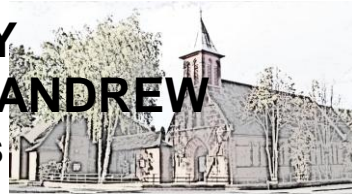




CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS
(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)



From 5th July Daily Mass is at 10am for maximum 26 household groups and is livestreamed on <https://www.facebook.com/trish.bonnett> and posted as an audio file to the homepage of the parish website by 11.30am daily. **The church will remain closed outside of Mass**



Newsletter No 1898

4-11 July 2020 – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A – the gospel according to Matthew

Parish Prayer: Lord Jesus, as the world copes with coronavirus, help us to remember that you are always with us. Grant wisdom to decision makers and bless all health workers. Bring healing to the sick; give peace to the anxious and comfort those who are sad. Stir us to show your love and mercy most especially to the poor and weak. This we ask in your name. Amen.

Readings: Zech 9:9-10, Rom 8:9.11-13, Matt 11:25-30

Entrance Antiphon: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Psalm I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: **Hear our Prayer!**

Next week: Is 55:10-11, Rom 8:18-23, Matt 13:1-23

Ramblings Why be worried when Jesus starts talking about yokes. Maybe we have pictures of oxen pulling a heavy plough through rough terrain; a painful and relentless struggle. What if yoke really meant life? What if yoke meant a favourite hobby or pastime? What if yoke meant a particular talent: ballet, music, sports, science etc. Surely you would grasp it with both hands even though some talents demand great sacrifice, utter dedication and total commitment. Let's assume then that yoke means a way of life. We all have a choice to the way we live our lives, the choices we make, the actions we do or not do. Jesus invites us to choose his way which involves loving God and neighbour. We also know that his way or his yoke as he calls it includes him as well. Like all good things it is only in following his way that we discover the real truth of life. We discover true joy, true goodness and begin to see how we are helping make the world a better place. Pope Francis adds: *"It's not easy! In dark moments, it is natural to turn inwards, to brood over how unjust life is, on how ungrateful others are and how evil the world is. Jesus wants to pull us out from this quicksand and give people a way out of sadness, which allows them to raise their eyes toward the one who really loves us. When Jesus enters our life, peace comes; that (peace) which remains even in trials, in sufferings. Let us go to Jesus, give him our time, meet him every day in prayer, in a confident and personal dialogue; let us familiarize ourselves with his word, rediscover his forgiveness without fear, let us be satiated with his bread of life: then we will feel loved and consoled by him."*

Diary Dates

Sun 5 July
10am Mass in the church. Please come if this is the only Mass you can get to because you work and/or have children who go to school during the week. If you have not indicated on the recent survey that you are coming to this Mass then please be advised that we can accommodate 26 household groups only and when the church is full we are not allowed to admit any more people to fulfil social distancing measures. We apologise if you cannot get into the church today but there is a Mass each day Monday-Saturday at 10am also.
Mon 6 July – Sat 11 July
10am Mass in the church. See below for all details about Mass and its new format.
Mon 6 July
Parish Pantry 12pm–4pm for those in the parish (or any neighbours you know) who are in need of food. Come to the kitchen door of the hall.
Wed 8 July
6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall
Fri 10 July
12.30pm Funeral of Frank McGennity
Thurs 16 July
12pm Funeral of Carmela De Rosa



We pray for Frank McGennity whose funeral is on Friday 10 July 2020 at 12.30pm and for Carmela De Rosa whose funeral is on Thursday 16 July 2020 at 12 noon. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort their families. Please note that current guidelines for funerals advise that there can be a maximum of 30 in attendance and this should be restricted to family members and very close friends only.

Coming back to Mass at Our Lady's

We are delighted that we can come back to our church to celebrate Mass but please be aware that the pandemic is not over and to ensure the safety of all church users we have made many changes to how things are done. Please try to accept where we are now and avoid the temptation to compare with 'how it used to be'. What we are doing now is a step in the right direction but the reality is we have no idea how long the restrictions may be in place so we ask that you embrace our new style celebration and enjoy the opportunity to worship together and receive the Eucharist we have been deprived of for so long.

There continues to be no Sunday obligation so every Mass Sunday-Saturday will be the same. Masses on Saturdays and Sundays will be for those people who cannot come during the week because they are working and/or they have children at school.

The Mass will be no longer than 30 minutes.

Changes that you will see.

