



# 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 1912

10<sup>th</sup> October – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Ramblings** It is hard to think of the Eucharist as a banquet. Yet, a banquet unfolds in a formal way, according to strict guidelines as each course is presented at the right moment. There may even be background music and formal speeches. It is generally a thanksgiving celebration to mark some success, to honour someone, a wedding, even a baptism, or a special birthday. There are similarities to the Passover meal which follows a strict pattern and unfolds rather formally. It, too, is a thanksgiving celebration, a celebration of freedom from slavery. In all these celebrations, people are called to be together but, unlike a banquet which is restricted to the chosen few, the Eucharist is open to everyone without exception. Just as music can set the tone of a celebration, music helps create the liturgical mood of the eucharist. The eucharist is always a celebration of thanks, of gratitude for what Jesus has done, and is doing for us. Even in a funeral we thank God for the life of person to be buried. The host of the Eucharist is Jesus Christ, and, although we gather to give him thanks, he seeks to bless us for accepting his love and the life he has won for us. He wants to be fully part of our lives so he gives us his body and blood in the form of bread and wine. It is important that we gather together as a community, as a family. In fact, the more the merrier, because a party of one or just a few people is not such a joyful celebration. Pope Francis: *"The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace."* *"The Eucharistic Celebration is much more than a simple banquet: it is the memorial of Jesus' Pascal Sacrifice, the central mystery of salvation. Memorial does not simply mean a remembrance, a mere memory; it means that every time we celebrate this Sacrament we participate in the mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of Christ."*

**Readings:** Is 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14.19-20, Matt 22:1-14

**Entrance Antiphon** If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

**Psalm:** In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

**Intercession:** Lord hear us

**Response:** Lord, graciously hear us!

**Next week:** Is 45:1.4-6, Thes 1:1-5, Matt 22:15-21

## Diary Dates

<b>Sun 11 October – Sat 17 October</b>
<b>10am Mass in the church.</b>
<b>Wed 14 October</b>
<b>6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall</b>
<b>Thurs 15 October St Teresa of Ávila</b>
<b>Sat 17 October St Ignatius of Antioch</b>

**Heating update** We can pre-heat the church and then will have to turn off the heater fans before people come into the church. We also have to keep the windows open and the doors to ensure we ventilate the church. So although we will be heating the church it may not feel so and you are still advised to wear warmer clothes when coming to Mass. As Mass is only 30 minutes hopefully this will not be too unpleasant for anyone.



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## Update on Mass attendance w/c 27/9

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
67	28	33		19	27	

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## Current needs for stewards

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



We pray for **Harry Goodwin** whose funeral is on Thursday 15 October 2020 at 11.30am and for **Patricia May Shelley** whose funeral is on Thursday 15 October 2020 at 2pm. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

May the Lord comfort their families.



Living simply and sustainably: Keep your tyres properly inflated and get better fuel economy. You can reduce your carbon footprint 20 pounds for each gallon of petrol saved. Better still, get an electric car.

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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](mailto: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 a 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](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:admin@ourladys.herts.sch.uk)

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**Adult Faith formation opportunities**

For details of the many on-line courses and sessions provided by the Diocese (many of them free) please click on [Adult Faith Formation](#) which provides details of what is available.

**Thank you** all for your continued generous offerings and donations to our Church especially during these unprecedented times. If you complete a gift aid form for one off donations or for Mass Intentions, please could you make sure the form is signed. If there is no signature, we are unable to claim the Gift Aid on that particular donation. Many thanks.

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**Hitchin Food Rescue Hub** which had to be suspended at the beginning of lockdown, is now up and running again. It takes place at The Half Moon Pub in Queen Street Hitchin every Thursday morning from 9.30 to 11.00. The usual restrictions - masks, distancing etc - will be in place and there won't be refreshments as before. Surplus food from supermarkets is being collected again and will be available. All are welcome to go along.

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**Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer**

Natalie Noble of Walsworth Road Baptist Church drew our attention to this major initiative in the Birmingham area and she has kindly provided the link if you would like to know more.

[https://youtu.be/67YCSs\\_SAwQ](https://youtu.be/67YCSs_SAwQ)

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**Hitchin Forum's Big Autumn Clean-up October 18th 2020 Registration**

The Autumn Clean-up will (all being well) take place on Sunday October 18th 2020. Due to the corona virus, arrangements will be different from what they have been in the past. Let's hope that we will be able to go ahead.

