



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 1964

9th – 16th October 2021 – 28th 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.

Ramblings The rich man in the Gospel was not a bad man, he probably lived a very good life caring for others. He just couldn't go the whole way. Rather than decide whether to give up your wealth or not, focus on the riches Jesus offers. Riches unobtainable with money. Pope Francis talks about dirtying our hands, mixing with the sheep, immersing ourselves in the lives of those we serve. *"True charity requires courage: Let us overcome the fear of getting our hands dirty so as to help those in need."* Time and again scripture reminds us that people must come first in any decision-making concerning the community. Facing an imminent threat, caused by our abuse of the resources of the world, we must change the way we live. **Laudato Si** calls us to *heed the cry of the earth* but also *heed the cry of the poor* - millions suffer because of our abuse of the earth and its resources. This is why Jesus pleads with us to help the poor, those living in countries suffering from drought, famine, lack of water and lack of resources. Putting people first must be the major principle behind any decision made by COP26 (taking place in Glasgow, starting 6th November). COP stands for the **C**onference **O**f **P**arties. Formed in 1994, this is their 26th meeting. From being considered a fringe issue, Climate Change has now become a global priority. Giving away all his wealth was too radical for the Rich Man but Jesus gave him a choice. We will never know if, later on, he did in fact do what Jesus asked of him. We are faced with a radical decision about the future of humanity. However, the challenge we face, we face as a society, as a country, a group of countries, as a world. Turning lights off when we leave a room may save the minutest amount of electricity. If 7 billion people all turn their lights off on leaving a room, a vast amount of electricity will be saved. Every little effort you make is **key**.

Readings : Wis 7:7-11, Heb 4:12-13, Mark 10:17-30:

Entrance Antiphon: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

Psalm: **Fill us with your love that we may rejoice.**

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: Hear our Prayer!

Next Week: Is 53:10-11, Heb 4:14-16, Mark 10:35-45

Let us save humanity! Let us save our world!

Diary Dates

Sun 10 Oct
10.30am Baptism during Mass of Emily Igie *****
6.30 to 7.30 pm CTH Theological Society in St Mary's Church theme, presented by a panel of speakers, will be 'What is theology?'
Mon 11 Oct – Sat 16 Oct
10am Mass in the church
Tues 12 Oct
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 offer this as a Zoom at the same time. Click on Eucharistic Service
Wed 13 Oct
10.30am – Praise Group - Hall *****
6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall *****
7.30pm-9pm RCIA EC meeting room
Thurs 14 Oct
6.30pm – Meditation – EC Meeting Room
Fri 15 Oct St Teresa of Avila

Our next Baptism Preparation will be at 10am on Saturday 23rd October via Zoom. Please sign up online through the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/JnKhq6zYcK>

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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Our Lady Catholic Primary School Admissions Evening & Open Days

for Reception placements starting September 2022
Was your child born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August

2018?

Come along to our Admissions Evening on Thursday 11th November at 7pm.

You will be able to tour the school and hear from the Executive Head Teacher.

Bring your child along to one of our stay and play sessions on Saturday 13th and 20th November between 10:30am and 11:30am.

You and your child can explore our exciting learning environment, including our new outside garden and talk to our experienced staff about what we have to offer.

"The Catholic life of the school permeates the whole community in the outstanding opportunities it provides on a daily basis."

Catholic life of the school graded Outstanding
For more information and to book onto either the Admissions Evening or a Stay and Play session, please contact the school office on 01462 622555 or alternatively email admin@ourladysherts.sch.uk.

Meetings with Fr Tom for Admission to Our Lady 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 15-17 November with appointments from 4-6pm each day.** You need to bring a photo of your child and their baptism certificate.

Other items of interest

Priory Hitchin Rotary are collecting empty blister packs for recycling the foil and the plastic.



For every kilo of packs they receive £1. Money raised will be used for local charities. This keeps them out of landfill as well as going to a good cause. We

have a box in the porch for you to drop off your empty blister packs.

A young Italian/Ghanian man aged 23 named Godfrey is homeless and a North Herts College (NHC) student. Kit Davis, principal of NHC will pay £600 to anyone who can offer Godfrey a room for the next month. If you or someone you know is able to provide a room/flat please contact Donald (Built on Faith Bibleway Church) on 07737 451105.

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Celebration of Black History Month 28th Oct 12-4pm Westmill Community Centre



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Invigilators required ASAP at John Henry Newman school £8.91 per hour. Click [Invigilator](#) for details.