- You are advised to wear a mask and gloves (please note that we are maintaining 2m social distancing in the church so this is not mandatory as it would be if we reduced to 1m)
- If you are not wearing gloves you will be asked to use the alcohol gel on arrival and exit from the church.
- It will take longer to get into the church so please arrive in plenty of time. Mass will start at 10am and any movement in the church after that time will be distracting to other parishioners.
- You will be directed to a pew. Large families will be in the front pews to make it easier to give them communion in the pew.
- The toilets **are not** available in the hall.
- Masses will continue to be live streamed and recorded daily. There is a portal in the church in front of the altar.
- No singing at any Mass – music will be played as people come into the church and as they leave and during the distribution of communion.
Please do not join in with any singing.
- No Gloria
- Only one reading – we will endeavour to have the psalm for the day recorded. **Please do not join in**
- Short homily or reflection

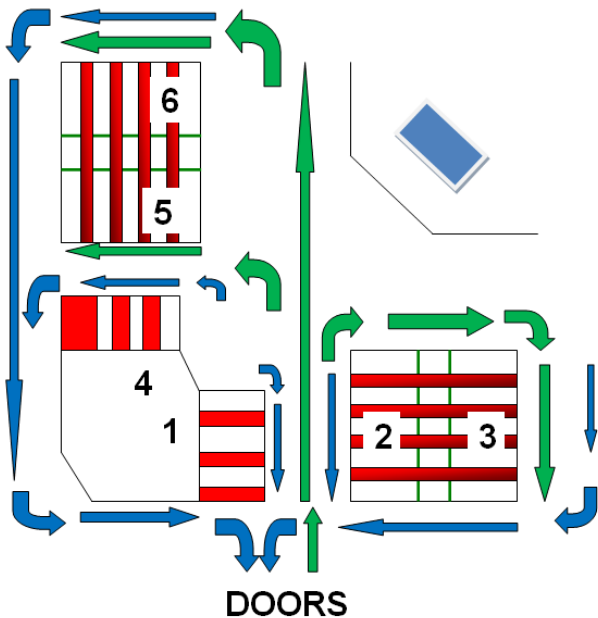
- No Creed
- No prayers of the faithful (bidding prayers)
These will continue to be sent out by email and posted on the website.
- The book of intentions is permanently on the altar. If you want an intention included please bring it written down and place in the basket just inside the church.
- No collection being taken. If you wish to bring your offerings please drop them into the basket just inside the church.
- Eucharistic prayer 2 which is the shorter prayer.
- Only Fr Euloge can give out communion with Eucharistic Ministers – Fr Tom is advised not to because of his age. Communion will only be the Body of Christ. There is no chalice with the Precious blood for the congregation.
- The Priest will elevate the Body and Blood of Christ at the altar saying 'The Body of Christ' and 'The Blood of Christ' to which we all say 'Amen'.
- Parishioners will remain in their pews and communion will be taken to them by the Priest and EMs. You stand at the end of your pew and extend your hands out. The minister will extend their hand out and drop the host into your hand. This is done in silence.
- No announcements other than the steward directing the exit of parishioners at the end of the Mass. You are asked to remain in your pew until directed by the steward to leave.
- You need to leave promptly – the priests will not be in the porch. Any chats you may wish to have with fellow parishioners should be outside of the church and maintaining social distance.

Please note that we have been given advice from the Bishops about the Sacrament of Reconciliation and we will be giving you information about how to access that sacrament very soon. Our priority was to get things ready to have Mass.

There is no new information at present about any other sacrament including Baptism and as soon as we have that information we will let you know what arrangements will be made.

The flow of movement in and out of the church is indicated on the diagram on the next page:

Flow in the church In → Out →



The red pews are blocked from use to maintain the 2m social distance. People will leave the church in the numerical order of the blocks indicated and will follow the instructions of the stewards.

If you have any questions please email Trish or ring her on 07801 752141.

We hope to be able to have more than one Mass on a Sunday eventually. Our ability to have more than one Mass depends on having cleaning teams in place. We have to clean the church after every Mass. If you are not currently part of the cleaning teams and want to help

please let Trish know. The more teams we have, the more Masses we can have.

This is a confidential service and follows Parish Safeguarding Policies



Fr Daniel Olivier is described on the internet as a Prominent Assumptionist, Reformation scholar, distinguished professor and ecumenist. Fr Daniel is particularly known for his study and books on Luther. Since his youth he suffered from a bone disease and always limped. In fact he had a specially adapted car so that he would not need to use his feet. He spoke good English and German as well as his native French.

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 185

Growing in Conjugal Love - Marrying for Love
I (Pope Francis) would like to say to young people nothing is jeopardized when their love finds expression in marriage. Their union, encounters in this institution, the means to ensure that their love will truly endure and grow.



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

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 Robert Hitchcock roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk
Trish Bonnett trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk



This week's counting teams:
Sunday Team: Monday Team:



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