



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 1958

28th August – 4th September 2021 – 22nd 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.

Readings : Deut 4:1-2.6-8, James 1:17-18.21-22.27, Mark 7:1-8.14-15.21-23

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

Psalm: **The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: Hear our Prayer!

Next Week: Isaiah 35:4-7, James 2:1-5, Mark 7:31-37.

Ramblings When Jesus was asked about the Law, he said Love God and Love your neighbour. There are 653 Laws in the Jewish faith written as a guide to help people do just that: Love God and Love Neighbour. In the Church Code of Canon Law, each Law was preceded by a theological explanation to explain what the Law was about and how it could help you live your life better. The catechism of the Catholic Church is similar, each question is preceded by an explanation that leads to an understanding of the *spirit* with which the question and its answer could be lived. How we understand love is filled with paradoxes. Love is God's gift to us. It is an inherited power that opens us to God and to neighbour, encouraging us to reach out and embrace them. Love has power over us rather than the other way round. Jesus came to teach us the spirit of the Law and the Commandments, whose sole purpose is to help us discover how important love is in our mission of service, in the way we live our lives and in all our relationships, including our relationship with God. Jesus clearly describes the evils that can come from within us, from our hearts. But, virtues and gifts of goodness, kindness, tenderness, patience, tolerance, gentleness, generosity of heart, forbearance, choosing justice and peace, harmony and balance, and so many more good qualities also come from within, from the heart. Focusing on these positive qualities or even some of them, leaves very little room for the evils and destructive spirits to work in us.

"Beauty is not in the face; beauty is a light in the heart."

"Ever has it been that love knows not its own depth until the hour of separation." Khalil Gibran

"God's love is boundless and knows no limit."
Pope Francis

Diary Dates

Sun 29 Aug – Sat 4 Sept

10am Mass in the church

Sun 29 Aug

Baptism 2pm Leonardo Maurello

Tues 31 Aug **No Eucharistic service**

Wed 1 Sept

2pm Funeral Mass for Viola Suma.
May she rest in peace and rise in glory.
May the Lord comfort her family. Please
note there are no longer any restrictions
on numbers attending funerals.

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6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall

Fri 3 Sept **St Gregory**

Sun 5 Sept

10.30am First Sung Mass with choir The congregation are encouraged to join in with the singing – the Bishops have advised we must wear masks at Masses with singing. Please help yourself to a hymn book as you come into Mass. There will be singing at this Mass from this time forward.



At present the 8.30am Mass will have no singing but we are grateful to Mike O'Neill for playing the organ. We wanted to offer a Sunday morning Mass with no singing for those who are not comfortable yet with being in church with singing

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3.30pm Healing and Wholeness service in the church! Parishioners who feel the need for these gifts are invited to share in this time of prayer, during which the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing will be celebrated in a safe format. This will also be livestreamed for



Sun 5 Sept cont

those who are not able to be with us. If you have a need for prayer or want us to pray for others in need please let Trish know and they will be included.

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Have you pondered on questions you may like to ask? Are you an adult who has not been confirmed yet? If so, why not come along to a **RCIA** (rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) session starting on Wednesday **15 September 2021** at 7.30pm until 9pm in the Emmanuel Centre. For more details, please contact Rob Hitchcock at roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk or on 07862 764884.



We shall shortly be starting our **First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion programme** for children and their parents. The first meeting will be for **PARENTS ONLY** on Tuesday **21 September 2021 at 7pm** in the Hall.

Counting – We are not yet able to resume Sunday counting, however, we have resumed “Monday” counting (which includes the Offertory money) and we need some help making up the counting teams so that it doesn’t come around too soon. If you can help by counting on a Monday or Tuesday morning please can you let me know and copy in Cheryl so that she can make up the teams. Counting usually takes an hour max and



is done before, during or after the 10am Mass depending on the preference of those involved and if enough people sign-up it should be once every 6 weeks. Thank you in advance.

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A Parishioner is urgently looking for self-contained accommodation to rent - ideally a one bed roomed property –will consider other options. If you know anyone who can help, please let Trish or Cheryl know. Many thanks in advance.

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Covid 19—a very challenging time for many

marriages. So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings different challenges. Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage ...and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you!

For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing **24th October 21st 2021** Call or text 086 8211795.

Email: info@retrouvaille.uk – or visit www.retrouvaille.uk

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Looking for a challenge? This year's **Bike 'n Hike** is on Saturday 11th of September between 9am to 5pm. If you would like to take part, please visit www.b-n-h.co.uk to find details of participating churches and chapels.



The Church has just celebrated the feasts of St Monica and of her son Augustine. Augustine was baptised at the age of 33. He wanted to live a quiet life in community. In fact he was ordained despite his wishes and became bishop of Hippo. He is one of the doctors of the Church and his writings have had a great influence on Church teaching. We should distinguish him from St Augustine of Canterbury apostle of the English sent here by St Gregory the Great.



AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 246 *Passionate Love - Marriage and virginity*

Virginity encourages married couples to live their own conjugal love against the backdrop of Christ's definitive love, (both) journeying together towards the fullness of the Kingdom.

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