



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 1837

4th May – 11th May 2019 – 3rd Sunday of Easter - 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. Amen

Ramblings for Reflection

The portrayal of Jesus’ disciples in the Gospels reveals them to be self-centred - never really understanding who Jesus was or his message - and uncourageous; running away when he was arrested. It is a waste of time asking why Jesus chose them. The fact is he did. This is reassuring, because, when we think about ourselves as Jesus’ followers, we can believe that we are not chosen because we are perfect or without fault, but because we are loved. When the disciples returned to their former way of life – fishing – they were unsuccessful - Jesus was absent. In response to Jesus’ request, they make an unbelievable catch. Great things can happen if we respond openly, trustingly and lovingly to God; and being asked to do something seemingly pointless or impossible can have unimaginable results. Jesus is unhesitating in giving Peter the role of leader, not because he is perfect, not because he is better than any other disciple, but because he was Jesus’ choice and had been from the beginning. Most of us would hide from being the leader of the Church. Pope Francis accepted the role only because Jesus asked Francis if he loved him. Francis replied, “*You know everything, Lord, You know I love you!*” And because he said yes, Jesus is working extraordinary wonders through him. “*The Christian is someone who can decrease so that the Lord may increase, in his heart and in the heart of others.*” Pope Francis is a perfect example of his own words! Are you?

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Thank you all for your ever kind and generous donations to the various second collections we hold. A sum of £244.55 was raised on Good Friday for the Holy Land. This supports the

Readings Acts 5:27-32, Apoc 5:11-14, Jn 21:1-19

Entrance Antiphon: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me. Alleluia!

Intercession: Lord in your mercy

Response: Hear our Prayer!

Next week: Acts 13:14,43-52, Apoc 7:9,14-17, Jn 10:27-30

beleagued Church there. Giving to this is a visible sign of our support to those who live the Christian faith in difficult circumstances in the land of its birth. Also, the Cardinal’s Lenten Alms Appeal raised £653.22 and the collection last weekend in aid of Sri Lanka raised £406.00. Thank you again for all your generous donations.

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We pray for Damiano Urso whose funeral is on Mon 13 May 2019 at 10am and for Liam Murray whose funeral takes place on Thurs 16 May 2019 at 11.30am.

We also pray for June Welbury who died last week. June was a retired teacher at Our Lady’s School. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.

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There is no Mass at Gosmore on Mon 6 May.

The next Mass there will be Mon 13 May.

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Living sustainably:

A Save a Flush device can save 1.2 litres per flush, saving up to 5,000 litres a year. This is simply placed into the cistern on any lever handled toilets.

Diary Dates

Sun 5 May		
Coffee Morning – Bethany Club ††††††††††		
6pm Confirmation Session 12 Hall		
Mon 6 May		
Bank Holiday		
Tues 7 May		
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall 7pm
Bethany Club	10.30am	Eucharistic service Church 7.15pm

Wed 8 May

Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
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2.30pm Mass at Foxholes. All welcome
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10.35am Praise Group - LCR. 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.
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4.30pm RE Session - LCR
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6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up - Scout Hall
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7.15pm Liturgy Committee Meeting - LCR

Thurs 9 May

No Italian Club		Brownies Scout Hall	6.30pm
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Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC	NO Choir Practice	
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Fri 10 May

Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Lectio Divina EC	2pm
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Sun 12 May

Coffee Morning – Flower Group
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6pm Confirmation Session 12 Hall

Future Dates

Sun 12 May, 3.30pm: May Procession at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, NW10 9AX. Preacher: Fr Martin Plunkett. Come and join hundreds of other pilgrims as we pray the Rosary in procession, giving witness to our Faith, our love for Mary, and our intercession for our city and country at this time. Willesden Junction Bakerloo Line and Overground. Bus routes 18, 187, 206, 220, 226, 228, 260, 266, 487.
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Advance notice - Mon 10 June – Fri 14 June.

There will be **no 10am Mass** on these dates as all the Priests are away on a Retreat.

Other items of interest

We are offering a short course using a faith-sharing resource from the Diocese. It explores themes from the Holy Father's teaching in *Amoris Laetitia*, **The Joy of Love**, the 2016 Apostolic Exhortation on Love in the Family. It seeks, over six sessions, to explore the beauty and blessing, the joys and challenges of marriage and family life. The hope is that you will see your own experience of family life acknowledged, reflected on and affirmed here and that you will glimpse again the sheer power of love. The course will be run by Fr. Andrew on a Thursday afternoon and Fr. Tom on a Thursday evening, both in the Lower Committee Room. Please sign up on the sheet on the green notice board in the porch.

Dates below;

Fr Andrew: 3 to 4 pm; 16 May, 23 May, 30 May, 6 June, 13 June, 20 June.

Fr Tom: 7.30 to 8.30 pm; 16 May, 23 May, 30 May, 20 May, 27 June, 4 July
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See Job vacancies advert on our parish website for a Circuit Administrator for the North Herts Methodist Circuit.

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Chuches together in Hitchin need a new treasurer. If anyone has a couple of hours spare per month to help with this simple but important task please can you let Trish know asap.

To donate to Our Lady's through text giving on your mobile phone !!

Just text **Parish HITCH** to **70800** to donate £5.

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 127

Our Daily Love - bears all things God's word tells us:



'Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters' (Jas 4:11). Being willing to speak ill of another person is a way of asserting ourselves, venting resentment and envy without concern for the harm we may do

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

Parish Priest	Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570
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Assistant Priest	Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647
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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: 4 Monday Team: 3



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