



# 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 1865

16<sup>th</sup> November – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

**Election Prayer:** Father, as we prepare to vote, help us remember that it is you who governs us; that in all our public duties we are called to do your work: to bring good news to the poor, to set free those who are captive, to give sight to the blind. We ask for your wisdom, so that our choices respect creation and serve justice for all. Amen.

**Readings:** Mal 3:19-20, Thess 3:7-12, Luke 21:5-19

**Entrance Antiphon:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

**Psalm:** The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.

**Intercession:** We pray to the Lord

**Response:** Lord, Hear Us!

**Next week:** Sam 5:1-3, Col 1:12-20, Luke 23:35-43

### Ramblings

*“Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence . . . Stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.”* Is Jesus warning or challenging us? Maybe both! Each year, towards the end of a Gospel, we are presented with the challenges we will have to face in one form or another. These challenges were given just before Jesus was led to his death. In helping us maybe he was also helping himself, offering himself encouragement. He assures us that whenever we face great challenges that test our faith, our commitment and our loyalty, that he will be there by our side. These are not just words of advice for us but also for himself. When he felt most abandoned, he cried out, *“My God, My God, why have you deserted me?”* The cry was heard and his dying words were *“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”* After his ascension, many of his followers faced the struggles he had foretold. They must have found strength and courage in Jesus words. We can be sure that if ever we need him, Jesus will not forsake us even in our darkest hour. Let us pray with John Henry Newman: *Lead, kindly Light, amid th'encircling gloom, lead Thou me on! The night is dark, and I am far from home; lead Thou me on! . . . So long your power has blest me, sure it still will lead me on. . . Meantime, along the narrow-rugged path, that you have trod, lead, Saviour, lead me home in childlike faith, home to my God. To rest forever after earthly strife in the calm light of everlasting life.*

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

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### Diary Dates

Sun 17 November			
<b>Coffee Morning – One World Group</b>			
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<b>3pm Baptism Course Session 1 - Hall</b>			
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<b>6pm Benediction for the Holy Souls</b>			
Mon 18 November			
Parents & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Beavers Scout Hall	6pm 7.15pm
Christian Meditation Grp	11.30am EC	Cubs Scout Hall	Half Term
<b>6.30pm One World Group AGM - LCR</b>			
Tues 19 November			
Morning Prayer Church	9.40am	Scouts Scout Hall	7pm
Bethany Club Hall	10.30am	Eucharistic service	7.15pm
<b>2.30pm Mass at Milford Lodge. All welcome.</b>			
Wed 20 November			
Rosary Church	9.30am	RCIA EC	7.30pm
<b>6pm Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall</b>			
Thurs 21 November <b>Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary</b>			
Italian Club Hall	1pm	Christian Meditation Grp	6.30pm EC
Brownies Scout Hall	6.30pm	Choir Church	8pm
<b>11.00am – UCM - LCR</b>			
Fri 22 November <b>St Cecilia</b>			
Parent & Toddlers Hall	9.30am	Lectio Divina	2pm EC
Sat 23 November			
RE Session EC	10am		
Sun 24 November			
<b>Coffee Morning – Our Lady's Special Support Group</b>			
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<b>3.30pm Baptism Course Session 2 - Hall</b>			



We pray for Anna Lanni whose funeral is on Tues 19 Nov at 1.30pm here at Our Lady's Church. May she rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort her family.

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**Many thanks** to you all for your very kind donations to the Sick and Retired Priest's fund. A total of £724.39 was raised.

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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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**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION** All young people in Year 9 are invited to join the Confirmation Programme for 2020. You need to submit an application form to the parish office or to me at: [susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:susannahawksley@rcdow.org.uk). the application forms and all the dates for the programme can be found on the parish website

under Sacramental Preparation/Confirmation. Please also sign the sheet that is on the noticeboard in the Link (down the steps from the porch).

The deadline for applications is **16 Dec 2019**.

**Don't delay - join today**

**Future Dates**

**Tues 26 Nov; 7.30 to 9.30pm - Election Hustings** will take place on at Christchurch. All the candidates have indicated they will be there and, as in 2017, the meeting will be chaired by Rev. Canon Jane Mainwaring of St Mark's. If you would like to ask a question, please do so via the '2019 General Election' link on the CTH website - <http://www.cthitchin.org.uk>

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**Plant an Olive Tree in Palestine** 'The proceeds from this Sunday's *One World Live Simply* coffee morning will go to 'Zaytoon' an organisation which supports an olive tree planting project run by the Palestine Fair Trade Association

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Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures.

*US President John F Kennedy, 1917-1963*



Next Thursday is the anniversary of the death of Father Emmanuel d'Alzon the founder of the Assumptionists and of the Oblate Sisters of the Assumption. This day is marked by prayer and reflection on our Assumptionist Charisma and our apostolate today in thirty one countries. When Fr d'Alzon died at Nimes in 1880 there still few members of our congregation. We thank God for the increase in vocations in recent years especially in Africa and the Far East. May He continue to bless our work for the coming of the Kingdom

**To donate to Our Lady's through text giving on your mobile phone !!**  
**Just text Parish HITCH to 70800 to donate £5.**

**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**

**155 Our Daily Love - Growing in Conjugal Love**  
Marriage is a precious sign, when a man and a woman celebrate the sacrament of marriage, God is 'mirrored in them; He impresses in them His own features and the indelible character of His love.' (L'Osservatore Romano, 3 April, 2014.p8)

If you have a need for prayer, please contact **Mary** on **07759195487** and let her know your prayer intentions

<b>Parish Priest</b> Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	<b>Assistant Priest</b> Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647	<b>Parish</b> <b>01462 459126</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/">https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/</a>
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**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: 2 Monday Team: 3**



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)