



# 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 1860

12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – 28<sup>th</sup> 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

**Readings:** 2 Kings 5:14-17, Tim 2:8-13, Luke 17:11-19

**Entrance Antiphon:** If you, O Lord, should mark our iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

**Psalm: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.**

**Intercession:** Lord hear us

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

**Next week:** Ex 17:8-13, Tim 3:14-4:2, Luke 18:1-8

**Ramblings** Leprosy is a destructive and deadly disease that eats away the body, providing a clear picture of what happens to people excluded from the community for whatever reason. Mission calls us not only to be an inclusive Church but to go out and invite those who feel - or are - excluded to join us. Mission involves action. We get upset if left out of a conversation or the sharing of news. How much more difficult is it for those who are shunned by and forced out of the community. Not too long ago people with disabilities of any kind were hidden away – out of sight of the community. In our effort to integrate them into society, we have discovered great riches - the real meaning of love and sacrifice, the value of human life and the blessing they bring to a community. Although people are often defined by their abilities and achievements, by colour, race and religion, they are (like you and me) a beautiful creation of God whom God loves with an infinite love. We have discovered that difference is not only important but enriching, not divisive. Being open to difference strengthens the whole community. In working together, the Churches in Hitchin have developed a positive relationship that helps make the town welcoming. Issues of gender are present in the news daily but people are not their gender; each of us is a child of God. The LGBTQ community has suffered greatly from exclusion. In being open and welcoming, we have discovered treasures that we lacked without them. Inclusion allows everybody to grow, develop and be enriched, leading us ALL to spontaneously want to give thanks and praise to God.

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**A Parishioner** recently lost his wallet in the Church. Someone very kindly found it and it was reunited with its owner. He is most grateful!



## Fr Michael Lambert a.a. rip

At the inquest on Tuesday we learned what happened on the fateful day when Fr Michael was struck by a car – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Fr Michael was walking down Nightingale road towards Molly Malone's pub. He then decided to cross Nightingale Road diagonally towards the west side of King Street. He

stepped into the road behind a Ford Focus that had just passed. He could not see the traffic coming but, when he reached the centre of the road, he saw a Citroen C3, a small car hidden from view by the Focus. Similarly, the driver of the C3 did not see Fr Michael until he was in the centre of the road. It was a rainy night, visibility was poor, it was twilight and car headlights made visibility poor. Although the roads were wet, the C3 braked hard but Fr Michael continued to run diagonally across the road towards the car rather than away from it. The C3 struck him a light blow on the legs that knocked him off balance and, in the subsequent fall, his head hit the ground hard enough to cause bleeding on the brain. As he was on a high dose of warfarin, the bleeding was too much and eventually contributed to his death. The whole event was caught on Camera over Molly Malone's pub. The verdict given was accidental death. The driver and car were in very good condition and no fault was attributed to the driver. The car was completely undamaged.

**Eternal rest give unto him O Lord, let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory!!**

## Diary Dates

<b>Sun 13 October St Edward the Confessor</b>	
<b>Coffee Morning – KISS</b> ††††††††††	
<b>3pm - “Catholicism” – Hall</b> <i>The Indispensable Men (Peter and Paul)</i> ††††††††††	
<b>6pm Benediction</b>	
<b>Mon 14 October</b>	
Parents & Toddlers Hall 9.30am	Beavers 6pm Scout Hall
Christian Meditation Grp 11.30am EC	Cubs 7.15pm Scout Hall
<b>11am Mass at Elmside.</b> All welcome.	
<b>Tues 15 October St Teresa of Jesus</b>	
Morning Prayer Church 9.30am	<b>Scouts</b> 7pm Scout Hall
Bethany Club Hall 10.30am	<b>No Euch service</b>
<b>2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge.</b> All welcome. ††††††††††	
<b>7pm for 7.30pm UCM</b> visit to Woodside Theatre ††††††††††	
<b>7.30pm FHC - My Baptised Life.</b> Hall (Parents only)	
<b>Wed 16 October</b>	
Rosary Church 9.30am	RCIA EC 7.30pm
<b>6.30pm Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall</b>	
<b>Thurs 17 October St Ignatius of Antioch</b>	
Italian Club Hall 1pm	Christian Meditation Grp 6.30pm EC
Brownies Scout Hall 6.30pm	Choir 8pm <b>LCR</b>
<b>7pm North Herts Interfaith Forum AGM – Church – all welcome (No adoration)</b>	
<b>Fri 18 October St Luke, Evangelist</b>	
Parent & Toddlers Hall 9.15am	Lectio Divina EC 2pm
<b>7pm Church Dramatic reading</b> of the calling of the disciples from Luke’s gospel – discerning our calling and how we can reach out to others in this month of mission and beyond. Please join us. No acting just reading like a radio play. How does this enhance our understanding of scripture? What are we being called to do?	
<b>Sat 19 October</b>	
<b>10am – 1pm The ‘D’ Word Workshop – Hall</b> 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. Last chance to book contact <a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>	

