



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS



(of the Augustinians of the Assumption)



Newsletter No 1942

8th May – 15th May 2021 – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year B the gospel according to Mark

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.

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: : 10:25-26.34-35.44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17

Psalm: The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations. Alleluia!

Next week: Readings: Acts 1:15-17.20-26, 1 John 4:11-16, John 17:11-19

Ramblings Jesus says plainly “*What I command you is to love one another.*” This can seem odd since that is what we want to do anyway: to love others and to love God. The command implies that this is so important it is key to life and how we live that life. What is so uplifting and reassuring in the Gospel is that we are called friends - friends of Jesus. Society once believed that love of friends was possibly the single most important thing in a person's life and they celebrated the fact. Throughout history, discourses and sermons have been written in praise of friendship. Jesus reminds us that God made friendship and that he chose his disciple to be his special friends. Friendship is not “mere” friendship, not a second-best; still less is it a repressed substitute for erotic love. It is a love in its own right, powerful, holy, overwhelming and all embracing. A world with Eros but without friendship is a world full of isolated, self-obsessed couples, of love unshared – a sad thing indeed. Let us foster friendship. Let us accept it as a true and passionate gift of God. Let us accept it in others without reading anything else into it. Let us rejoice if it is given to us and be glad if it is given to others. Jonathan loved David not because of what he could get out of him, but because he was David: let us celebrate this motiveless love of others. It is an echo of the pure love of Heaven. We not only ought to love everyone like that but we **want** to love everyone like that.

A friend in need is a friend indeed © Bea Williams

Friends are far, friends are near.
Friends will be there to lend an ear.
They listen, laugh, and care,
but most of all, they're always there.

Through thick and thin, up and down,
your true friends are always around.
For treats, hugs, and real big smiles,
they'll travel to you from several miles.

They'll always be there to hold you tight.
No matter, anytime, day or night.
You really know when your friends are sincere
for they always show up to lend their ear.

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Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians 9 May 2021

Heavenly Father, we pray today for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East. By your heavenly grace, strengthen the faith and hope of Eastern Christians. May they be blessed with peace and prosperity in their lands. And may we be inspired by their devotion and witness to the Gospel, by their love and compassion for all in their communities, and by their courage, endurance and self-sacrifice against oppression. Through their charity, tolerance and friendship, bring peace and reconciliation to those troubled lands, where Christianity was born and first spread. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



www.facecharity.org

Mass attendance over the past week

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
28	82/24*	23	21	33	21	19

*livestream attendance

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The next Churches Together in Hitchin Council will be held by Zoom at **8.00 pm on Tuesday 18th May.**

Diary Dates

Sun 9 May – Sat 15 May
10am Mass in the church. Day of prayer
Sun 9 May Day of prayer for Eastern Christians
Wed 12 May
6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall
Thurs 13 May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>
Fri 14 May <i>St Matthias</i>

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Time to Talk Online Workshops

Tuesday 11th May 10 -11.30am

Wednesday 13th May 2 - 3.30pm

To support Dying Matters awareness week 10 - 16th May 2021 we have designed a shorter **Time to Talk** workshop aimed at helping you to begin to think about, talk about and plan for last wishes at the end of life.

Join our workshop and let us help you start the conversation.

At the end of the workshops, members of the **Anne Robson Trust** Team will remain available online to chat further should any participants wish to continue the conversation. The Dying Matters movement wants to make sure that you and your loved ones are in a good place to die. **#InAGoodPlace** For more information [visit](#) To book click [Book a place](#)

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Thy Kingdom Come - 13th-24th May 2021 Pray with Christians across the world each day between Ascension and Pentecost. Pray for 5

people you know to come closer to the Lord. Pray for our families. Pray for those who have lost touch with the Church. Pray in any way you can. Check out www.kingdomcome.global for downloadable resources and ideas including Catholic daily prayer, a novena, Journey with Mary podcast and a prayer journal. New for children this year: Cheeky Pandas videos. Share your stories on social media, add #TKCBedsHerts, and let's get everyone praying Thy Kingdom Come.

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St Richard Reynolds Primary School is recruiting for a KS2 Primary School Teacher. Please visit our website for more information: <https://www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/our-college/work-at-srr>

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For a larger print version of the below advert go to [Job Vacancies](#)

Job Advert

P/T Project Manager for Catholic Listeners Telephone Helpline Service

A unique opportunity to be part of the planning and management for a new helpline service in the Diocese of Westminster as part of the Landings Programme for Returning Catholics. This part-time role will become a full-time position once funding has been secured in early 2022. You will project manage and be responsible for

Policy Documents
Volunteer recruitment and training
Commissioning a telephone call system
Managing the Telephone Helpline
Funding Applications

The successful candidate will have experience of managing others as part of a team and a strong knowledge of and enthusiasm for promoting the Catholic faith

Submit Expression of Interest and request for Job Description, Person Specification and Application Form by **14th May 2021** to Fr. Dominic Robinson SJ at landingsuk@gmail.com



It was only in 1987 that our first Assumptionist foundation was made in East Africa. Today there are eight houses in Tanzania of which five are parishes, one is study house, one a novitiate and the other a residence. In Kenya there is a study house, a parish and a pre-novitiate. There is also a parish in Uganda. We ask Almighty God to continue to bless this work for the coming of His Kingdom..



AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 230 *Passionate Love - God loves the joy of his children*

Training in the areas of emotion and instinct is necessary, and at times requires setting limits. This does not mean renouncing moments of intense enjoyment, but rather integrating them with other moments of generous commitment, patient hope, and struggle to achieve an ideal. Family life is all this, and it deserves to be lived to the fullest. (Thomas Aquinas, Summa Theologiae-II, q32 a7)



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

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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