



# 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 1843

15<sup>th</sup>–22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019 – The Most Holy Trinity - 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 Holy Trinity is not the product of human reasoning. It is the face with which God revealed himself by walking with humanity, in the history of the people of Israel, and above all in Jesus . . . It is Jesus who has saved us. . . . the Son who made us know the merciful Father and brought to the world his 'fire', the Holy Spirit, who guides us, who gives us good ideas, inspirations.*” The wisdom of God was to offer us three for the price of one! Like a hologram in which, depending on the way you look at God, one or other of the three is more visible with the awareness that the other two are equally present. There is something special about a relationship which is continually being strengthened and deepened by new understandings, new discoveries, new perceptions about the other which also help us understand ourselves better. In marriages that have endured the tests of time, the couple almost know what the other is thinking and can even finish off each other’s sentences. As mystery, the Trinity is impossible to understand, because mystery embraces us and the Trinity has to be experienced. Why else did God become man in Jesus other than to develop his relationship with us and so that we could experience his presence? A presence encountered not only in solitude and quiet but in all those we encounter and, of course, in ourselves. O blessed Trinity, your goodness, beauty and love surround me. I praise You for who You are, for what You do and for all You have given me. With all my being I sing your praise. Amen.

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£117 was raised recently for the Live Simply coffee morning. We thank everyone for their generosity and support.

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**Readings** Prov 8:22-31, Rom 5:1-5, John 16:12-15

**Entrance Antiphon:** Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful.

**Psalm: How great is your name, O Lord our God, through all the earth!**

**Intercession:** Lord in your mercy

**Response: Hear our Prayer!**

**Next week: Gen 14:18-20, Cor 11:23-26, Luke 9:11-17**

Many thanks to you all for your ever kind donations to the second collections recently. A total of £157.01 was raised for CAFOD and £51.95 was raised for Catholic Communications.

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There will be a second collection this weekend in aid of Day for Life. Day for Life is celebrated yearly by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. This year Day for Life is celebrated on Sunday 16 June in England and Wales. The proceeds of the Day for Life collection held in parishes will be used for the promotion of the dignity of the human person through the distribution of grants. This will help to develop networks and work with others to support projects against domestic violence, since Jesus tells us, “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” (John 10: 10 ESV).

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The family of June Welbury would like to thank everyone for their support and care over a very difficult time. Your cards, messages of sympathy and prayers were much appreciated. Thanks to everyone who came to the funeral and helped to make a sad occasion a happy celebration of June’s life.

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We pray for Margaret Osborne whose funeral takes place here at Our Lady’s Church on **Friday 21 June 2019** at **1pm**. May she rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort her family.

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# Michaelmas Fair

**MICHAELMAS FAIR 28th September.** The theme for this year's fair is **'Trees and the air we breathe'**. Our stalls and competitions will have a focus on the natural world. However all our favourite stalls will also be there so in July and August we will be collecting goods including bottles, toiletries, gifts, toys, games and bric a brac. If you are having a summer sort out we would be grateful if you could save these items for the fair.



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**OUR LADY'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT TEAM** is holding a special Prayer Service for bereaved parishioners and friends on **Friday June 28th 2019 at 7.30pm**. There will be an opportunity to place names in a basket of remembrance which will be placed on the altar. Light refreshments will be served in the hall after the service.

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**Training for altar servers** *Are you the sort of person who notices what needs to be done? Do you ever wish you could be more active during Mass? Would you like to help the congregation and the priest in an important and unique task?*



A formal training programme is available for this on **Saturdays July 6th and 13th 11.30am-1pm**, in the church. Both sessions need to be attended. Pick up a leaflet in the porch for more details. If you wish to do this please complete an application form from the porch and bring it back by **Sunday 30th June**.

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**Training for young readers** who deliver the Word of God at the Children's Masses (10.30am on the 3rd Sunday of the month).



Training is given to all children, who have made their first communion, who wish to read in a team at these Masses.