## Sun 20 October

**Coffee Morning – One World Group**

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**3pm – “Catholicism” – Hall - *Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven (Eucharist)***  
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**6pm Benediction**



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

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**A bag has been handed in to the office.** If it belongs to you, please call the office with a description of it and its contents and we will happily reunite the bag with its owner! Many thanks

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**There will be a second collection next weekend (19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Oct) for World Mission Sunday** –World Mission Sunday in 2019 falls on 20 October. Instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1926, the annual day encourages prayers, cooperation and help for missions as well as reminding Christians about the fundamental missionary character of the Church and of every baptized person.

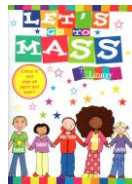
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**Thank you for your generosity and support at the recent coffee mornings.** £102.85 was raised for SPUC (The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child) and £80.60 was raised by the One World Group for “Street Talk”. Many thanks to you all!

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**There is a group that meets in the Church Hall on a Wednesday morning between 10am and 12noon.** This will continue until the end of November. Please bear that in mind when coming to Church on Wednesday mornings as the car park may be busy. Many thanks

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As part of our initiatives to get closer to Jesus as encouraged in this month of mission we have purchased some child-friendly Mass books for use in the church. Please use these with your children at Mass and return to the box in the porch after Mass. If you want to get one for your child, you can buy them from redeptorist publications.

<https://www.rpbbooks.co.uk/lets-go-to-mass-wipe-clean-colouring-1>



**Our Lady's School ADMISSIONS  
OPEN EVENING** Thursday 14th  
November 2019

7pm for parents interested in applying for their child to join Our Lady School in September 2020 – see poster in porch. If you would like to attend this event please contact the school office to book a place on 01462 622555. There is also a sign-up sheet in the porch for you to see Fr Tom to discuss the certificate of Catholic practice which you need for your application to the school.



**BAPTISM COURSE** The next Baptism preparation course will be held on **Sunday 17th November from 3pm - 4:30pm** and on **Sunday 24th**

**November from 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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**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 [catholicmarriageprep@outlook.com](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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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 next weekend the 19th/20th of October and money will be collected and counted after the Sunday evening mass.

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**TEXT GIVING** A way to support Our Lady's is now available to us - through text giving on your mobile phone !!Just text Parish HITCH to 70800 to donate £5. This amount will be added to your phone bill and the Parish will receive 97p for every pound donated. This is not intended to be an alternative to giving by Standing Order or Envelopes but provides an easy way to top-up your regular giving or to give if you have no cash or to are just visiting the Parish. Only donations in multiples of £5 per text are available and the donation cannot be Gift Aided.



Don't forget that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to

your annual holiday - you could be raising a free donation for Our Lady's RC Church Hitchin. You may not be able to increase your weekly offering and here is a way to help raise income for the church at NO extra cost to you. There are nearly 3,000 retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, the train line and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to Our Lady's RC Church Hitchin to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's really simple, and doesn't cost you anything. All you have to do is:

1. Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ourladysrchitchin>
2. Sign up for free
3. Get shopping- your donations will be collected by Easyfundraising and automatically sent to our Lady's RC Church Hitchin. Go onto parish website for further details. Thank you for your support!

