



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 1834

13th April – 20th April 2019 – PALM SUNDAY – THE PASSION OF THE LORD 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 Formerly, Palm and Passion Sunday were celebrated on different Sundays. It allowed for a deeper reflection on the struggle that Jesus lived through in the days leading up to his death and for us to experience more deeply the depth of his love for us and the seriousness of sin. We know that people are fickle. One week they honour him as a King, a successor to David, and the next they were calling for his death - Crucify him! Crucify him! Even the words make one shudder and bow one's head in disgrace. Yet, how easily our view and understanding of people can change! Across the globe, more political time is spent on character assassination than on the important issues facing a nation. This could not be more true for Jesus. The challenge we face is to ask who Jesus Christ really is for me. How do I understand him, what has he done for me, for us, for the whole of humanity? How often is my belief challenged to the point of rejecting Jesus – because he does not match up to my understanding of him? Is what God asks of me too much to face? To what lengths will I go to challenge the injustices of today? **Let us struggle with Jesus through this coming week!** As St Paul says: *His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross!*

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Good Friday 19 April - There will be a second collection for Holy Places in the Holy Land.

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Cheques for Easter Collections. It would be appreciated if cheques for the Easter collections are made out to the Parish – i.e. Our Lady's Church and not to the Order. This will make

Readings: Lk 19:28-40, Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Lk 22:14-23:56

Entrance Antiphon: The children of the Hebrews, carrying olive branches, went to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: Hosanna in the highest.

Psalm: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Intercession: Lord, in your mercy

Response: Hear Our Prayer!

Next week: Acts:10:34.37-43, Col3:1-4, John 20:1-9

accounting more straightforward. Please be assured that all such donations will end up in the right place !

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The CAFOD collection last weekend in aid of the Cyclone Idai appeal raised £378.43. Many thanks!

Diary Dates

Sun 14 April

Coffee Morning – Diapalante

Mon 15 April

Parents & Toddlers Hall	Easter Break	Beavers Scout Hall	Easter Break
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am EC	Cubs Scout Hall	Easter Break

7.30pm – Passover Meal in the Church Hall. To celebrate Passover is to do what Jesus did with his disciples at the Last Supper. This is only for those who signed up. We are unable to take any more people as we are wonderfully full!

Please see the list in the porch for the things you need to bring.

Tues 16 April

Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall	Easter Break
Bethany Club	10.30am	Eucharistic service	Church 7.15pm

2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge at. All welcome.

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7.30pm Interested in **FLOWER ARRANGING?** A flower arranging demonstration in the Parish Hall. Meeting open to everyone. Sponsored by the Parish Flower Group and Union of Catholic Mothers.

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8pm Choir Church

Wed 17 April			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	Easter Break
6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hut +++++			
7.30pm Rehearsal for Mass of the Last Supper			
Thurs 18 April Maundy Thursday			
<p>10.30am We need help after morning prayer today to set up the altar of repose (move the altar from the bereavement area into the church hall and set up the plants around it to remember Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane. If you have any large green plants you could lend for this display please could you bring them to the church on the by 10.30am on Thursday 18th April. You can take them back anytime on Good Friday or Holy Saturday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+++++</p> <p>See Holy week sheet for service times</p>			
Fri 19 April Good Friday			
See Holy week sheet for service times			
Sat 20 April Holy Saturday			
See Holy week sheet for service times			
Sun 21 April Easter Sunday			
Coffee Morning – One World Group			
08.30 – 12.30 Fairtrade Stall in Hall			

Other items of interest

Update from CAFOD on the Cyclone Idai crisis

Our partners working in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi are immensely grateful for the rapid and generous response to our Cyclone Idai Appeal.

Thanks to the generosity of the Catholic community, we responded immediately, getting people to safety and providing them with food, clean water and shelter. Over the next few

weeks, we will be focusing on four things:

With over 1,400 reported outbreaks of cholera, we're providing clean water and soap, as well as education on the importance of clean food and drink to prevent further spread.

Huge numbers of children have been separated from their parents. We're protecting and reuniting them with their relatives.

Access to rural areas is still challenging due to flooding and damage to bridges and roads. We're still reaching these people and providing emergency aid.

Our local partners are moving people, especially women and children into more permanent camps. They will be protected and can start rebuilding their lives.

Please continue to join us in prayer for the people of these countries. It is because of the kindness and generosity from people like you that we can give people affected by Cyclone Idai the chance to stand again.

You can still make a donation directly to CAFOD in order to help the people most in need at: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Cyclone-Idai-Appeal>

Please consider the local petition from Xtiction Rebellion to the NHDC to **DECLARE A CLIMATE EMERGENCY** by going online <https://www.change.org/p/north-herts-district-council-declare-a-climate-emergency>. See the parish website for full details on the Live Simply page.

Don't forget to continue to recycle and raise money for good causes. If you haven't already taken one, please grab a poster with all the details from the porch and put it up at home where it will remind you to bring things when you come to church.

<p>If you have a need for prayer, please contact Mary on 07759195487 and let her know your prayer intentions</p>		<p>AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 124 <i>Our Daily Love - Love rejoices with others</i></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">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</p>		<p> Our Lord especially appreciates those who find joy in the happiness of others. Help your family to be a place where, when something good happens to one of the family, they know the rest of the family will celebrate with them.</p>	
<p>Contacts for email details see https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/contact/</p>			
<p>Parish Priest Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570</p>		<p>Assistant Priest Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647</p>	
<p>Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders Pastoral Assistants Susanna Hawksley Trish Bonnett</p>		<p>Parish no E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk 01462 Website: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/ 459126</p>	
<p> This week's counting teams: Sunday Team: 1 Monday Team: 4</p>		<p> If you are going into hospital please notify the Chaplain on Tel: 01438 285519 or Email: spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net</p>	