



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 1859

5th – 12th October 2019 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

Parish Prayer: Lord Jesus, when you rose from the dead you sent your followers to go and 'make disciples of all nations'. Through our baptism you send us, too. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit to help us share our faith, in what we say and do. May we bring light and life to the world, in your name. May all people hear the good news of your love and mercy and come to know it for themselves. This we ask in your name. Amen

Entrance Antiphon: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

Intercession: We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord, hear us!

Ramblings In this month of mission, we recognise that Faith is God's great gift to us. Being born with this gift, it is the waters of baptism that fertilises it and brings it to life. This gift of faith comes to us fully enriched and our task is to discover these riches so that, as our understanding, appreciation and gratitude for our Faith grows, it has an ever-greater influence on our lives. Faith grows stronger as we let it touch and shape all our thoughts and actions and permeate our prayer, reflection and contemplation. No wonder then that Pope Francis is calling the whole Church to an Extraordinary Month of Mission. He is offering us an opportunity to facilitate and encourage our faith to reshape the vision we have of ourselves, others and the world. What is called seeing with the eyes of God. This leads us to discover in greater detail the inner beauty and creativity of the one who brought creation into being, and how God's presence is alive and eagerly waiting to be set free in the lives of those we encounter. John Henry Newman's logo - *Cor ad Cor loquitur* - heart speaks to heart - is so appropriate. In all our faith encounters our heart speaks to the hearts of those we encounter. This month we are called, (as we always are) to discover that in and through our encounters and good works, we are able to open the hearts of others to the presence of faith and to Jesus. The heart of Jesus will not only speak to them but will also speak to us.

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We pray for **Sheila Hugill** whose funeral is here at Our Lady's Church on Thursday 17 October 2019 at 11.30am. We also pray for **Linda Budd** whose funeral Mass is here on Tuesday 22 October 2019 at 10am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families

A total of £102.65 was raised at the recent Bereavement Team coffee morning. Many thanks to you all.

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

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MARRIAGE PREPARATION Our next course for preparation for the sacrament of marriage is on Saturday 26th October, in the parish hall.



To secure a place please go to

<mailto:catholicmarriageprep@outlook.com>, where you will be able to register and find all the information you need about the day.

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The Month of Mission continues and whilst we have not been inundated with good news stories, we have had some. So please do look at

them on the wall or on facebook and contribute your own this week so we can cover the walls of the church. There is a saint of the day with a card for you to collect so please take the cards from the table as you come in and read about the saints whose feast days are in the month of October.

For news about the month of mission and to see the good news stories go to <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/extraordinary-month-of-mission-october-2019/> which includes a message from Pope Francis.

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The Elmside Mass is being changed from a Wednesday to a Monday. The first date will be **14 Oct at 11am.**

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Good news!

Your Pastoral Parish Council is pleased to announce that we have received nearly £10,000.00 to pay for a feasibility study for a Community Centre to replace the Scout Hut. This will be evaluated by a Diocesan selected architect, using all the information collected from stakeholders and parish members over recent months. Using all the collected information we will now establish a "Brief" for the chosen architect to work with. That having been achieved, plans will be made available to view and opinions requested. At the Michaelmas Fair, we were visited by numerous North Herts District Councillors and Members of Churches Together in Hitchin, willing to be interested in, and play a part in our enterprise

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During this Extraordinary Month for Mission in the church, please take time to remember the Red Boxes in your homes and add any loose change you

may have. Please bring any donations for Missio into church on the weekend of the 19th/20th of October and money will be collected and counted after the Sunday evening mass.

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

Envelopes	£ 9098.26	(£ 7856.66)
Standing Orders	£16731.25	(£16663.50)
Loose Plate	£ 5236.60	(£ 5423.35)
TOTAL	£31066.11	(£29943.51)

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BAPTISM COURSE The next Baptism preparation course will be held on **Sun 17 Nov, 3pm - 4:30pm** and on **Sun 24 Nov, 3:30pm -**

4:30pm, followed by the 5pm Mass, at which your child will receive the first anointing of Baptism. Both sessions must be attended to complete the course. If you have a child in need of baptism or are expecting a child and want to get ahead, please sign up on the sheet on the noticeboard in the Link (down the steps in the porch, toward the hall).

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Living simply and sustainably: Use water from your condenser

dryer to fill the tank of a steam iron. It's distilled and helps to avoid limescale build-up.

Diary Dates

Sun 6 October			
Coffee Morning – SPUC ††††††††††			
3pm - "Catholicism" – Hall ††††††††††			
6pm Benediction			
Mon 7 October Our Lady of the Rosary			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Beavers Scout Hall	6pm
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am EC	Cubs Scout Hall	7.15pm
Tues 8 October			
Morning Prayer Church	9.30am	Scouts Scout Hall	7pm
Bethany Club Hall	10.30am	Euch service	7.15pm
Wed 9 October Blessed John Henry Newman			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
OLS Feast Day. Mass at School at 9.30am, 10.45am and 1.50pm ††††††††††			
10.40am – 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 ††††††††††			
2.30pm Mass at Foxholes. All welcome ††††††††††			
6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall			
Thurs 10 October			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Christian Meditation Grp	6.30pm EC
Brownies Scout Hall	6.30pm	Choir Church	8pm
Fri 11 October St John XXIII			
Parent & Toddlers Hall	9.15am	Lectio Divina EC	2pm
Sat 12 October			
10am – RE Session EC			
Sun 13 October			
Coffee Morning – KISS ††††††††††			
3pm – "Catholicism" – Hall ††††††††††			
6pm Benediction			

Future Dates

BOF Free Film Night 5 Oct at 7pm From the award-winning creators of Fireproof and Courageous comes WAR ROOM, a compelling drama with humour and heart that explores the power that prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area of our lives.

