



# 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 1848**

**20<sup>th</sup> July – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 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

Understanding the cultural background changes the way we understand a story. The astounding element of our Martha and Mary story is the fact that Jesus was teaching Mary. This was completely uncharacteristic in his day. But Jesus was master of doing things differently, breaking with custom. In our culture, if a special visitor calls, we would want to prepare something to give them and ask another member of the family to engage in conversation while doing so – both are necessary. Putting culture and context aside, the Martha and Mary story is about prayer and action and there are times when one is better than the other. Jesus could be considered a workaholic but we also know that he spent hours in private prayer and contemplation. Some of us are better at the action and not so good at prayer and vice versa. The priority we give them can also change as we go through life. Paul spent several years in contemplation before becoming the spirited and indefatigable preacher of the Gospel. Our Founder, Emmanuel d'Alzon, was a power house in terms of apostolic work but he wrote his best spiritual works during his convalescence, because of burn-out, when he had to time to pray, reflect and contemplate. There are times when one is better than the other. This diminishes neither. Praying for the healing of creation is necessary but we also have to do something about it. Prayer leads to action our founder would say. But action requires the support and strength of our prayer.

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**Apostleship of the Sea collection** – Many thanks for your very kind donations. A total of £593.95 was raised.

**Readings: Gen 18:1-10, Col 1:24-28, Luke 10:38-42**

**Entrance Antiphon:** See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

**Psalm: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

**Intercession:** Lord Hear us

**Response:** Lord, graciously hear us!

**Next week: Gen 18:20-32, Col 2:12-14, Luke 11:1-13**

**There will be a second collection** this weekend in aid of CAFOD.

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Offertory Income for quarter ending June 2019. Figures in brackets are for the previous quarter.

<b>Envelopes</b>	£ 7,856.66	(£ 8,192.40)
<b>Standing Orders</b>	16,663.50	(£15,641.25)
<b>Loose Plate</b>	£ 5,423.35	(£ 5,112.48)
<b>TOTAL</b>	29,943.51	(£28,946.13)

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**Your help** is urgently needed! The Bethany Club is desperate for more people to help in the kitchen on a Tuesday between 11.30am and 1.30pm. If we get enough people willing to help, then a rota will be prepared where the commitment may work out at once a month or so. Many thanks.

## Diary Dates

<b>Sun 21 July</b>			
<b>Coffee Morning</b> – Cystic Fibrosis ††††††††††			
<b>3-4.30pm Baptism course</b> in the hall. Session 1			
<b>Mon 22 July</b>			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	09.30am	Beavers Scout Hall	6pm
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am	Cubs Scout Hall	7.15pm
<b>11am Mass</b> at Stagenhoe. All welcome. Trish can give a lift from the car park at 10.20am.			
<b>Tues 23 July</b>			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall	7pm
Bethany Club	10.30am	Eucharistic service	7.15pm

<b>Wed 24 July</b>			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
<b>6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hut</b>			
<b>Thurs 25 July</b>			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Brownies Scout Hall	End of Term
Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC		
<b>Fri 26 July</b>			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	End of Term	Lectio Divina EC	2pm
<b>Sun 28 July</b>			
<b>Coffee Morning – Diapalante</b> +++++			
<b>3.30-4.30pm Baptism course</b> in the hall. Session 2			

### Future Dates

**Tues 23 July** - The Welwyn and Hatfield Interfaith Group extends an open invitation to their last event of the Summer season on the topic of *"Biodiversity - what can we do to preserve it?"*. The meeting will take the form of a short introduction followed by discussion. At the Focolare Centre for Unity at 69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JG. Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start, until 9.30pm. Ample Free Parking. All are welcome.

### Other items of interest

**You Can Help Your Marriage** – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each

other? Do you argue - or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse?

**Retrouvaille** helps couples through difficult times in their marriage. There is no group therapy or group work. This programme has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme which commences with a residential weekend on **13 – 15 Sept 2019**

Phone or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) – or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**Stevenage and North Herts Family Centre Service.** Barnardo's is now running 15 Family Centres across North Herts, providing ante-natal courses, breastfeeding support, parent and baby groups and much more. It wants to increase the number of volunteers helping at these centres - especially for the following tasks: meet and greet, administration, early years groups, handy person, gardening and display boards. It will carry out full induction training and reimburse expenses. If you have some time to spare each week and would like to meet new people, develop new skills and provide much needed support, Barnardo's would really love to hear from you. For more details or just an informal chat please contact; Lynn on 07780 430768 or [Lynn.reid@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:Lynn.reid@barnardos.org.uk), Kirsten on 07763 579696 or [Kirsten.osborne@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:Kirsten.osborne@barnardos.org.uk)



Seeking reconciliation and peace involves a struggle within oneself. ... our whole life long, the Holy Spirit will enable us to set out again and again, going from one beginning to another towards a future of peace. *Brother Roger of Taizé*

**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 138

*Our Daily Love – Love hopes all things* Hope does not mean that everything will change in this life. it does involve realising that, though things may not always turn out as we wish, God may well make crooked lines straight and draw some good from the evil we endure in this world.



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**Parish Administrator** Cheryl Saunders  
**Pastoral Assistants** Susanna Hawksley  
Trish Bonnett

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This week's counting teams:  
**Sunday Team: 3 Monday Team: 2**



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)