



# 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 1960

11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – 24<sup>th</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** It is good to be reminded in no uncertain terms of the depth of Jesus' love us, for all of us, with no exceptions. Let us be clear! Jesus did not accept the suffering of the Cross to show his love for us, no. It is because Jesus loves us so much that he was willing to go to any lengths to bring us healing and wholeness. Let us also remember that Jesus could have walked away from the suffering at any moment he chose. He did not. Hopefully, as we offer our thanks to Jesus, to his Father and to the Holy Spirit, we also want to thank our parents for the sacrifices, and caring they gave us as we grew up. Because of their selflessness, generosity and desire to nurture us both physically, spiritually and as a family, we were taught how to love by example, by action rather than by words as St James writes. It is a holy and wholesome thing that we will have all of eternity not only to express our thanks to Jesus but also to our parents.

**A family is like a circle.** The connection never ends, and even if at times it breaks, in time it always mends.

A family is like the stars. Somehow, they're always there.

Families are those who help, who support and always care.

A family is like a book. The ending's never clear, but through the pages of the book, their love is always near.

A family is many things. With endless words that show who they are and what they do and how they teach you so you know.

But don't be weary if it's broken or if through time it's been so worn.

Families are like that - they're split up and always torn.

**Readings :** Isaiah 50:5-9, James 2:14-18, Mark 8:27-35

**Entrance Antiphon:** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.  
**Psalm:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living. Alleluia!

**Intercession:** Lord hear us

**Response:** Lord graciously hear us!

**Next Week:** 2:12.17-20, James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37

But even if this happens, your family will always be.

They help define just who you are and will be a part of you eternally. (Nicole M. O'Neil)

## Dates for diary

**Mon 13 Sept – Sat 18 Sept**

**10am Mass** in the church

**Sun 12 Sept**

11:30am-3.30pm **Party in the Square** begins with an open air service at 11:30 then there will be church stalls, BBQ, inflatables, prayer tent, music and much more. There is a harvest stall and you are invited to bring any produce which will be distributed through Feed Up Warm Up.

**Mon 13 Sept St John Chrysostom**

**Tues 14 Sept No Eucharistic service**  
**Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

**Wed 15 Sept Our Lady of Sorrows**

**6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall**

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**7.30pm-9pm RCIA** 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 in the Emmanuel Centre. For more details, please contact Rob Hitchcock at [roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk) or on 07862 764884.

**Thurs 16 Sept Sts Cornelius & Cyprian**



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. For details and application form please go to [First Holy Communion Programme](#)

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Our first **Coffee after Mass** will take place on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September** after the **10.30 Mass**. The parish council are delighted to welcome you all into the hall after the Mass to have coffee and cakes and see what the food provision teams have been up to. Please do come along.

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### Church gardening Saturday 18th September

The next gardening session is planned when we hope to build on the good progress we have achieved over the last couple of sessions. We are a friendly group who will be glad to welcome any new volunteers. We will be operational from at least **9am - 12 midday** but will be happy to see anyone arriving within that time and for as long or short a time as you can manage. Mary McCreedy will once again kindly provide welcome refreshments at around 10.45am. Thank you very much for your help.



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### No Michaelmas Fair again this year.



However, the parish jam, jelly and marmalade makers have got out their preserving pans and are offering a range of delicious spreads for your toast, scones and crumpets.

On offer are:

- Derek's treacle marmalade;
- Four fruits marmalade;
- Seville orange marmalade;
- Quince and orange marmalade;
- Greengage jam;
- Greengage and ginger jam;
- Greengage with a hint of chilli;
- Rhubarb, orange and ginger jam;
- Hedgerow fruits jelly;
- Sloe, apple and elderberry jelly.

A donation of £2 is suggested and all proceeds go to a range of charities including the Sisters of Charity and Diapalante's education centre in Senegal. Contact Pam Brannigan 01462 632587 who will deliver the produce. Thank you.