Venue: Westmill Community Centre, John Barker Place, Hitchin SG5 2PG

Do you want to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith?

Join me in watching and reflecting on selected episodes of Bishop Robert Barron's series, 'Catholicism, The Journey of a Lifetime'.

Begins this Sunday 6th Oct

- The Teachings of Jesus
- The Indispensable Men (Peter and Paul)
- Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven (Eucharist)
- A Vast Company of Witnesses (the communion of saints)

October Sunday afternoons 3pm – 4:30pm, in the Hall. With breathtaking cinematography of some of the world's most amazing religious sites and treasures.

Bishop Barron leads his audience to a deeper appreciation of the faith we share. Come on – give it a try!

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Sat 23 Nov there will be a Dinner Dance in aid of the Kiss Charity based in Uganda. This will be held at the Broadway

Hotel in Letchworth from 7pm, to eat at 8pm. Tickets cost £35 for a 2 course meal, entertainment, casino, disco and on top of that you will be contributing to the work Kiss does in the two communities in Uganda. Please send all enquiries and bookings to Nathan at mailto:kissdinnerdance2019@outlook.com

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Beginning Experience Weekend A healing weekend for men and women who are separated, divorced or widowed will be held **18 to 20 Oct** at the Domus Maria Centre, Chigwell, Essex. For details please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email mailto:johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

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The London Oratory will celebrate the canonisation of John Henry Newman at the London Oratory with the following Masses:

Sun 13 Oct, 11am will be a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving for the canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman with Te Deum.

Thurs 17 Oct, 6.30pm Solemn Pontifical Mass in honour of our new saint, celebrated by our Cardinal-Archbishop.

All are most welcome to attend.

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North Herts Inter-faith Forum is holding its AGM on **Thurs 17 Oct, 7.30 pm** at Our Lady's. The meeting will include a session on **'Beyond religion - to tackle climate change and climate refugees'** led by Don de Silva, a former official of

the UN Environment Programme. All are welcome.

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Sat 19 Oct 10am – 1pm THE 'D' WORD - A workshop creating space to talk about death and dying in our church hall.

Why do we find it so hard to say the words 'death' & 'dying'?

Join the team from a small but rapidly growing charity to learn more about what happens when we are approaching death, how to support others, why end of life planning is so important, and dispel many taboos around the subject. An informal, informative 3 hours of discussion & learning.

TO BOOK: Parish Office 01462 459126 or trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk

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Other items of interest

Pope Francis has asked us to learn more about the Saints. Fr Tom has provided some very good books which are now in the Library in the Church on the shelf marked **"Saints"**. Do have a look and if you choose a book, please fill in the register. Enjoy! – From Mary Dawson.

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7th Hitchin Our Lady's Brownies – We Currently have spaces for girls 7 - 10

years.

We are a small unit but have lots of fun with trips to the allotments, Cinema, craft nights, games and much more. We meet on Thursday evenings from 6.30pm - 7.45pm in the Parish Scout Hut. For more information email maggie.joslin@btopenworld.com. Thank you.

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Helping Herts Homeless who support homeless people including youth and rough sleepers and are involved with the

Sanctuary have a need for storage space for tinned food, clothes and other items that are donated to them for which there is little storage space at the sanctuary. If you have any storage space in a garage or outhouse could you please contact them on **01462 600425**

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Tefal has launched a new recycling scheme with supermarket chain Sainsbury's. The cookware company is urging the nation to exchange its old pots and pans from **now until October 15th** in a bid to encourage greater recycling.

For the next three weeks only, Sainsbury's will offer customers the chance to recycle their old pan at over 300 Sainsbury's stores hosting dump bins. In return, it will offer a 30% discount across Tefal's new So Recycled range. The promotion marks the debut of Tefal's So Recycled range, which was launched in line with Recycling Week (September 23-29). For more information go to: <https://www.housewareslive.net/sainsburys-and-tefal-join-forces-for-recycling-scheme/>

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Michaelmas



Very many thanks to all

those involved in the fair whether as stallholders, caterers or the very many people who helped to set up and clear away. It is difficult to single out any particular group or individual but a special word of thanks must go to the volunteers from 'Feed up, warm up' who came along to help. Of course, the way people from the whole parish, including Our Lady's School made the day so much fun was particularly heart-warming. Once expenses have been deducted we anticipate that a total in

excess of **£6000** will have been made to support parish activities and Diapalante's education centre in Senegal. A notice in the porch gives details of how much each part of the fair raised. Any unsold goods go the Garden City Hospice so the wider community also benefit from this annual event. **Thanks again to you all!**

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Lister Hospital Chaplaincy volunteers: The Chaplaincy really needs 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

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Meeting needs at Christchurch is a project run from Christchurch which aims to re-locate good quality items that are no longer needed to families in need who would be able to use them. If anyone can help please call me on 01462 816658 or email stephaniefkirby@hotmail.com



The Assumptionist Fathers, who have care of our parish, were founded in 1845 at Nimes by Fr Emmanuel d'Alzon (1810-1880) with their motto the words of the Lord's prayer "Thy Kingdom Come" Today the congregation is present in thirty-one countries. In the coming weeks we will say what these countries are and give a brief account of the apostolic work the Assumptionists are engaged in. Next week we will start with the Assumption in Asia. We ask you to remember our congregation and its work in your prayers.

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 149

Our Daily Love – Love endures all things



"I (Pope Francis) think of the words of Martin Luther King: 'Somebody must have religion enough and morality enough to cut the chain of hate, the chain of evil, and inject within the very structure of the universe that strong and powerful element of love'."

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: 2 Monday Team: 1



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