Training is provided by Bridie Duffy and the course is on **Mondays, 1st & 8th July, 4-5pm** in the church. Pick up a leaflet in the porch for more details.

If you wish to do this please complete an application form in the church porch and give it to

Trish or pop it into the parish office by **Sunday 30th June**.

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## Diary Dates

Sun 16 June			
Coffee Morning – One World Group ††††††††††			
2pm First Holy Communion ††††††††††			
6 for 6.30pm Reconciliation Course - Hall			
Mon 17 June			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	09.30am	Beavers Scout Hall	6pm
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am	Cubs Scout Hall	7.15pm
Tues 18 June			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall	7pm
Bethany Club	10.30am	<b>No Eucharistic service</b>	
Union of Catholic Mothers in the Lower Committee Room on <b>Tuesday 18th June at 8pm</b> . Speaker on experiences of a registrar.			
Wed 19 June			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hut			
Thurs 20 June - St Alban			
No Italian Club		Brownies Scout Hall	6.30pm
Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC	No choir	
Fri 21 June			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Lectio Divina EC	2pm
<b>Sat 22 June - Ss John Fisher and Thomas More</b>			
Sun 23 June			
Coffee Morning – Scouts Group ††††††††††			
6 for 6.30pm Reconciliation Course - Hall			

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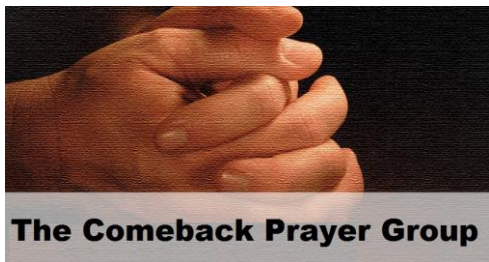
Garden help needed. You will have seen the appeals in the newsletter for helpers to meet up on a Saturday morning to keep the church gardens under control and they will continue but there is an ongoing need for people to just pop in and do an hour or so whenever they feel like it. We have a garden manual which shows the various areas of the church grounds and what needs to be done when. If you can give an hour or two even monthly then please let Helen Bailey know on 07771 552058 who will show you where the sheets and gardening equipment is kept. This is important work which makes our church grounds look lovely and also helps keep our costs down by not having to employ a gardener.



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**Lister Hospital Chaplaincy volunteers:** The Chaplaincy really need some Sunday volunteers.... Is there anyone who could give up one Sunday morning a month to go round the wards, tell patients there is a service (or ask if they would like to see a chaplain) and then go back and collect them for the service? You'd be occupied from 9-12, once a month. Patients are SO grateful...and it might be you (or one of yours) in that bed, wondering how to cope....If you are at all interested, please contact Maeve Green [maeve@heavenlycakes.co.uk](mailto:maeve@heavenlycakes.co.uk)

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We are always looking for new members of our Comeback Prayer group

to make sure that every day of every month there would be someone in the Parish who would pray for those family members or friends who had for any reason fallen away from the practice of the faith.

You are provided with a prayer book and picture to help as a focal point in your own home. You can pray for as little or as long as you wish on your allocated day for people who have fallen away from the faith that they will find their way back or will be led back by the Holy Spirit.

If you would like to be part of this group please give your name to Trish, Mike Edwards or Father Tom.

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**Church Cleaning** I know that people have offered in the past to help with this on a Monday and I have failed to get to grips but I promise on my return from the 'Life of Christ' at Wintershall (see I had to get it in!) I will tackle the need we have for cleaners for our church. Ideally we want teams of 2-3 people who can co-ordinate their time to suit themselves. We have a particular need for cleaners on a Monday. Tasks involve dusting the church, mopping between pews, vacuuming the carpet, and sweeping the porch and washing the floor. This is really important to honour our Lord and to support our congregation. If you can give an 1½ hours once a month to keep our church beautiful please speak to or email Trish

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We still need volunteers for our Children's Liturgy Team at the 10.30 Mass. You do not need to be a catechist or teacher but you do need to feel



comfortable about talking to children about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Training for being a part of the team is 'on the job' and materials for the liturgy are all provided.

