



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS



(of the Augustinians of the Assumption)

Newsletter No 1937



Daily Mass at 10am is open to the public and is livestreamed on [Livestream Mass](#) and posted to the homepage of the parish website by 11.30am daily. If you can come another day please leave Sunday for those who can't.

3rd – 10th April 2021 – EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD - Year B

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: Acts:10:34,37-43,
Col3:1-4, John 20:1-9

**Psalm: This day was made
by the Lord; we rejoice and
are glad**

**Next week: Acts 4:32-35, 1
John5:1-6. John 20:19-31**

Ramblings



Celebrating the triduum last year was close to heart-breaking without the presence of the parish family. It was like trying to clap with one hand and celebrating something on one's own. And yet, the celebration offered the comforting promise of New Life and Hope in the future without any indication of when that would be. A year has passed - a year in a wilderness that was extremely difficult for many. The promised light this year, however, is so much brighter. It reassures us that resurrection has dawned, albeit more slowly than on that first resurrection. It comes with all the promise, exultation and heartfelt joy of the first. John O Donohoe aptly describes the resurrection promise as follows:

The promise to each of us is that we will never be called to walk the lonely path of suffering without seeing the footprints ahead of us which lead eventually over the brow of the hill where Resurrection awaits us. Behind the darkness of suffering, a subtle brightening often manifests itself. Lines from a poem by Philippe Jaccottet echo this: "Love, like fire, can only reveal its brightness on the failure and the beauty of burnt wood." There is consolation and transfiguration here. The fires of suffering are disclosures of love. It is the nature of the lover to suffer. The marks and wounds that suffering leave on us are eventually places of beauty. This is the deep beauty of soul where limitation and damage, rather than remaining forces that cripple, are revealed as transfiguration. John O'Donohoe

St Augustine: "And he departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here."

May the Resurrection reveal the staggering beauty that you are!

Diary Dates

Sat 3 April
7pm Easter Vigil (space available)
Sun 4 April Easter Sunday
10am Mass (Fully booked)
12pm Mass (space available)
Mon 5 April – 10 April
10am Mass in the church.
Wed 7 April
6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall

Mass attendance over the past week

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
23	86/25*	24	24	NK	60	98/22*

*livestream attendance



Last year we could not celebrate our Triduum together. Thanks to everyone who has helped to make our Holy Week services happen this year so that as many parishioners as possible have been able to take part bringing us to the joy of the resurrection.

Thanks to:

- The MCs for setting up our services
- The Ministers of the Word for reading
- The Eucharistic Ministers for helping the priests with communion.
- The Stewards for helping people access the church safely
- The Cleaners (foggers!) who keep our church clean and safe for us to worship in.
- The Choir and music groups who have been recording the music for our services remotely and those who have put the tracks together.
- Cheryl, our Administrator for managing the booking process.
- Rob for his help in so many ways technical and practical.
- Fr Tom, Fr Euloge and Fr Andrew for celebrating these services with us.
- Our parishioners for taking part in our services both in the church and online.

We are truly blessed with our parish community.



As we are gradually moving more confidently along the roadmap outlined by the government for our return to normal functioning we will start thinking about introducing more Masses at the weekends. To enable us to do this we will need MCs, Readers, Ems, Stewards and Cleaners for

each Mass we introduce. We will be sending out a survey soon seeking what our parish wants and how it can help open us up again to more Masses. Please do take the time to complete it with your views.



The next **Marriage Preparation course** in this parish is on **Saturday 17th April**. This will be delivered via Microsoft TEAMS.

The course will start at 10am and the course will run until 3pm. To book a place please email [CatholicMarriagePrep](mailto:CatholicMarriagePrep@rcdow.org.uk) with your full names (both parties). We are able to take 25 couples on this course. The fee is £50 per couple.

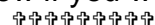


We pray for **Peter Docherty** whose funeral is on **Wednesday 7 April 2021** and for **Valerie Burkin** whose funeral is on **Friday 9 April 2021**. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. May the Lord comfort their families.



Steps to Pentecost Starting April 13th at 7pm we have a series of reflections on the readings between Easter and Pentecost.

The sessions are about 30 minutes. This will be on Zoom and details will be given next weekend. Please let Trish know if you would like to join in.



CAP Job Club starts a new course online on Wed 21st April at 10am – 12 noon. Job club is an eight-week course, exploring various job search techniques in a fun and fulfilling way. It covers motivation, strengths and weaknesses, CVs, Cover letters, Interview skills and volunteering.

Anyone interested, please contact Leigh Smith at lsmith@capjobclubs.org or 07931 833838.



There were a number of provinces in Europe but today we are all members of a single European province. The outstanding work is done in Paris with the daily newspaper La Croix a number of magazines and the monthly prayer aid Prions en Eglise. Elsewhere in France there are two houses for the elderly and sick as well as welcoming houses where young people are able to have an experience of community life while finishing their studies.



AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 225 *Passionate Love - The world of emotions*

Experiencing an emotion is not, in itself, morally good or evil. (Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologiae-II, q24 art 1). What is morally good or evil is what we do on the basis of, or under the influence of, a given passion.



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