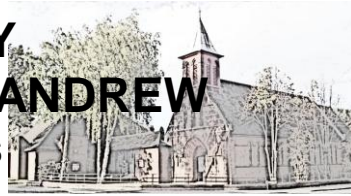




CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

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 1910

26th September – 3rd October 2020 - 26th 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: Ez 18:25-28, Phil 2:1-11, 27, Matt 21:28-32

Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgment, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Psalm: **Remember your mercy, Lord.**

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: **Hear our Prayer!**

Next week: Is 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Matt 21:33-43

Ramblings We could summarise Jesus story this week as *the boys who changed their minds!* How often have you changed your mind about something? Surely, it is all part of being human. St Augustine who was a prolific speaker and the author of many writings wrote his *Retractions* towards the end of his life. We would even recognise it as a sign of greatness that a person stand-up and admit they were wrong about a belief they held in their earlier days. The present government will go down in history as the one that changed its mind so often that people were unable to believe anything they were told. It is one of the reasons why people find it hard to come to an agreement, not only because the other person may change their mind but because you might change your mind. One of the reassuring features about Jesus was that he did not change his mind. He set out to fulfil his Father's will and stuck to it through thick and thin. The reason being that his love for his Father and his love for us was all encompassing and empowered him to stay on the path. In living our faith, we take difference paths, some lead us away from our true purpose, but it is the love of God and neighbour that eventually brings us back to the right way. Even when our love is weak and seemingly unable to bring us back, Jesus' love steps in, which is why, as St Paul wrote "*Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are . . .*" However faltering, however fearful, however frail we may be in saying yes to God, or even if we say no to God, God never gives up on us, never changes his mind. We were clothed in Christ in baptism and although that white garment was removed, we remain always in the embrace of Jesus. Call on him and Christ will be there with a love that stirs your hearts to sing and dance a YES!

Diary Dates

Sun 27 September – Sat 3 October
10am Mass in the church.
Wed 30 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. This week the times are below: 

Mon 28/9	Tue 29/9	Wed 30/9	Thurs 01/9	Fri 02/9
12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm	12-1pm

**AFFIRMING THE VISION AND PRACTICE OF ACTIVE NONVIOLENCE
AT THE HEART OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**
A PROJECT OF PAX CHRISTI INTERNATIONAL



Catholic Nonviolence Days of Action Making active nonviolence our way of life in the Church and the world

This week is the start of a series of events on the theme of nonviolence, beginning Saturday 26th September, ending Friday 2nd October. It is in support of the Catholic Nonviolence Days of Action project which runs from 21st September to 2nd October. Our list of events is as follows:

Saturday 26th Introduction to Week & Getting to Know Nonviolent Jesus, 15:30 – 16:00, in the church & livestreamed on facebook.

Sunday 27th, World Day for Refugees, Display in the porch.

Monday 28th, Peace Pilgrimage/Remembering Hitchin Conscientious Objectors, 18:30 to 19:00

Tuesday 29th, Peace Crane Workshop, 11:30 – 12:30, in the church,

Wednesday 30th, Women in Black Silent Vigil, 12:30 – 13:30 & 17:00 - 18:00

Thursday 1st October, Season of Creation Ecumenical Prayer Service, 19:15 – 20:00 in the church & livestreamed on facebook.

Friday 2nd, International Day of Nonviolence – Celebrating the Heroes of Nonviolence, 12:00 – 12:30, in the church & livestreamed on facebook. It is essential that we have an idea of numbers so please contact Ann at email address oliasah-peace@famma.info for further information.

We aim to have a number of displays on different themes and we invite parishioners to submit material for these if they wish - email Ann at address above. More details can be found on the Nonviolence page of the parish website.

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The items listed below are the Harvest Festival 2020 requirements for the foodbank:

*Biscuits *Cereal Bars *Tinned Fish *Sweets *Dried Milk *Dried Potatoes

If you would like to donate UHT Milk please choose full fat.

They have sufficient stocks of: Pasta, Soup, Beans and Tinned Vegetables

You can bring donations to the church porch between 9.30-10.30am Mon-Sat and 12-1pm Monday-Friday. The foodbank can accept donations from 10am-12pm on Tuesday and Fridays.

Current needs for stewards and cleaners

Date	Time	Role	How many
Monday 28/9	9.30am	Steward	1
Tuesday 6/10	9.30am	Steward	1
Sunday 4/10	11am	Cleaner	1
Friday 9/10	10.40am	Cleaner	1
Saturday 10/10	10.40am	Cleaners	2

We need 1 person to join the cleaning team on Tuesdays 3pm 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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Caritas representative and parishioner Liz Wills (who is also the project manager for Feed Up Warm Up) needs **volunteer drivers** for the **food delivery service** they have bringing food to families in need in the Hitchin and Letchworth area from our scout hall. 4-5 drivers are needed every Thursday between 3.30-4.30pm to deliver 4 parcels each. If you are able to help please contact Liz on **07877 902313**.

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Fr Tom was sent a track **Strange Days** by Robbie Williams and the Struts which he liked. He thought you might like to look at it too. Click on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HfFjTjn-5vA>

 Brother Augustin Billart was an Edmundian but joined the Assumption when we took responsibility for St Michael's College. He was a sick man who died in 1929 and is buried at St Johns in the Edmundian grave.

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 197

Growing in Conjugal Love - A love that reveals itself and increases in our families when we are not overbearing and ask: 'May I?'; in our families when we are not selfish and can say: 'Thank you!'; and in our families when someone realises he or she did something wrong and is able to say 'Sorry!', our family experiences peace and joy (Angelus Message, 29/12/2013)

 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 Pastoral Assistants Robert Hitchcock Trish Bonnett	cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk 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