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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 where it will remind you to bring things when you come to church. Please note re collection of old pens that pencils and crayons cannot go into this collection but that Diapalante collects these items for sending to needy families so please bring them in whenever the One World Group or Diapalante have a coffee morning.

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**Other items of interest**

**Tuesday 18<sup>TH</sup> June** - Mass at Milford Lodge at 2.30pm. All welcome.

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There will be a Memorial Mass at St Joseph's in Stevenage on **Wednesday 19th June at 7pm** for **Fr Denis Watters** who died recently. Fr Denis was Parish Priest there for a number of years.

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**24/7 Prayer Opening Service** We will be having an opening worship, prayer and commissioning service on **Friday 21st June**, 7pm – 8pm at New Testament Church of God, Junction of William Rd/Hampden Rd Hitchin Hertfordshire SG4 0LD after which the first person or persons will enter the prayer room to begin the 24/7 prayer at 8pm.

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**Mass in Thanksgiving for Matrimony 2019 - News and Photographs.**

Dear Friends, Please follow this link to the Marriage & Family News Webpage <https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/marriage-and-family-life/news/mass-in-thanksgiving-for-matrimony-2019/> which also includes a link to all the Official Images of the Mass - at the bottom of the page. The Order of Service is also available as an attachment, if you would like a copy please email [family@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:family@rcdow.org.uk) . With very many thanks for all your wonderful assistance in helping us make this a joy-filled Mass in Thanksgiving for Matrimony.

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**CHRISTUS VIVIT: ECHOES FROM THE YOUTH SYNOD - REFLECTIONS FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

The last in the current series of meeting for young adults at Archbishop's House will take place on **Tuesday 25th June, 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 Paul McAleenan will be leading our reflections, this time focusing on the second half of the recently published exhortation from Pope Francis addressed to young people. This half contains Pope Francis' reflections on vocation and advice on how to discern one's calling in life. All young adults are invited to attend. Please let us know your intention to attend by emailing [youth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdow.org.uk). For more details, go to [dowym.com/events](http://dowym.com/events)

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**Wintershall Education** are looking for budding actors to take the story of Jesus into local schools as part of a free assembly program. This is a unique opportunity for parishioners to experience something extraordinary for their own faith and be part of sharing this with others whilst supporting schools in understanding more about Jesus. Training and costumes are provided. All you have to give is some time. What you get in return is incalculable. To find out more, come to our information morning on **9th July 11am-1pm** in the Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace behind Westminster Cathedral in London. For enquiries contact Lucy at [education@wintershall-education.com](mailto:education@wintershall-education.com)

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You may have received an email asking for support for a family who have been in dire trouble recently and have lost their home and all their possessions in a fire. The response was amazing as I have come to expect from our



generous congregation.

Rupert Burwash has asked me to thank all the community for such fantastic help. Just shows what a great group we all are at times of trouble. A few have asked how they can donate to help this family. The link below is the page to do so [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/hitchinfamilyhelp?utm\\_id=2&utm\\_term=MP8QKebZw](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/hitchinfamilyhelp?utm_id=2&utm_term=MP8QKebZw)

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Living simply & sustainably: Crush up egg shells and sprinkle around plants to help prevent snails and slugs.

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This is a confidential service and follows Parish Safeguarding Policies

**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 133**

*Our Daily Love - bears all things* **Panta pisteuei** The



verb 'belief' here is more in the sense of what we mean by 'trust'. This goes beyond simply presuming the other is not lying or cheating. Such basic trust recognises God's light shining beyond the darkness, like an ember glowing beneath the ash.

**Parish Priest** Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570

**Assistant Priest** Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647

**Parish 01462 459126**

E-mail: [hitchin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk)

Website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/>

**Parish Administrator** Cheryl Saunders [cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk)

**Pastoral Assistants** Susanna Hawksley [susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk)  
 Trish Bonnett [trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk)

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[trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk)



This week's counting teams:  
**Sunday Team: 4 Monday Team: 1**



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