



# 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 1841

1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019 – 7<sup>th</sup> 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

**Readings:** Acts 7:55-60, Apoc 22:12-14.16.17.20, John 17:20-26

**Entrance Antiphon:** O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia

**Psalm:** The Lord is king, most high above all the earth

**Intercession:** We pray to the Lord

**Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Next week:** Acts 2:1-11, Rom 8:8-17, John 14:15-16,23-26

**Ramblings for Reflection** - Jesus, the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, prays for us continually so that we may be one. What more could we want? Jesus cannot express more fully how much he loves us. He wants to be fully part of our lives so that we are able to live through all the challenges, difficulties and traumas of life in a way that is enriching not just for us but for everyone. At his Ascension, Jesus once again confirmed that he had not left, but continues to be with us and will work his wonders today through us if we but trust and believe. Pope Francis put it this way: *“Dear brothers and sisters, the Ascension does not point to Jesus’ absence, but tells us that he is alive in our midst in a new way. He is no longer in a specific place in the world as he was before the Ascension. He is now in the lordship of God, present in every space and time, close to each one of us. In our life we are never alone: we have this Advocate who awaits us, who defends us. We are never alone: the Crucified and Risen Lord guides us.”* Pope Francis makes it clear that, now he has ascended, Jesus is present among us in many different guises, all of which enhance our experience of his presence in the world. A presence that calls us to want to give praise and thanksgiving to God in all our encounters and experiences.

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There is a second collection this weekend in aid of Catholic Communications.

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We pray for the following, whose funerals take place this week. Irene Harding on Tues 4 June, **9.30am (please note the earlier time for the morning Mass)**. Denis Carolan on Wed 5 June at **2pm**. Richard Rataj on Thurs 6 June at **2pm**.

We pray for Margaret Osborne who died on Wednesday and Edwin Hodgkiss whose funeral is

on Fri 7 June at 12.30pm at St. Philip & St. James RC Church, 2 Severn Way, Bedford MK41 7BX and after at Norse Road Cemetery, 100-104 Norse Road, Bedford MK41 0RL. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.

**All our priests** are on a long-deserved retreat with their brethren from Bethnall Green from **Mon 10th June - Fri 14th June**. There will be **no daily Mass** that week. Instead there will be a Eucharistic service each morning at 10am led by Trish and one at 7.15pm on the Tuesday evening as usual.

Please keep our priests in your prayers that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit during their time away from us.

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**A consultation** about the proposed replacement for the Scout Hall took place last Sunday after Mass. This was the first of a series of consultations with the parish about this project. Dates will be notified in the future.

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**The Foodbank** needs the following items urgently. Please add them to your shopping list this week:

- Empty egg boxes (for 6 eggs)
- Shampoo and other toiletries
- Toilet rolls



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**The gardening team** is in desperate need of someone to mow the lawns. This would involve mowing the lawn every 2 weeks (depending on the weather) from April to October(ish). It would take about 2 hours. Lawn mower and petrol are



provided, we just need someone to mow. If more than one person can help, it will reduce the frequency that your help would be needed. If you are able to help please email Helen Bailey at hbailey@talktalk.net or for more information ring Helen on 07771 552058. Many thanks in anticipation.

### Diary Dates

<b>Sun 2 June</b>			
<b>Coffee Morning – OLSSG</b> ††††††††††			
	<b>Healing Service 2.30pm.</b> We are holding our Service of Healing and Wholeness. Parishioners who feel the need for these gifts are invited to share in this time of prayer, during which the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing will be celebrated. ††††††††††		
<b>6pm for 6.30pm Reconciliation Course Hall</b>			
<b>Mon 3 June</b>			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	09.30am	Beavers Scout Hall	6pm
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am EC	Cubs Scout Hall	7.15pm
<b>2.30pm Mass at Gosmore.</b> All welcome.			
<b>Tues 4 June</b>			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Eucharistic Service	Church 7.15
Bethany Club	10.30am	Choir Church	8pm
<b>8pm Union of Catholic Mothers</b> in the LCM, Walsingham Remembered.			
<b>7.30pm Children's Liturgy training</b> in the hall. This is session 1 and apologies to those who are not able to attend. Session 2 is now on Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in the Lower committee room. Everyone is welcome to both sessions.	 <b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</b>		
<b>Wed 5 June</b>			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
<b>11am Mass at Elmside.</b> All welcome. ††††††††††			
<b>4.30pm RE Session LCR</b> ††††††††††			
<b>6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hut</b>			
<b>Thurs 6 June</b>			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Brownies Scout Hall	6.30pm
Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC	Choir Practice	8pm church
<b>St Pio Mass</b> followed by meeting in the LCR. All welcome			

<b>Fri 7 June</b>			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Lectio Divina EC	2pm
<b>Sun 9 June</b>			
<b>Coffee Morning – Live Simply</b> ††††††††††			
<b>6pm for 6.30pm Reconciliation Course Hall</b>			

