECTIONS FOR YOUNG ADULTS:

The next meeting of young adults at Archbishop's House will take place on Tuesday 2nd April, 6.30pm. These meetings are an opportunity for young adults to come together following the Synod of Bishops meeting on youth last October, pray, have input from one of our diocesan bishops, reflect and discuss the place of faith in the life of young people. Bishop John Sherrington will be leading our reflections this time. All young adults are invited to attend. Please let us know by emailing

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Are You Feeling Valiant?

On 30 May this year, members of Baldock Parish will be making a ten-day pilgrimage to Lourdes with Across. The group will include helpers, nurses, a priest and VIPs - Very Important Pilgrims. These are people with disabilities or age-related conditions. We can take people who have complex needs through to the elderly with mobility problems or minor illness. There are currently several places available for both helpers and VIPs. Helpers need no previous experience: just a willing spirit and the ability to help others. We will be travelling in a Jumbulance, a specially designed coach that has seven beds, 18 recliner seats, a disabled toilet and a well-stocked kitchen. It contains medical supplies and equipment. We will be staying at a four-star hotel in Lourdes, minutes from the Domain. The trip is a pilgrimage and a holiday. We will be taking part in masses and processions as well as local sightseeing. The cost of the ten-day trip, for both Helpers and VIPs, is £750. Some financial help may be available. Travellers between 16 and 25 are half price. This includes all travel, seven nights full board in the hotel as well as meals en-route. If you or someone you know would like to learn more, please contact Fr Denis Sarsfield on 01462 893127

AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 119

Our Daily Love - Love forgives We may, due to our mistakes, become distant from others, avoiding affection and fearful in our interpersonal relationships. Blaming others may become falsely reassuring.



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

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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: 2 Monday Team: 3



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