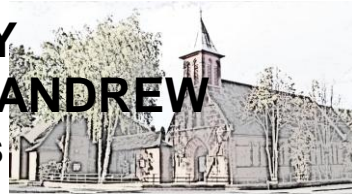




CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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



Daily Mass is at 10am for 26 household groups and 12 singles 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. There is limited opening for private prayer. See below



Newsletter No 1906

29th August – 5th September 2020 – 22nd 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: Jer 20:7-9, Rom 12:1-2, Matt 16:21-27

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

Psalm **For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.**

Intercession: Lord hear us

Response: **Lord graciously hear us!**

Next week: Ez 33:7-9, Rom 13:8-10, Matt 18:15-20

Ramblings St Paul writes to the Romans: *“let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind, a mind pleasing to God. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.”* St Augustine of Hippo, whose feast we celebrated on Friday, said something similar *“You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you my God!”* Let’s be clear! Everyone, but everyone, has to take up a cross in life. But many call it by a different name. Some call it ambition, others their vocation. For some it is about fame and fortune. Others call it their purpose. Whatever name they give it, it involves struggle, hardship, sacrifice, commitment and perseverance and the cost can be high, very high. A sixth form college in East London is educating students able to go to the most prestigious Universities in America on a full scholarship. The cost for this is at least three hours extra work every night and five hours work on Saturday and Sunday over two years. The difference, however, between these crosses and the cross Jesus offers is that they are working for themselves whereas Jesus’ cross is about working for others and we have the unbeatable support of Jesus every step of the way. What St Augustine eventually discovered was that personal achievement, honour and fame is not enough because, deep down, we want to fulfil God’s will and to know and do what is most perfect in God’s eyes. Let us pray with St Paul that *“The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ will enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.”* And with St Augustine: *O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there your cheerful beams!”*

Diary Dates

Sun 30 August – Sat 5 September
10am Mass in the church.
Mon 31 August
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 2 September
2pm Service of celebration for the life of Mary Deuchar in our church. Close friends and family only at the Crematorium earlier but those that would like to pay their respects are all welcome for her memorial service, if numbers allow. <i>(This is not a Mass)</i>
††††††††††
6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall
Thurs 3 September St Gregory

Private prayer in church Monday – Friday and lighting candles We offer opportunities for the church to be open for private prayer in addition to the Mass. If you have suggestions for times which are better for parishioners please let Trish know. Trish or Rob can also light candles for you at these times and from 9.30-9.50 daily before Mass. For this week the times are below:



Mon 31/8	Tue 1/9	Wed 2/9	Thur 3/9	Fri 4/9
Not open	12pm	12pm	12pm	12pm

††††††††††

Susanna has decided that now is not the right time to have any kind of leaving do. She wants to do something next year when she can come back to the parish and (hopefully) be closer to people and maybe even hug them!! So we will not have the do on 12th September.



Stewards and Cleaners to keep the church open Please note these are just the occasional needs – we have a permanent vacancy for a steward on Friday mornings at 9.30am beginning 25th September.

If you can help with any of these roles and dates please let Trish know as soon as possible by email or text.

Date	Time	Role	How many
Sun 30/8 Before Baptism	11am	Cleaners	1-2
Wed 2/9	1.30pm	Steward	1
Sat 5/9	11am	Cleaner	1
Sat 5/9 After Baptism	To suit after 3pm	Cleaners	2
Wed 9/9	9.30am	Steward	1
Sat 12/9 Before Baptism	11am	Cleaners	2
Sat 12/9 After Baptism	11am	Cleaners	2
Sun 13/9 Before Baptism	11am	Cleaners	2
Sat 19/9 After Baptism	To suit after 3pm	Cleaners	2
Sat 26/9 After Baptism	3pm	Cleaners	1
Thurs 1/10	9.30am	Stewards	1
Sun 4/10 First Holy Communion	1.30pm	Stewards	1

Sunday 6th September would have been our **healing and wholeness service**. As we did in the case of the June service if you have a need for healing prayer or have a family member or friend you would like prayer for, please let Trish know on 07801 752141 or trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk. Members of the healing ministry team will be praying on that Sunday for anyone in need of the Lord's healing help.



††††††††††

Are you considering getting your child baptised? the next course is happening over Zoom and lasts roughly an hour this allows any technical difficulties. The course will consist of a video clip with some discussion questions and a short powerpoint.



DATE: SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2020

TIME: 10 AM

VENUE: ZOOM

to sign up to the course please can you complete the short form on the following link

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ev868oUFaUGcVaeAS3KojTvYPSULSZIMopf72JMPX3FUNDdQRVdKNVFMzVYMUhPNjFXTVNCrjVFOC4u>

The next **Marriage Preparation course** in this parish is on **Saturday 24th October 2020**. It has not been decided yet if it will be face-to-face or Zoom. A decision will be made nearer the time. Registration is at 9:30am and the course will run until approximately 4pm.

To book a place please email catholicmarriageprep@outlook.com with your full names (both parties). We are able to take 25 couples on this course. (We ask you to bring food for a shared lunch on the day if it is face-to-face.) The fee is £60 per couple.

††††††††††

First Holy Communion The children who have been preparing for the sacrament of the Eucharist have had a delay in receiving the sacrament for the first time, because of the pandemic. They are now going to receive the Eucharist for the first time over 4 Sundays – 6, 20, 27 Sept, & 4th Oct. These will be separate Masses for the children and their families only. Please can you keep the children in your prayers at this time.



††††††††††

The water that you use to boil your eggs can also be used on your plants - the egg shell's calcium that has leaked into the water benefits the plant.



††††††††††

BOF Apostolic Church Invites you to join the Continuous 24-7 prayer starting Friday 04/09/2020.

“Men always ought to pray and not lose heart.” Luke 18:1-8

We are praying for revival, awakening and growth in the church locally and nationally, and that the earth will be filled with knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as water fills the sea. Habakkuk 2:14 Please prayerfully choose 1 or 2 hours which you could commit to weekly.

Click on the link

[24-7 Prayer International // Sign-Up // 24 7 Prayer](#) and put your hour/s into the online form.

††††††††††



SEASON OF CREATION

1st September – 4th October: Season of Creation - an ecumenical initiative uniting Christians in prayer and action for the protection of our common home from the start of September until the feast of St Francis of Assisi.

Sunday 6th September - Day for Creation & start of Climate Sundays.

Mrs Pond has a wide range of cards and gifts for those making their first communion. See pictures below. There are rosaries, cards, small prayer cards, Mass books, and a couple of beautiful crosses all at very reasonable prices, all below £5. If you want to get any please call into the office but as Cheryl is away this week give Trish a ring on 07801 752141 to ensure someone is around to help you.



This week we remember Fr Damien Perennec, he was professor of philosophy at our study house at Layrac (near Agen). He was also a great photographer, besides his art work he always took the photos we needed for identity cards and so on. He died aged 44 in a road accident.

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 193

Growing in Conjugal Love - Marrying for Love

If two persons are truly in love, they naturally show this to others. When love is expressed before others in the marriage contract with all its public commitments, it clearly indicates and protects the 'yes' which those persons speak freely and unreservedly to each other.



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
Pastoral Assistants Robert Hitchcock
Trish Bonnett

cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk
roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk
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