



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 1849

27th July – 3rd August 2019 – 17th 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 Does God really bargain with us? Simple answer: no! Do we make bargains with God? Abraham seems to indicate that we do? Yet, Colossians makes it clear that God saved us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ freely and lovingly. So, why insist on making bargains with God? In the Gospel, Jesus makes it clear how much God wants to fulfil our requests, yet we fail to recognise God's help. We pray regularly, "give us this day our daily bread." And, because Jesus' example is about food, we fail to see that our daily bread also consists of giving and receiving love; opportunities to show we care; to affirm and value people as well as be affirmed and valued; to know that our work is worthwhile and that we are living as true disciples of Jesus Christ. The vast majority of the sick who go to Lourdes hope for a cure. Instead of a physical cure, however, they are cured spiritually; reassured and affirmed by an experience of God's great love. St Augustine believed it was important to end the day thanking God for blessings received. Doing this helps you become more aware of how much you are blessed each day. We do not see the stars that cover the night sky because of pollution. Remove the pollution and the sky is a wonder to behold. Similarly, once you discover the vast array and brightness God's presence and activity in your everyday life, you, too, will wonder at its beauty - no need to make bargains!

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A total of £87.65 was raised by the **One World Group** at their recent coffee morning. The proceeds goes to Emmaus. Thank you all for your generosity and support.

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Readings Gen 18:20-32, Col 2:12-14, Luke 11:1-13

Entrance Antiphon: God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Psalm: On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

Intercession: Lord in your mercy

Response: Hear our Prayer!

Next week Ecc 1:2;2:21-23, Col 3:1-5.9-11, Luke 12:13-21

CAFOD – Many thanks for your very kind donations. A total of £209.90 was raised

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We pray for **Rita Pashby** whose funeral is on Thursday 1 August 2019 at 2.30pm here at Our Lady's Church. We also pray for **Giovanni Mastrantonio** whose funeral is on Friday 2 August 2019 at 12 noon here at Our Lady's Church. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families.

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Colouring box help over the summer.

Once again we appeal for someone to sharpen pencils and sort out the sheets for the children's colouring packs from next week until the first week in September. If you are able to help can you let Trish know.

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We have managed to accumulate a vast selection of plates, dishes, trays, containers etc belonging to Parishioners who have very kindly provided food for the Priests over the months. These are now taking up a great deal of room in the Priests' kitchen. If any of these belong to you, please collect them as soon as convenient. Many thanks.

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Are you thinking about becoming a Catholic?

Do you want to learn more about it? Come to the meeting on Sunday September 8th in the Parish Hall at 3:30pm to learn more about what we can offer you.

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Are you an adult Catholic who has not been confirmed yet? Would you like to find out about how you can be prepared for the sacrament?

Come to the meeting on Sunday September 8th in the Parish Hall at 3:30pm to learn more about what we can offer you.

Diary Dates

Sun 28 July			
Coffee Morning – Diapalante ††††††††††			
3.30-4.30pm Baptism course in the hall. Session 2			
Mon 29 July St Martha			
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am		
Tues 30 July			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Eucharistic Service	7.15pm
Bethany Club	10.30am		
Wed 31 July St Ignatius of Loyola			
Rosary Church	9.30am		
6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hut			
Thurs 1 Aug St Alphonsus Liguori			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Christian Meditation Group	6.30pm EC
Fri 2 Aug			
		Lectio Divina EC	2pm
Sun 4 Aug			
Coffee Morning – TBA			

Other Items of Interest

St Francis Ramblers invite you to join them on their walk on Sunday 4th August. Meet Arlesey station (walkers' train due in at 1050 [calls Hitchin 1045]). Distance 12 miles with lunch stop (at The Green Man, Stanford), finishing at Arlesey.

Please call Paul on 07847 282626 for more details. Here is a link to our website for Information about the club

<http://www.stfrancisramblers.ukwalkers.com>

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Please see vacancy

<https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/secretary-ordinariate/>

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If you or your friends and family are looking for a new opportunity with the Diocese of Westminster, please visit our website <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

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Church cleaning We have a particular need for more people to help keep our church clean on Saturdays & Mondays. Teams of 2-3 people can co-ordinate their time to suit themselves. If you can give an 1½ hours once a month to keep our church beautiful please speak to or email Trish



Living simply & sustainably: More alternative uses for weeds! As well as being delicious, nettle tea is reputed to help combat several ailments, including eczema, asthma, hay fever and muscle aches. Just steep a few fresh tips in boiling water, removing them when the water goes slightly green, to avoid bitterness.

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 139

Our Daily Love – Love hopes all things



Hope comes most fully into its own, for it embraces the certainty of life after death. Each person with all his or her failings, is called to the fullness of life in heaven.

Parish Priest Fr Tom O'Brien
07547 171570

Assistant Priest Fr Euloge Kasine
07424 004647

Parish 01462 459126

E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk

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

Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk

Pastoral Assistants Susanna Hawksley susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk

Trish Bonnett trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk



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