



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 1962

25th September – 2nd October 2021 – 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B

Prayer: Lord help those striving to protect the earth, our common home. May God strengthen us all in our work to heal the planet. Inspire us to be guardians of the precious gift of creation. We pray especially for the work of CAFOD and the communities they support. Make us healers of Creation that we may in turn be blessed by the earth. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Readings : Num 11:25-29, James 5:1-6, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgment, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.
Psalm: **The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.**

Intercession: We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear us!

Next Week: Gen 2:18-24, Heb 2:9-11, Mark 10:2-16

Ramblings (Green Christians). Beaver numbers have more than doubled in Scotland in the last three years to around 1000 animals, according to a NatureScot survey [August]. The survey has not only found that beaver numbers have increased, but that the population is in rapid expansion. As the population grows, it is likely to expand into Loch Lomond. Robbie Kernahan, Director of Sustainable Growth said: *"Wildlife has been declining in Scotland so this extensive survey which reveals an increasing beaver population is great news for nature in Scotland. Beavers play a vital role in creating and restoring wetlands where other species can thrive, reducing downstream flooding and improving water quality"*.

New funding from the UK government is helping save critically endangered, unique wildlife and fresh water supplies on the UK Overseas Territory of St Helena, one of the most remote inhabited islands on Earth. St Helena's ancient cloud forest is extremely important for wildlife with at least 250 species found nowhere else on the planet... St Helena rises out of the south Atlantic, 2,000km off the coast of West Africa. Clouds cloak the mountains in a protective blanket, creating a unique habitat for species that exist nowhere else in the world: daisies have evolved into large trees, blushing snails, and woodlice glow under UV light. It holds one-sixth of the UK's unique wildlife. The mist-shrouded mountain peaks provide most of the drought-prone island's fresh water.

Lord God Creator, send us your Spirit to resist the deep sleep of hopelessness and stay awake to hear your love filled commands. Help us grow into what you have made us to be, carers and stewards of creation and so proclaim the infinite goodness of your loving creation. Help us weep with you when we experience your

sorrow. Help us act on your behalf when called to resist the shadows of rebellion against you and your Way. Pour down your Holy Spirit upon us so that we will live, sing and shout your praises with all creation.

Diary Dates

Sun 26 Sept

All Masses will be said by Fr Tom and will focus on the Season of Creation.

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11.15am Coffee will be served after 10.30 Mass for the first time since the start of the pandemic. Please do pop into the hall after Mass.

Mon 27 Sept – Sat 2 Oct

10am Mass in the church

Tue 28 Sept

7pm Eucharistic Service – Please join us to consider the readings for next Sunday and pray for our needs and those of others. We share communion under both kinds in a covid safe way. We will still offer this as a Zoom at the same time. Click on [Eucharistic Service](#)

Wed 29 Sept

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? Come along to a RCIA session in the Emmanuel Centre. For more details, please contact Rob Hitchcock at roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk or on 07862 764884.

Wed 29 Oct Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

Thurs 30 Sept St Jerome

Diary Dates cont

Fri 1 Oct St Thérèse of the Child Jesus
Friday 1st October 1.30pm St Mary's. The World Day of Prayer The theme, chosen by women in churches in the Pacific island nation of Vanuatu, is Build on a Strong Foundation and the service includes prayers and music from that part of the world. All are welcome to be part of what has been called 'the largest ecumenical time of worship in the world!'
Sat 2 Oct The Holy Guardian Angels
10am in Hall Session 1 of the First Holy Communion programme for children at non-Catholic schools. For more details, please contact Rob Hitchcock at roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk or on 07862 764884



Help needed in church

Stewards If you are attending Mass at the weekend, and could arrive 30 mins early for Mass we could really do with your help to steward in the porch - welcoming and taking details for track and trace purposes. This is relevant to the 6pm Sat Mass and Sunday 8.30am and 10.30am Masses.

We have a great team of people who are helping at the moment but I could really do with some more help so people don't have to help so often. If you could help occasionally please let Trish know asap as she is compiling the next rota now. Full details of what is required are available.

Cleaners We need people who will help clean the church on a Saturday morning. This will consist of:

- Sweeping and mopping between the pews
- Dusting the church and eliminating cobwebs
- Vacuuming the church
- Washing the porch floor

Ideally we want teams of 3-4 people so the work can be done in less than an hour and would need to be complete by 9.30am on a Saturday morning. (Alternatively it could be after 11.30am on the Saturday if a group of people preferred this time)

If you can help with either of these needs please let Trish know asap.

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Marriage Preparation The next Marriage Preparation course in this parish is on **Saturday 30th October 2021**. This will be delivered in person. The course will start at 10am and the course will run until 4pm.

To book a place please email

catholicmarriageprep@outlook.com with your full names (both parties). The fee is £60 per couple.

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Lift needed to Mass A new parishioner who is living in the Churchill retirement Flats on Wratten Road West needs a lift to Mass at 6pm on a Saturday evening. Is anyone who regularly attends this Mass able to give her a lift? If so can you please let Trish know asap and contact details can be shared. Thanks in anticipation.