### Other dates

The Saint John Henry Newman School warmly invites parents of Year 6 pupils to an **Open Evening** on Thursday 30th September, from 5.30 – 8.30 pm. Prospectuses and Application Forms will be available on the evening and there will be three



opportunities to attend the Headteacher's address at 6pm, 6.45pm and 7:30pm. There will be opportunities for parents to view the School the following week. The last tour will be at 7pm and the school will close to visitors once the final Headteacher's address starts at 7:30pm.

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**Sunday 19th September Hitchin Vaccine Thank You Service** The Rev Charmaine Sabey-Corkindale and friends at St Mary's are holding a Celebration and Thank You Service for the staff and volunteers of the Hitchin Vaccine Rollout. This will be held at St Mary's Church, 5pm to 6pm pm. Great hymns and music are promised! All are welcome to join in the appreciation for this significant achievement in our community.

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**Wednesday 22nd September CAP Job Club** starts again 10am-12 noon. If you know of anyone looking for work, we run an 8-week course you can just turn up at Zeo Centre Bedford Rd, Hitchin SG5 1HX and receive help and support with job searching. For more info contact: [ismith@capjobclubs.org](mailto:ismith@capjobclubs.org)/ mobile 07931833838

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**Wednesday 22nd September** The next **CTH Council** will be held in our Church Hall. It will begin at 7.30 pm with the annual update from Phase about its work in our schools, then from 8pm to 9pm we will hear about plans for the future, including new ventures - a Community Larder and 'A Little Theology Group'. All are welcome at what will be our first face-to-face meeting for over a year. We also hope to stream it for those who cannot attend - more details next week.

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### Wednesday 29th September 2021

**THE BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE** Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this **FREE OF CHARGE**, worldwide-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli.

Eight Wednesday sessions (7pm-8:40pm).

Info & Registration: [www.comeandsee.org](http://www.comeandsee.org)

#### The Bible Timeline Course



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**Friday 1st October 1.30 pm World Day of Prayer Service** in St Mary's Church Hitchin. This is normally held in March but delayed due to Covid restrictions. The theme of the service this year is Build on a Strong Foundation and was prepared by the women of Vanuatu. Historically



this service was for women. Now it's for all. Do come and make it a joyous occasion as we lost the one in year 2020. Further information Ann Howard 01462 452500.

### Other items of interest



**Bishop's Open Letter on Assisted Dying Bill** Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

has written an open letter inviting Catholics to pray for the defeat of the Assisted Dying Bill to be debated in the House of Lords in October. It encourages them to write to peers at the House of Lords stating the reasons why they oppose this legislation and particularly explain from personal experience the reasons why this change in the law should be opposed. It urges discussion and communication about this important matter. Click here to [Read The Letter](#)

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**Story of a Font** When the original church became the Hall in 1977, various items were made available for a donation to members of the parish. The font was taken into safekeeping by Denis Watts who looked after it until his death last year. Through the good offices of Fr. Andrew, who kept in touch with the family, it was brought back from Sussex by John and Frances Chamberlain. A very heavy load in the back of the car!

With much ingenuity and effort by John and John Scott it was unloaded and stored until recently. Helped by more apparatus and the added muscle power of Ian Phillips and Mark Gardner, the font was finally installed last month in the parish garden.

Many parishioners were baptised in it until 1977, including Fr. Andrew, who blessed it in a quiet ceremony which included these words; *Heavenly Father, we ask you to bless all those once baptised in this font. May it now be a permanent reminder of our own baptism and the consecration to Your service through that sacrament. We ask this through Our Lord, Amen.*

For the full picture story go to the website at [The Old Font](#)



(Fr E d'Alzon) The reign of God the Father in the universe, the reign of God the Son in the Church, the reign of God the Holy Spirit in souls; such is it seems to me, the central idea which must inspire the Assumptionist family.



**AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 248** *Passionate Love - Marriage and virginity*

Each spouse becomes 'one flesh' with the other as a sign of willingness to share everything with him or her until death.

**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

<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	<b>Assistant Priest</b>	Fr Euloge Kasine 07424 004647	<b>Parish</b> 01462 459126 E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/">https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Cheryl Saunders <a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a>	<b>Pastoral Assistants</b>	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>	01462 459126 press 4



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](mailto:spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net)