### Future Dates

**7 June, 7pm - Built on Faith Free Film Night Friday.** We will be watching "Heaven is for Real" tells the story of four-year-old Colton Burpo (Connor Corum) who says he experienced Heaven during an emergency surgery He describes to his family about having seen the surgeon operating, his mother calling people in the waiting room to pray, and his father in another room yelling at God to not let him die. This is a moving portrayal of a little boy's testimony. All are welcome. Westmill Community Centre, John Barker Place, Hitchin SG5 2PG  
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**Sun 16, 23 & 30 June at 5pm-7pm - The CAP Money Course** at Zeo Centre, Bedford Road, Hitchin, SG5 1HF. The course is for people struggling with debt issues and also for those who would like to learn new ways of managing money. More details contact: Zeo Church on 01462 442238 or <https://zeochurch.com>  
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**21-28 June 2019 A chance to spend an hour of your busy day in prayer with the Lord. Hitchin 24/7 Prayer** at New Testament Church of God Junction of William Rd/Hampden Rd Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0LD. If you would like to sign up for an hour prayer slot, click on the following link <http://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/9648fd> For more info and prayer points contact Pastor Donald Smith on 07737 451105 or [bof\\_biblewaychurch@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bof_biblewaychurch@yahoo.co.uk)  
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**Fri & Sat 28 & 29 June 6pm – 9.30pm both days. The Glory is Here Conference.** (Street Evangelism 2–5pm both days). Guest speakers Rev. Mark & Mary Vangandy (Revival n' Nations), have a vision to serve, train and send believers into the harvest, the marketplace and the community. At Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Hitchin SG4 9SP.  
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### Other items of interest

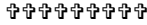
**Wintershall Life of Christ** -Trish now has multiple roles in this production and invites you to come to a wonderful immersive experience on **18-22 June 10am – 3.30pm.** Get a group of 4 in your car and share the costs of travel. Please allow at least 2 hours for the journey.



Whilst only 70 miles, you have to go on the M25. Trish can give you a map. Let her know if you are coming so she can meet you before the performance. Prices are:  
**Adult** £20  
**65+** £18  
**Child** (3-18) £9.50.

Book tickets at

<https://www.wintershall.org.uk/life-christ>



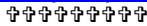
**Living in solidarity:**  
 Help someone with an ethical loan. See the websites:

<https://www.careinternational.org.uk/get-involved/lendwithcare>

<https://www.sriservices.co.uk/ethical-investment-sri-database-fund-ecomarket-updated>

or the organisation that turns empty office buildings into low cost, community-owned home:s

<https://www.aeobhousepeople.org.uk>



**News from the Herts Welcomes Syrian Families (HWSF)** They need bikes for new families settling in the county as follows:

1 man's bike, 3 boys' bikes - for ages 12, 10 and 9, 2 girls' bikes - for ages 8 and 5.

They do need to be in good condition. We can afford to buy new inner tubes but can't run to much greater expenditure.

Also any helmets, locks, pumps or hi viz waistcoats will be gratefully received.

If anyone can help please let Vicky Woodcraft know by email: [woodcraftvicky@gmail.com](mailto:woodcraftvicky@gmail.com)



**9 June - Pentecost Sunday - Thy Kingdom Come Christian Prayer Festival**

Trafalgar Square, London  
 12-4pm Family Festival  
 4-6pm Main Service with Archbishop Justin Welby, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop Angaelos, Bishop Sarah Mullally & Pastor Agu Irukwu. A free, fun, family festival and Service for Christians of all denominations.



PLUS: Prayer workshops, Confession and food stalls (open from 12 noon). Register at: <https://www.ecevents.uk/tkc2019/tkc/Site/Register>



**For details and locations of the following events** please see our website

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/live-simply/>  
**Thurs 20 June** 7.30pm the showing of the Film: 'Baked Alaska'

**Wed 5 June** is World Environment Day: on the topic of "What causes Air Pollution?"

**Wed 12 June** 4pm in Cambridge: **Catholicity and Gender**

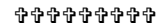
**Thurs 20 June** is National **CLEAN AIR DAY**

**Sat 29 June** 9:30am to 5pm - a free day conference **Save the Earth - Abolish War**

**Sat 22 June** 6:15pm to 8pm TTL is showing **Peace Child**

**Sun 23 June** 2:45pm to 5pm - TTL invites interested residents to a talk by Paul Buckingham on **Addressing 'Built-In' Energy Inefficiencies in Our Homes.**

**Sat 29 June** 9:30am to 5pm - A free day conference **Save the Earth - Abolish War**



**Wed 26 June**, Join CAFOD at an unforgettable event in London. It's time to confront this climate and environmental crisis and tell our leaders that Britain should no longer contribute to the destruction of our common home.