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Our first prayer and hymn service at Milford Lodge went very well. 14 residents came to pray and sing with a Harvest theme focus. In October we will resume Masses there but it is likely that they will only be for residents at the present time.

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A decision has been made not to take up second collections during 2021 due to the difficult 18 months regarding the pandemic. However, you may of course wish to make donations direct to the charities involved.

CAFOD's local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. This Family Fast Day, donate online through the CAFOD website [CAFOD](https://www.cafod.org.uk) and help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. You can also add your voice to our online petition calling for our Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis, [cafod.org.uk/climate](https://www.cafod.org.uk/climate). And thank you for your generosity to the emergency appeals to support our sisters and brothers in crisis in Afghanistan and Haiti. You can read more about CAFOD's response at [cafod.org.uk/emergencies](https://www.cafod.org.uk/emergencies).

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Terracycle news alert: Pet food pouches are made up of a complex mix of materials which are costly to separate and recycle. This is why you

can't put them in your normal local council recycling bin. Terracycle solve this issue by partnering with brands like Mars Petcare, who have covered the costs of collecting, sorting and processing the waste.

Unfortunately, Mars Petcare will no longer be sponsoring The Pet Food Recycling Programme and as such, their programme will be closing on Wednesday 1st December. However, Mars Petcare remains committed to the development of flexible plastic recycling infrastructure in the UK and for more information about other ways they recycle pet food pouches, please see: <https://gbr.mars.com/flexible-plastic-recycling>

For more information on the initiative, please visit <https://flexibleplasticfund.org.uk>

And to find out where your local collection point is, please visit [Collection points](#)

Our last collection date for **Pet food pouches** will be **Sunday 10th October**, after that we will no longer be able to handle them.

From Michael and Deolinda - Thank you to all that have supported us over the last few years and helped us raise funds for the Marine Conservation Society.

Now for the Good news!

We have been approved to become recycling site for the new recycling waste stream sponsored by WARBURTONS! The Warburtons Bakery Recycling Programme and the Warburtons Wax Wrap Recycling Programme. Please use the same red bin that is currently used for general bread loaf bags. We can start collecting:

Any brand of plastic bread bags and closure tags.

Any brand of bakery plastic packaging (e.g.: trays, zipper bags, packs)

Warburtons ONLY branded Wax Wrap packaging

(Waste NOT accepted: Bread paper bags, combined paper and film window bags, any other brand Wax Wrap)

The funds raised from these products will be for the Parish's Hardship Care Fund / Foodbank

See the website for full details of all recycling items. [Recycling in the Parish](#)

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 Head-teacher's address at 6.00pm, 6.45pm and 7.30pm. There will be opportunities for parents to view the School the following week.

The last tour will be at 7:00p.m. and the school will close to visitors once the final Head-teacher's address starts at 7.30pm

Meetings with Fr Tom for Admission to John Henry Newman School. All admission applications for Catholic children require a Certificate of Catholic Practice and this year we are inviting people to meet with Fr Tom to discuss this with him. You can sign up for your meeting on the sheets in the church porch. **Dates 18-22 October with appointments from 4-6pm each**

day. You need to bring a photo of your child and their baptism certificate.

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Churches Together in Hitchin Theological Society St Mary's and CTH are starting a new venture - a once a month Theological Society to tackle issues relating to our beliefs in God. The Rev Charmaine Sabey-Corkindale, who has suggested the idea, comments: 'All are welcome to come and enjoy listening to speakers on various topics and participate in the discussions. It is an opportunity to challenge or confirm views and thinking on faith and life in the 21st century'. It will begin on **Sunday 10th October, 6.30 to 7.30 pm in St Mary's Church** when the theme, presented by a panel of speakers, will be 'What is theology?'. Themes for future meetings include 'The pursuit of happiness', 'Stars and bright sky - Science and faith' and 'Diversity in unity - disagreeing kindly'. Do come along to the first and try it out.

Other items of interest

NHDC 10,000 Trees Give Away this Autumn for residents to plant trees in their own gardens.

If anyone wants to plant a tree in their gardens they should contact NHDC at the email address [Green Space](#) and state if they would like a small, medium or large tree depending upon the size of area available. They will contact residents via their email address so the trees can be collected and planted promptly. This offer is open to anyone who is a resident of North Herts.





(E d'Alzon). "Prudent" sometimes means faint-hearted...Our faith must be bold, though some might call it foolhardy. Real prudence is the queen of the moral virtues; and a queen commands, acts, and if necessary, fights. Some have transformed prudence into a frightened old woman. Such prudence wears bed slippers and a dressing gown, has a cold, and coughs a lot. I want no part of conventional prudence. You must not heed such prudence. As far as I am concerned, I will always trust totally in God's Providence, even if I end up dying in a hospital abandoned by all!



AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 250 *Passionate Love - Marriage and virginity*

Secularisation has obscured the value of a life long union and the beauty of the vocation to marriage. For this reason it is 'necessary to deepen an understanding of the positive aspects of conjugal love'

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