If you would like to organise a team of up to 6 people (including yourself) please register by clicking on [Big clean up](#) by 10th October (earlier if possible).

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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 **15<sup>th</sup> October at 7-7.45pm**. (changed from last week) To register for this Introduction, please contact Warren Brown at [Catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:Catadmin@rcdow.org.uk) The Introduction will be followed up by a 7-week online course. To register for main course go to <https://comeandsee.org/registration.html>

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**OCTOBER DEVOTION** at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden. Sunday 11th October 7pm, Rosary, Homily – Br. Andrew Brookes OP, & Benediction. Music sung by the Shrine Singers: Ave Verum & Tantum Ergo – Faure, Laudate Dominum- Perosi, Salve Regina- Solemn Tone. Livestream on [parish.rcdow.org.uk/Willesden](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/Willesden) or on Facebook: Willesden Shrine.

**The Passage** To commemorate 40 years of their charitable work and the homeless people they have supported during this time, The Passage will be launching a very special cookbook, A Taste of Home with a Foreword from HRH The Duke of Cambridge, and exclusive recipes from over 100 household names including: Nigella Lawson, Sir Paul McCartney, Stephen Fry, Yotam Ottolenghi, Diana Henry and many more. The book will also include stories and recipes from people who have been helped by the charity's services over the years, shining a light on the challenges that they have been able to overcome with the right guidance, opportunities and resources.

**A Taste of Home** is priced at £25 and can be pre-ordered at Waterstones, or purchased online and from other book stores from 15 October, to coincide with The Passage's anniversary month. All profits will go directly towards supporting people who are street homeless and in housing crisis during a particularly testing financial time for so many.

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You may be aware that the Equality Act 2010 requires all public services to publish information showing how they meet their responsibilities under the Act. To help fulfil this responsibility 'Policing Hertfordshire for everyone' has been made available in many public places. It can also be viewed online on the Constabulary Website at: [www.hertspolice.uk/ph4e](http://www.hertspolice.uk/ph4e).

**Benslow Music** is looking for people to join its hospitality team as soon as possible. It is running residential music courses, concerts, other events and also provides bed and breakfast accommodation throughout the week.

You will be: over 18, able to combine all aspects of housekeeping, food and beverage service, willing to work flexible hours (by negotiation) to meet the needs of the business. Rates of pay dependent on experience. If you are interested, please apply by email to [tim@benslowmusic.org](mailto:tim@benslowmusic.org)

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**Help protect babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot.** Sadly abortion is currently available in the UK, right up to birth, for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All of these conditions can be corrected. A cross-party group of MPs from the three largest parties in the UK Parliament have come together to bring forward the Abortion (Cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK.

Can you help with getting your MP to support the Bill? Please visit [www.standupandsmile.org.uk](http://www.standupandsmile.org.uk) to email your MP asking them to support the Bill. It only takes 30 seconds.



This week we remember Fr Columba O'Leary. who joined the Assumption in 1936 and was ordained at Hitchin in 1945. He spent most of his religious life in parish work and as spiritual leader to our Assumptionist pilgrimages. In fact it was on pilgrimage at Fatima that he died in 1990. He is buried at St John's Cemetery.

### **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 199**

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

The daily protecting and nurturing of love in marriage occurs through a process of constant growth. St. Thomas Aquinas: "Charity, by its very nature, has no limits to its increase, for it is a participation in that infinite charity which is the Holy Spirit...(Summa Theologiae II-II q 24, art 7.)



If you have a need for prayer, please contact **Mary** on **07759195487** and let her know your prayer intentions

<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	<b>Assistant Priest</b>	Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647	<b>Parish</b> <b>01462 459126</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/">https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Cheryl Saunders	<a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>	}01462 459126 press 4 }	
<b>Pastoral Assistants</b>	Robert Hitchcock Trish Bonnett	<a href="mailto:roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk">roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>		
	This week's counting teams: <b>Sunday Team: Monday Team:</b>			If you are going into hospital please notify the Chaplain on Tel: <b>01438 285519</b> or Email: <a href="mailto:spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net">spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net</a>