See [www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate](http://www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate)



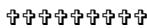
**26-28 July 2019** This year's **Annual Justice & Peace Conference** will be from on the theme of "Forgotten People,

Forgotten Places: Being Church on the Margins" Pope Francis calls us to be '... a Church which is poor and for the poor'. To be with those on the margins as equal partners, enabling them to find their own solutions to the issues they face. This Conference will work with Church Action on Poverty. There will be a crèche for children under 5 and a programme of activities for 5-11-year-olds. 12-18-year-olds will explore the conference theme in an active and thought-provoking weekend. People of all ages and backgrounds are welcome and encouraged to attend conference. Our rates for children and people on low incomes are subsidised. Booking forms are available in our parish from Deolinda Eltringham or on-line for information and forms <https://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/conference/>

You can contact NJ&PN: 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX, phone: 020 7901 4864 or [admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk](mailto:admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk)

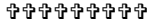
**Sun 30 June** at **6.30pm** Roy Schoeman, international speaker, Jewish Catholic is giving a Talk on "The Role of Judaism in Salvation from Abraham to the 2nd Coming" on at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall, Castle Street, Luton, LU1 3AG. Everyone is very welcome.





**17th -20th Sept 2019 Understanding Islam** This course aims to help Catholics understand how the worldviews of the Muslims by which they live and work are shaped by their faith.

It will be held at the Focolare Centre Welwyn Garden City. Deadline for applications 26th June. Cost £370 including teaching, accommodation and food. See poster in porch for details of how to apply.



**LOURDES Summer Retreat for Young Adults:** The Assumption Sisters and Fathers invite young adults in their 20-30s for an English-speaking spiritual retreat in Lourdes, France in the summer of 2019. Dates: Sat 3rd August - Fri 9th August 2019 with talks, prayer, silence, pilgrimage, desert day and spiritual accompaniment.

Cost: £300 (£220 for students/low waged) - a limited number of subsidised places are available. (Excl. travel - your flight to Lourdes)

For more information either email [youth@assumptionreligious.org](mailto:youth@assumptionreligious.org) or register at: [www.docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6Xzs\\_xrrCDzfNHtgy08GBCE7FbkWOoNSKF7KxUS6OXJshGpQ/viewform](http://www.docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6Xzs_xrrCDzfNHtgy08GBCE7FbkWOoNSKF7KxUS6OXJshGpQ/viewform)



**Hitchin Food Rescue Hub** ('Hitchin FRESH') This is now up and running each Thursday morning from **10am to 1pm** at St Mary's Church House. Food that would otherwise go to landfill is collected from supermarkets and other shops and café then brought to Church House. It is available throughout the morning on a 'pay as you feel' basis and the aim is that nothing is wasted. During the morning coffee/tea and biscuits/cakes are served.

brought to Church House. It is available throughout the morning on a 'pay as you feel' basis and the aim is that nothing is wasted. During the morning, coffee/tea and biscuits/cakes are served. **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

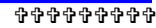
**07398821315**

Tues/Wed/Thurs 8pm-10pm.

Confidential service provided. No need to identify yourself

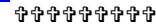
It has got off to a good start and all are welcome to come and see what happens - and go home with some great food!

For further information go to its new website - [www.hitchinfoodrescuehub.uk](http://www.hitchinfoodrescuehub.uk)



**VOLUNTEER YEAR AT SPEC, THE DIOCESAN YOUTH RETREAT CENTRE**

SPEC, the diocesan youth retreat centre, offers the possibility of a volunteer year for young adults. The volunteer missionary would live on site in Pinner in the residential community, receive formation and accompaniment in their faith and serve as a retreat facilitator, working with the employed retreat leaders. In particular, any sixth formers who may like to find out more are welcome to attend a day retreat to see what goes on and meet the community. For more information please see <https://dowym.com/spec/volunteer/> or contact [spec@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:spec@rcdow.org.uk).



**Volunteering Opportunity - Caritas**

**Reps:** Caritas Westminster, the Diocesan social action agency, is looking for Caritas Representatives to help record local poverty and social exclusion projects across different areas of the Diocese. They would also work closely with the Caritas development workers to help respond to those in need in the local area. If you are interested, please contact Caritas Westminster at [caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk) to register your interest.

**AMORIS LAETITIA - THE JOY OF LOVE 131**

*Our Daily Love - bears all things* Love sees the problems and weaknesses of others, but sees them in a wider context. It recognises these failings are part of a bigger picture. All of us are a complex mixture of light and shadow. The other person is much more than the sum of the little things that annoy me.



<b>Parish Priest</b> Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570 <a href="mailto:thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk">thomasobrien@rcdow.org.uk</a>	<b>Assistant Priest</b> Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647 <a href="mailto:eulogeka@gmail.com">eulogeka@gmail.com</a>	<b>Parish</b> 01462 459126 E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/">https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b> Cheryl Saunders <a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>	<b>Pastoral Assistants</b> Susanna Hawksley <a href="mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk">susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk</a> Trish Bonnett <a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>	
This week's counting teams: <b>Sunday Team: 2 Monday Team: 3</b>		If you are going into hospital please notify the Chaplain on Tel: 01438 285519 or Email: <a href="mailto:spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net">spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net</a>