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Could you help a Stevenage Parishioner, a mother of two children, who has friends in our parish, raise the money needed for her treatment which is not currently funded on the NHS. She was recently featured in the Comet For details and how to make a donation please go to [Natalia Staniszc crowdfunding](#)



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The Passage a Catholic Charity working with homeless people has its annual opportunity to take up a public collection on the streets of the City of Westminster on Tuesday 19 October (from 7am to 6.30 pm). In order to make the most of

this opportunity to raise funds to support homeless people they need more volunteers on the day. Could anyone interested please contact Andrew Hollingsworth **020 7592 1886** (07928 703131) andrew.h@passage.org.uk

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Little Amal, a 3.5m puppet of a refugee girl, is walking from the border of Turkey / Syria to Manchester, 8000km, in search of her mother. On her journey she will visit Westminster Cathedral on **Monday 25th October at 2pm**, where she will be welcomed by Cardinal Vincent. You are invited to join Cardinal Vincent for this Welcome Liturgy and to learn more about migrants and refugees. It is during half term week, an opportunity for families to come together. Further information about Little Amal's journey is available at <https://www.walkwithamal.org/>



My name is Liz Wills, I am a parishioner and a Development Worker for Caritas Westminster which as you know is the Social Action Department of the Diocese of Westminster.

Since the beginning of the Pandemic in April 2020, our Parish in partnership with Feed Up Warm Up which is the local homeless charity that has been operating out of our Parish for nearly 3 years, decided we needed to respond quickly to the impact that the pandemic was having on families in our local community.

We teamed up with the school referral teams to address the need and identify families that had been directly and financially impacted by Covid-19. This resulted in the creation of the Hitchin Food Delivery Service.

My team of trusted volunteers who have been operating out of the parish hall every Thursday have made up and delivered over 3000 family parcels which have fed an average of 10,000 adults and children during this period.

We now feel ready to move from a Hand Out to a Hand Up model

Bishop Paul will be joining us on the **29th October** to open a **"My Local Pantry"** which is a wonderful franchise model designed by Churches Against Poverty. This is a new social supermarket which will be called the "Hitchin Pantry". It will provide healthy food and resilience

support to the local community. We will be operating out of Scout Hut twice a week.

Our Hitchin Pantry will run as a community shop, with members paying £4 a week to access at least £20 of fresh and nutritious food. Members will shop and choose their food with dignity and the Pantry will allow the community to pay in together to stretch their budgets further. This will help people to save up to £780 a year which can go towards paying off bills and buying necessities for their families. These savings, as well as the signposting to advice that the pantry will provide, will support people to become more resilient to shocks in their life and help them avoid falling into crisis situations.

Please see click to see the ["Social Impact"](#) report produced by My Local Pantry which will help you understand why we feel this is the right model to use.

Help Needed

The shop will be operating from the Scout Hall
Opening Days: Friday 2-4pm & Saturday 1-3pm

Volunteers needed:

- Set Up Teams & clear up teams including food and H&S checks
- Drivers to collect food from supermarkets, Fareshare & Felix Project
- Admin staff
- Sales Assistants
- Shift leaders

Donations needed:

- Regular monthly monetary donations
- Regular food donations (See below for list)

If you are interested in supporting or volunteering at the Pantry please email me directly. If you would like to volunteer please ensure that you let me know which role you are interested in and I will email you a volunteer application form.
hitchin@yourlocalpantry.co.uk

Food Donation List (in date)

- Family boxes of cereal
- Family bottles of squash
- Tins of tomatoes
- Jam
- Stock cubes/stock pots
- Packets of cheese sauce
- Pasta Sauces & Curry Sauces
- Hotdogs
- Tins of Tuna
- Tins of Corn Beef

- Tins of sweetcorn
- Custard
- Mayo, ketchup & brown sauce
- Enchilada & Fajita kits
- Biscuits, Crisps & cereal bars
- **Fresh Food**
- Fresh Eggs (free range)
- Fresh blocks of cheddar cheese
- Fresh sliced ham/chicken
- Cucumbers, carrots, broccoli, onions, peppers, cauliflower

If you are donating fresh food it will need to be dropped off on a Wednesday evening between 5-7.30pm or a Friday between 12-2pm so it can go straight in the fridge or contact me directly to arrange a drop off. I will put a box in the foyer for the ambient donations

For details of the Pantry click on [Hitchin Pantry](#)

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

GRAVE THE
SHAVE

About Donate to shavers Your shave Your profile Sign up



Before

Come back in
11 days
to see the 'after'!

After

£205.00

raised of £300.00 target

Donate



David Whittaker, parishioner and friend to many is **Braving the Shave** on 18th October for Macmillan Cancer support. Let's help him raise the money for his target. You can donate by clicking [Sponsor David](#) Pictures after the event will be posted in the newsletter after the event. Good luck David 🙌

Focus on past parish Priests Fr Wilfrid Manser was the first English Assumptionist. As a young boy he was an altar server before he was baptised. Appointed to Hitchin parish in 1932 he was parish priest until 1949 despite periods of ill health. Being from the East-end of London he was able to help the refugees during the blitz. Two of the stained glass windows in the parish hall are in his memory.




AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 252 THE TRANSFORMATION OF LOVE

If a couple can come up with a shared and lasting life project, they can love one another and live as one until death do them part, enjoying an enriching intimacy.

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	roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk }		
	Trish Bonnett	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		