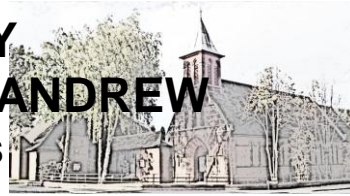




CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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 1908

12th September – 19th September 2020 – 24th 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: [Ecc 27:30-28:7](#), [Rom 14:7-9](#), [Matt 18:21-35](#)

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.
Psalm **The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

Intercession: We pray to the Lord

Response: **Lord hear us!**

Next weeks: [IS 55:6-9](#), [Phil 1:20-24,27](#), [Matt 20:1-16](#)

Ramblings It is too easy to underestimate the power and importance of forgiveness, however difficult or heart wrenching it may be. We do not have to feel good about it. Yet forgiveness and reconciliation have the power to change the course of history as Jesus and his followers can testify. As with all his parables, the one Jesus tells us this week about forgiveness offers a great deal to think about, if only because it is difficult to believe the heavenly Father would act the way he did. The story makes it clear that, if we are unable to forgive, it will ultimately lead to us losing everything. We will end up alone, friendless and in deep suffering. Jesus came to show us that it was not only possible to forgive but he went as far as to redeem us from our sins and the evils they spawn. What is more, this freedom is offered as a free gift. We only need to say **yes**. It is a freedom we call salvation; a freedom that enables us to make good choices, encourages us to create community not destroy it, even if others work against us. It is a freedom that opens us to the beauty, goodness and love within people which is uplifting, reassuring and affirming. Carrying grudges, seeking vengeance, cutting ourselves off from those who offend us will hide these wonderful gifts from us. With this knowledge, it is no wonder that Jesus preached and lived forgiveness and reconciliation up to his last breath. Richard Rohr says forgiveness reveals three types of goodness: *“When we forgive, we choose the goodness of the other over their faults; we experience God’s goodness flowing through ourselves; and we experience our own goodness in a way that almost surprises us. This is an awesome coming together of one flow of power, both human and divine, at the same time.”*

Diary Dates

Sun 13 September – Sat 19 September

10am Mass in the church.

Wed 16 September

6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall

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Private prayer in church Monday – Friday

Trish or Rob can light candles for you at these times.


For this week the times are below:


Mon 14/9	Tue 15/9	Wed 16/9	Thur 17/9	Fri 18/9
12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm

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 The Bishops have advised that we may take the Eucharist to the sick and housebound which will include those of you who have not felt you are able to return to Mass yet. If you would like to receive communion (with Covid safety uppermost all the time) please let Trish know and she will make arrangements.

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NO MICHAELMAS FAIR  this year. However our jam and chutney makers are offering their produce as usual and hope that parishioners will

enjoy a taste of autumn 2020.  Donations will go to Sisters of Charity and Diapalante’s education in Senegal. At present I have:

- Apple and blackberry jelly
- Czar plum
- Bullace plum
- Fig and Rhubarb
- Greengage with a hint of chilli
- Greengage and ginger
- Red tomato chutney



Suggested donation of £2. Delivered to your home call (01462 632587) or can be collected from Pam Brannigan, 1 Abbis Orchard, Ickleford. SG5 3TN.

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Our Lady School Admission evenings at the school

- Thursday 15th October 5:30pm
- Wednesday 4th November 5:30pm.
- **Stay and play session** - Saturday 17th October 10am-11am

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Guidance on gatherings

The change in government guidance beginning on Monday 14 September has raised many questions about acts of public worship and our activities.

It is important to recognise that the 'Rule of 6' applies to social gatherings and not to acts of public worship, work and structured educational and catechetical activities.

Acts of public worship continue according to earlier guidance. The number of people attending Mass must respect the capacity of the Church with social distancing and face coverings. Within the rule of 6, households of six may sit together (e.g. 2 grandparents, 2 parents and 2 children). Note also from the guidance, "If you live in a household with more than 6 people, you can continue to gather in and attend all settings together. This same applies for your support bubbles. All venues should continue to accommodate groups larger than 6 who live together or are in the same support bubble to gather in and use their services and venues." This is an opportunity to enable people to gather.

