



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS

(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)



Mass Times

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am

Monday – Saturday 10am

Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am
during Exposition. All Masses are
livestreamed [Livestream Mass](#)



Newsletter No 1957

21st – 28th August 2021 – 21st 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

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

Sun 22 Aug – Sat 28 Aug
10am Mass in the church
Tue 24 Aug St Bartholomew
Wed 25 Aug
6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall
Fri 27 Aug St Monica
Sat 28 Aug St Augustine
Baptism 2pm – Nathan Galita

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 Closing date: 1

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

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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

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