



# 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 1957

**21<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> August 2021 – 21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 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.

**Ramblings** This week we are invited to make a choice for God or not for God. In making the choice for God, the following two reflections may help: “*What God most longs to discover in us is our willingness to embrace ourselves as we are at our beginning – empty, little, and poor. Our willingness gives God free space within us to work out the Divine Plan. ... Our potential for greatness is tremendous. Acceptance of our littleness makes it possible for our greatness to emerge. Our littleness is not a choice. It is simply the way we are. Our greatness, however, is a choice. When we allow God to fill our emptiness, we are choosing greatness. This is our story! It is a glorious story. We are little and great. Both aspects must be embraced if we are to discover our true selves. In owning our littleness we come to discover our greatness. They are two gifts that become one when they are understood and owned. A lack of understanding of these gifts can lead only to frustration and denial of our true selves. If we become preoccupied with our littleness, it can lead only to discouragement. If we become preoccupied with our greatness, it can lead only to disillusionment.*” Macrina Wiederkehr

“*There are two moments that matter. One is when you know that your one and only life is absolutely valuable and alive. The other is when you know your life, as presently lived, is entirely pointless and empty. You need both of them to keep you going in the right direction. ...The first such moment gives you energy and joy by connecting you with your ultimate Source and Ground. The second gives you limits and boundaries, and a proper humility, so you keep seeking the Source and Ground and not just your small self.*” Richard Rohr

### Mass Times

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am

Monday – Saturday 10am

Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am

during Exposition. All Masses are  
[livestreamed Livestream Mass](#)

**Readings :**[Josh 24:1-2.15-18](#), [Eph 5:21-32](#), [John 6:60-69](#)

**Entrance Antiphon:** Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

**Psalm:** **Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

**Intercession:** Lord hear us

**Response:** Lord graciously hear us!

[Deut 4:1-2.6-8](#), [James 1:17-18.21-22.27](#), [Mark 7:1-8.14-15.21-23](#)

### Diary Dates

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| <b>Sun 22 Aug – Sat 28 Aug</b> |
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| <b>10am Mass</b> in the church |
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| <b>Tue 24 Aug</b> <b>St Bartholomew</b> |
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| <b>Wed 25 Aug</b> |
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| <b>6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall</b> |
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| <b>Fri 27 Aug</b> <b>St Monica</b> |
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| <b>Sat 28 Aug</b> <b>St Augustine</b> |
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| <b>Baptism</b> 2pm – Nathan Galita |
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We urgently need parishioners to help as MC and set up for 10am Mass on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday mornings. It is a simple task but of enormous help to our priests. If you come to any of these Masses and can arrive at 9.30am to do this please email or speak to Trish asap. Training is provided.



News from our Pilgrim Ann Milner who is riding imaginary horses to Banbury Cross with the COP26 Climate Pilgrimage. She started from Oxford on Monday, and expects to arrive in Birmingham this coming Monday. God bless all who are raising awareness of this issue as they walk.

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**The Christian Bookshop, 69 Leys Avenue Letchworth Garden City needs a Trainee SALES ASSISTANT** to start September 2021 6.25 hours per week on Saturdays. National minimum wage applicable. There may be occasional extra hours to cover absences. For Job description and application form email [cbstaylor69@gmail.com](mailto:cbstaylor69@gmail.com) Closing date: 1

SEPTEMBER 2021. For further details contact:  
Chris Foster on tel. 07909591875



**Message from CAFOD**  
who is responding to  
multiple emergencies and  
significant crises across the world this week. You  
can read more on the CAFOD website:  
<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>.

Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.

On Saturday 14 August, a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti. More than 1900 people have been killed and at least one million more people are affected. Tropical storm Grace has now hit Haiti, exacerbating the already serious emergency. CAFOD is working through the local Church organisations, Caritas Haiti, the Jesuit Migrants and Refugees Service, the religious congregations and sister agency Catholic Relief Services to provide urgent humanitarian aid - food, water, tents, hygiene kits and first aid for families affected.

In Afghanistan, we are shocked and gravely concerned by the Taliban take-over of the vast majority of the country. The generosity and compassion of our Catholic community have allowed us to stand together with communities in Afghanistan since the 1980s, supporting local organisations committed to improving the lives of

vulnerable and marginalised people. As you will appreciate, the situation in Afghanistan is uncertain and changing rapidly. Our Emergency Response Team are assessing how best to respond. We are doing everything possible to ensure the immediate well-being of local partners and the communities they serve. Please keep the people of Afghanistan in your prayers.

We are also responding to serious food shortages in Africa – in Ethiopia's Tigray region, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. We have committed £500,000 already to get food and clean water to hundreds of thousands of people. With further support local aid workers will be able to scale up their response to reach more women, children, men, the elderly and people with disabilities with the food they urgently need.

Thank you for your solidarity, your prayers and your support for CAFOD's work across the world. We share this prayer with you in this time of crisis.

*Loving Lord, for those who have died, give them eternal rest. For those who are bereaved, comfort and console them. For those who are hurt, heal and strengthen them. Lord God, enable us to help our suffering brothers and sisters in whatever way we can. Heavenly Father, be with us now and always. Amen.*

**SAVE HITCHIN GREEN BELT** is a petition to save the Hitchin Green Belt and protect our local environment from increased pollution and traffic congestion. To sign go to [SIGN HERE](#)



Nations are quite capable of starving every other side of life ... education, sanitation, housing, public health, everything that contributes to life, physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual, in order to maintain their armaments. *G. Lowes Dickinson, 1862–1932, British political scientist and philosopher*



Last Sunday we celebrated the Assumption of Our Lady. A word of thanks to all who sent their good wishes and encouraged us in our work here at Hitchin. Please continue to pray for the Assumption family (Sisters and Fathers) and all who collaborate in our apostolate worldwide.



**AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 245** *Passionate Love - Marriage and virginity*  
Others remain unmarried because they consecrate their lives to the love of Christ and neighbour. Their dedication greatly enriches the family, the Church and society. Virginity is a form of love." Relatio Finalis 2015, 22.

**Safeguarding reminder** EduCare (now part of Tes) leaflets can be downloaded from our website at <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/diocese/safeguarding-in-our-parishes/>



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

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| <b>Parish Priest</b><br>Fr Tom O'Brien<br>07547 171570 | <b>Assistant Priest</b><br>Fr Euloge Kasine<br>07424 004647 | <b>Parish 01462 459126</b><br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a><br>Website: <a href="https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/">https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/</a> |
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| <b>Parish Administrator</b><br>Cheryl Saunders | <a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>   |
| <b>Pastoral Assistants</b><br>Robert Hitchcock | <a href="mailto:roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk">roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk</a> |
| Trish Bonnett                                  | <a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a>       |

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| <br><b>Sunday Team:</b> | <br><b>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> |
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