The maximum number of people allowed to gather for a life-cycle event in the church; baptisms, weddings, funerals remains at 30.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing>

The guidance permits liturgical, catechetical and educational activities to continue.

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First Reconciliation & Holy Communion 2021

If your child just started year 3 at school then it is time for them to start their sacramental preparations for preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and receiving The Eucharist for the first time. You are invited to a parents meeting to

find out more information about the programme and to meet the other parents.

Please can you complete the form at the following link to confirm your attendance.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ev868oUFaUGcVaeAS3KojTvYPSULSZIMopf72JMPX3FURUxNTTJRT0NSNEIJTFIVN1A3TIRIUk5CUS4u>

TIME:1900

DATE:Monday 28th September 2020

VENUE:Church

On the evening Rob Hitchcock will hand out an application form to gain more details. The point of the meeting is to answer any questions that you may have and to go through what a session will look like.

The banner features a pink top section with six speaker portraits: Sonia Livingstone, Beeban Kidron, Josh Golin, Nandini Jammi, Pedro Hartung, and Tim Kasser. Below the portraits is the 'global action plan' logo. To the right, the text reads 'Kids for Sale? Children & Digital Advertising' and 'Webinar 15 September 2020, 3pm - 4:45pm'. The bottom section is blue and features the 'Air Pollution Calculator' title, a pie chart showing 'Leisure Travel', 'Commuting', and 'Wood burning stove', and the 'Clean Air Hub' logo.

For details of both please go to <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/season-of-creation/>

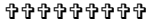
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London Jesuit Centre courses

- **Theology and Covid** – a series of three online panel discussions from the Catholic Theological Association, with audience participation, on the impact of Covid on the life and practice of the Church.
- **Retreat in Daily Life** – each month we are offering an online retreat over the course of a week. These retreats are individually guided with optional workshops on prayer.
- **Theology and Poetry** – an online course with Kate Banks on the ways in which theology is expressed in poetry, with practical examples and exploration.

- **LJC Book Club** – continues with a new book and discussion session each month.

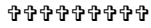
You will find information on these and other LJC courses and events, regularly updated, on our website: www.londonjesuitcentre.org.



CAFOD online meeting **Saturday**
just one world **19th Sept at 10am** All are

welcome to join CAFOD online next Saturday 19th Sept from 1030 to 12. During the meeting you will hear from Maria Gonzales, head of international development. Maria will update you on how your support of CAFOD is helping poor communities overseas tackle even more challenges in light of the Coronavirus Crisis.

Email Tony Sheen tsheen@cafod.org.uk for details of how to register. Please continue to pray for the communities we are working alongside overseas.



New ceiling in hall and for a moment we get a

glimpse of the roof.
Old ceiling removed



New insulated ceiling



fitted with LED lighting



Impacted by Furloughed, made significant reduction in

Through grants, funding and donations to you and your family. We have an individuals buy food with a supermarket

It is simple to apply:

Send an email to foodprovision-hitchin@wilshere
You can download the form from www.hitchinpar
essential details; we can call you back if you need

We do have some criteria:

- Living in Hitchin or surrounding Hitchin vill
- Hitchin Food Provision are providing support Credits/Benefits and Free School Meals or
- If you have been furloughed, become unemployed have significantly reduced hours.

What happens next?

You will receive a reply to your email within 48 hours supermarket e-voucher.

Hitchin Food P

We encourage you to speak to your child



George Andrew Be...
College here in H...
Nottingham in 194...
transferred to Salfo...
to 44.H...
auxiliary |...
Liverpool.



Faith Development H

If you (or someone you know) want to chat about your faith or have a lost ring

07398821315

Tues/Wed/Thurs 8pm-10pm.
Confidential service provided.
No need to identify yourself

aspects
to grow (...)
generous



If you have a need for prayer, please
and let her know your

Parish Priest Fr Tom O'Brien
07547 171570

Assistant Priest Fr Euloge Kasine
07424 004647

Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders cherylsaunders@
Pastoral Assistants Robert Hitchcock roberthitchcock@
Trish Bonnett trishbonnett@rc

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



