



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 1909

19th – 26th September 25th 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: [Is 55:6-9](#), [Phil 1:20-24.27](#), [Matt 20:1-16](#)

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Psalm **The Lord is close to all who call him.**

Next week: [Ez 18:25-28](#), [Phil 2:1-11.27](#), [Matt 21:28-32](#)

Ramblings Anything that Jesus says or does in the gospels raises questions. What is he trying to tell us? Why did he do that and in that way? Why did he not do it on another day? The stories that Jesus tells, stories we call parables, are told because there is a lesson to be learnt. The scholars will not all agree on an interpretation but the wiser ones will agree that there is more than one way of understanding them. The story about the workers in the vineyard throws up a number of questions. What if Jesus is simply trying to tell us that there is more than one way to look at life and how to live it. We can live it for the reward but the story suggests that this is not always the best option and we will end up being disappointed. If the first set of workers worked out of gratitude for having work and not idling away the day, they would have responded differently. Being paid would have been icing on the cake. Maybe Jesus is simply saying don't compare your life with that of others. For this, too, will leave you disappointed, thinking that others are much better off than you are. In other words, Jesus challenges us to think outside the box. Living with gratitude, with a desire to help others, with a charitable and generous heart, will bring its own sense of fulfilment. What happens down the line becomes less important. Living in God's way is its own reward. However difficult or however challenging it may be, we will discover an inner happiness and peace better known as the presence of God. The difference between now and the afterlife is the experience of God's presence now is intermittent but, in the next life, that presence will be continuous and we will all share in the love and glory of God together, which is what we want!!

Diary Dates

Sun 20 September – Sat 26 September

10am Mass in the church.

Wed 16 September

6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall

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 21/9	Tue 22/9	Wed 23/9	Thurs 24/9	Fri 25/9
12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm

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Are you wanting to know what's it all about? Do you feel called to become a Catholic? Have you been Baptised already but may not have received the Eucharist or Confirmation? Then you are invited to search for the answers at our RCIA group who meet in the church on Wednesday evenings 7.30-9.00 pm to explore the answers to the questions that you want to know. Contact Rob Hitchcock for details at roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk.

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Home- made Chutney, Jam and Marmalade

Our parish preserve makers are offering a wide range of their delicious comestibles this month with all proceeds going to the Sisters of Charity and Diapalante's education centre in Senegal. Greengage with ginger is now completely sold out but new this week is Derek Shipman's famous treacle marmalade, hot from his preserving pan. The full list is as follows:
Red tomato chutney Bullace plum
Apple & blackberry jelly Czar plum
Fig and rhubarb Fig and orange
Greengage with hint of chilli

Derek's Treacle marmalade.

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

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Our Lady Catholic Primary School will be holding personal Socially distanced tours for families with children starting Reception in September 2021. Tours will be held on Wednesdays and will begin on Wednesday 21st October. A member of the senior leadership team will give each family a personal guided tour of the school which will be held from outside of the school building. You will be able to visit the Reception classes exciting new outside learning environment and talk to the experienced staff about what the school has to offer. For more information and to book your tour please contact the school office on 01462 622555 or alternatively email admin@ourladys.herts.sch.uk

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Current needs for stewards and cleaners

Date	Time	Role	No?
Saturday 26/9	9.30am	Steward	1
Monday 28/9	9.30am	Steward	1
Tuesday 29/9	9.30am	Steward	1
Tuesday 6/10	9.30am	Steward	1
Saturday 10/10	10.40am	Cleaners	2

We need a permanent steward on Saturday mornings for Mass at 9.30am and from 20th October a steward on Tuesday morning at 9.30am. If you are able to help with any of the

dates above and even occasionally on the teams who do it regularly, please let Trish know asap.

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Journeying with the Bible is a series of lectures given by Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz PhD and Sr Monica Cardona STL as part of the celebrations for 'The God Who Speaks' Year of the Word 2020.


For full details of talks to come and recordings of those which have been delivered click on <https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/evangelisation/the-god-who-speaks/journeying-with-the-bible/> *Journeying with the Bible is now online!* To register for any of the talks, please contact Catadmin@rcdow.org.uk

- 29 Sept Pentateuch
- 13 Oct Historical Books
- 27 Oct The Prophets
- 10 Nov Poetry and Wisdom in the Bible
- 24 Nov Major themes of the New Testament
- 12 Jan 2021 The story of Jesus according to Mark, Matthew and Luke
- 26 Jan John
- 9 Feb Paul
- 23 Feb Catholic Letters
- 9 Mar Apocalypse


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Can you help? A parishioner highlighted a need in this article from The Comet: <https://www.thecomet.net/news/fundraiser-launched-for-six-week-old-baby-lily-1-6828305> If you want to help please click on the below <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-baby-lily>

	Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding. Albert Einstein, 1879–1955, Nobel Physics laureate
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	Fr Vincent Murrin was only thirty when he died but his few years of ordination were very apostolic. He was appointed to the Becket School at Nottingham where he taught history. He was well known on the sports field and particularly helped with school cricket. The neighbouring parishes profited from his weekend help.
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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 196 Growing in Conjugal Love - A love that reveals itself and increases In the family 'three words need to be used. I (Pope Francis) want to repeat this! Three words: 'Please', 'Thank you', 'Sorry'. Three essential words! (Address to the Pilgrimage of Families during the Year of Faith 26 October 2013)
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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/
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Parish Administrator Cheryl Saunders cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk	Pastoral Assistants Robert Hitchcock roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk Trish Bonnett trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk	
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 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
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