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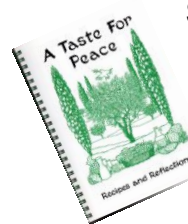
**Choir members needed** If you are willing to



sing in praise of Our Lord come and join us. You need to be available at 8-9pm on a Thursday evening for the practices and the

first Sunday of the month at the 10.30 Mass. We have a particular need for male bass voices. If you think you could help the parish in this way and have some great fun at the same time please speak to Trish or Samantha Wilkins or email [trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk)

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**Sunday 13th** is the start of the **Week of Prayer for World Peace**. It was a

Christian initiative that led to the founding of this annual event which first took place in 1974. It soon became an interfaith activity, and now welcomes everyone, of all faith

traditions or none, to take part. To mark this event, we have a number of copies of 'A Taste For Peace - Recipes and Reflection' to give away, **free**. This recipe book was produced by Pax Christi and includes contributions by Peggy Attlee, Daniel Berrigan, Pat Gaffney and Richard Rohr. Material is organised into chapters such as 'Eating Simply', 'Food and Reconciliation' and there is a useful index of Recipes as well as a separate index for Reflections. A great opportunity to add to your culinary skills and spiritual nourishment.



## OLIVE WOOD CARVES FROM THE HOLY LAND (BETHLEHEM).

We are the Good Shepherd Company from the Holy Land (Bethlehem) which is based in Nottingham and works alongside the St. Vincent De Paul society for orphans and elderly in the Holy land. Our goal is to support and help the Christian families in the holy land to stay at work as olive wood carvers. It is one of the most important sources of income for them as 90% of the Christians rely on this sale. By selling their produce here from the olive wood (rosaries, crosses, cribs and religious statues) on their behalf, this will prevent the Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities. A test survey from the bishops of Jerusalem shows that there is only forty one thousand Christians left in the area.

### Future Dates

#### 29th October 2019 - Family Holiday Club

This half term Caritas Westminster will be holding a new Family Holiday Club at St Vincent de Paul Primary School. The club will include lots of fun activities for families to enjoy, followed by a hot nutritious lunch and food to take home and cook together. The club will be held from 11am-2pm, on Tuesday 29th October at St Vincent de Paul Primary School, Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage

,SG1 1NJ. The club is for children from ages 4-11, accompanied by a parent or guardian. The club is completely free to attend but advance booking is required. Please text 0752 5812 508 or email [cfc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cfc@rcdow.org.uk) to book a place.

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**5<sup>th</sup> November The Passage, a Christian Charity** working with homeless people, is holding a fundraising concert at the Royal Festival on the theme Magic of Italian Opera with Petroc Trelawny as presenter. For more details call 020 7592 1856 or email [tickets@passage.org.uk](mailto:tickets@passage.org.uk)

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**9<sup>th</sup> November 1.30pm Prayer Procession – 500 crosses for life** starts at Westminster Cathedral. See poster and leaflets for more detail.

### Other items of interest

**Justice and Peace Co-Ordinator required.**

Closing date 25 October 2019. For further details, please visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/justice-peace-coordinator/>

Still waiting to be inundated with your good news. Email Trish or pick up a sheet from the porch!



**The Assumptionists in Vietnam** There are five Assumptionist houses in Vietnam three of which are in Saigon. The largest of these is the study house where over twenty young Assumptionists are training for the priesthood. The second is an apostolic community, with six postulants, that is men preparing to join us. For them it is a time of really seeing if they are suited to life in a religious community. The novices are housed in a separate community at Ba Ria. This year there are eight novices preparing for their first vows before they move on to the study house. The fifth community is at Vinh where the community are responsible for a new parish. Fr Peter the superior and parish priest was ordained at Bethnal Green in 2006 at the end of a period of study in London.

**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 150

*Our Daily Love – Love endures all things*



In family life, we need to cultivate that strength of love which can help us fight every evil. Love does not yield to resentment, scorn for others or the desire to hurt or to gain some advantage.

**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)



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)