



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS

(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)



Newsletter No 1911

3rd October – 10th October 2020 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A the gospel according to Matthew

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

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

Entrance Antiphon: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Psalm: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Intercession: We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord, hear us!

Next week: Is 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14, 19-20, Matt 22:1-14

Ramblings Sunday is also the feast of St Francis of Assisi and marks the closure of the Season of Creation celebrated throughout September. In the Gospel Jesus clearly states that *the Kingdom of God will be taken from you*. Because we have so mistreated and abused creation, destroying so much of it, we will lose it for good!!! The theme of creation will continue to loom ever larger in our lives. It is no longer a state of urgency but of high emergency or as David Attenborough says “*in grave jeopardy*”. What is even more important however, is our utter failure to recognise the true gift of life that is being offered, Jesus Christ. In misusing our planet deplorably, we have treated it as Jesus was treated, and not only will we lose our planet we will lose all chance of life. Do we just turn away in despondency and despair? Give up? Bury our head in the sand? Or, as David Attenborough suggests, take positive steps to be less wasteful, place greater value on all we possess, cease to be a throw away generation? More positively, we can work much better together, as a family, parish or local community, as a nation. Covid-19 is not the enemy of one or two nations but of every nation in the world and it is going to take a global effort to overcome it. We must build a future in which nations work together supportively. This will not only overcome and eradicate the virus but help us better fight poverty and injustice. Peace will be desired and war anathema. We can develop a world that is more wonderful than it ever has been in the past. The motto that springs to mind is “*When the going gets tough, the tough get going!*” Or as St Paul wrote to the Philippians: “*fill your minds with*

everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Then the God of peace will be with you . . .” and with creation!!

Diary Dates

Sun 4 October – Sat 10 October

10am Mass in the church.

Wed 7 October

6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall

Private prayer in church Monday – Friday



The take up of private prayer has been limited. We are suggesting now that if you want to come to the church to pray that you give Trish or Rob a ring (**01462 459126 press 4**) and if we are there we can open up for you then. This will be after 11am and most days til 4.30pm. There are some times in the afternoon that the church will be closed for cleaning.

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Bundle up You are advised to wear warmer clothes when coming to Mass – we have not turned the heating on as we need to confirm the risks of having the warm air circulating in the church at the present time. As Mass is only 30 minutes hopefully this will not be too unpleasant for anyone and we will get the heating on as soon as we have confirmed we can.



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Updated Covid guidance from the Bishop's conference Priests in Catholic churches that are safely able to do so celebrate Mass, whilst

complying with the government's social distancing requirements.

The government has announced that face coverings have to be worn in places of worship unless a person has an exemption from this.

As of 28 September 2020, an additional consideration is the 'Rule of Six' and a change in the number of people permitted at what the government terms 'life cycle events' – celebrations such as weddings. This has affected baptisms which can now have only 6 people (not including the priest or stewards etc) if they are outside of a Mass. We can still have 30 people at a funeral but only 15 at a wedding.

Our church-related coronavirus guidance is kept up-to-date. You can find all details on our parish website

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/coronavirus-information-and-updates/>

or at the Bishop's conference webpages

<https://catholicnews.us6.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8bfb372c271fbad8a971552fb&id=fb15751224&e=9bcf1b6342>

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Update on Mass attendance w/c 27/9

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			19	18	21	43

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Current needs for stewards

Date	Time	Role	How many
Tuesday 6/10	9.30am	Steward	1
Tuesday 13/10	9.30am	Steward	1
Friday 23/10	9.30am	Steward	1
Friday 30/10	9.30am	Steward	1

And from 20th October a permanent 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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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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Applications for admissions at John Henry Newman and Our Lady's School for September 2021 You will require an Certificate

of Catholic Practice to go with your applications. In the past you have had meetings with Fr Tom to discuss this. Under the current circumstances we are suggesting that if you require such a certificate that you email trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk with details of your child - name and a photo, copy of their baptism certificate, and your name and address so we can confirm your details on the parish database. Fr Tom will contact you if necessary and can then supply the required form.

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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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CAFOD Family Fast Day Online Mass this Friday 9th October 6pm

You are invited to join CAFOD online this Friday 9th October in prayer for those affected by COVID 19 in developing countries and in thanksgiving for our supporters here in the UK. For further information see our web page <http://cafod.org.uk/fastday>

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Family Fast Day this Friday 9th October

This week our parish is marking CAFOD's Family Fast Day to help people facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis. We've all felt the impact of this terrible disease – let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal. Please pray for all those affected and donate online at cafod.org.uk/give. You can also give easily via text. Text CAFOD to 70085 to donate £10.

[Please also add in slightly smaller type]: Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text CAFODNOINFO to 70085.

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Bible Timeline Course – Mauro Lannicelli offers an online Special Introduction for Parishes to the acclaimed *Bible Timeline – the Great Adventure*, on 8th October at 7pm. To register for this Special Introduction, please contact Warren Brown at Catadmin@rcdow.org.uk The

Introduction will be followed up by a 12-week online course. For further information see website: <https://comeandsee.uk.net/>

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DIAPALANTE FUNDRAISER : Cross the world to Africa and joins Master P in Senegal as he buys ingredients, prepares and serves Chicken Yassa, a traditional Senegalese dish. Visit Virgin Money Giving and search for 'Master P's Cookery Class' for joining details or to donate. Please join us on Sunday 11th October at 7.30pm and enjoy this glimpse into Senegalese life if you can.

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Home-made Chutney, Jam and Marmalade:

Our parish preserve makers have added two new jellies to their range. All donations go to the Sisters of Charity and Diapalante's education centre in Senegal. The full list is at follows:

- *Red tomato chutney *Apple & blackberry jelly
- *Apple & wild plum jelly *Hedgerow jelly
- *Czar plum jam *Bullace plum jam
- *Fig & rhubarb jam *Fig & orange jam
- *Greengage with a hint of chilli
- *Derek's treacle marmalade.

Suggested donation: £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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50 year old male looking to rent a room.

Budget £300.00 pcm

contact E: annbryce16@gmail.com or

M: 07890162867

Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England or the Catholic Church in England and Wales. For full details go to <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/safeguarding/safe-spaces-project/>

BeeZee Bodies run an award winning healthy lifestyle programmes around Hertfordshire for kids and families, funded by Hertfordshire County Council. Due to COVID, they are now offering sessions online.

Families can log on to weekly webinars to make healthy lifestyle habits, together as a family. Each week covers topics such as healthy snacking, balanced meals, portion size and physical activity. The webinars are fun and interactive, with games and quizzes, and prizes to be won! A team of family nutritionists are experts at engaging children around healthy eating and fun exercise, and can help turn healthy behaviours into good habits for life!

The course of webinars lasts for 12 weeks and starts w/c 5th October (a choice of times/days are available). All programmes are free for children aged 5-15 living in Hertfordshire (eligibility criteria applies). For details contact Amina@beezeebodies.co.uk or go to www.beezeebodies.com



Father Germer Durand was one of the first generation of Assumptionists. He is remembered particularly for his excavations on Mount Sion in Jerusalem leading to the present pilgrimage site of St Peter in Gallicantu recognised as the place of the house of the High Priest and where Jesus was interrogated.

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 198

Growing in Conjugal Love - A love that reveals itself and increases

Let us not be stingy about using the words 'Please', 'Thank You', 'May I', and 'Sorry', but keep repeating them, day after day. "The right words, spoken at the right time, daily protect and nurture love.

 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

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roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk } 01462 459126 press 4
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