



# 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 1966

23<sup>rd</sup> October – 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – 30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B

**Prayer for COP26** Loving God, we praise your name with all you have created. Present in the whole universe and in the smallest creature, we acknowledge the responsibility we have as stewards of your creation. May the Holy Spirit inspire political leaders at COP26 to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society. Instil in them the courage poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of our Common Home. We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

**Readings :** Jer 31:7-9, Heb 5:1-6, Mark 10:46-52

**Entrance Antiphon:** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

**Psalm: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad**

**Intercession:** Lord hear us

**Response:** Lord graciously hear us!

**Next Week:** Apoc 7:2-4.9-14, 1Jn 3:1-3, Matt 5:1-12

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

**Ramblings.** The cry of Bartimaeus is proclaimed to us every day and the cry is growing louder. Only it is not Bartimaeus but Creation which cries out to us - not for sight but for **Life**. Creation cries “*Have mercy on me! Have mercy on me!*” over and over and over again. This cry is not in vain since we have the power to give it life which is why we pray that world leaders at Cop26 will take the appropriate steps to allow us to live carbon neutral and eventually carbon negative lives. The current Synod calls us to live our most important dreams. One of them is to heal the planet of all the harm we have done to it so that it may flourish, grow and develop. The Earth speaks to us of harmony and balance, beauty and wonder. It is the greatest life network that could ever be created. A place where we can find peace and comfort, inspiration and hope. Where we can encounter God as a close, special and reassuring friend. How could we have lost sight of this great treasure??

*Loving Father and Creator we are deeply grateful for your creation. We are amazed at the greatness and majesty of all that you have made. Nature speaks of your greatness – the vast expanse of the sky, the mountains, trees, lakes and streams speak of your great design. You have given us enchanting beauty in the colours of the rainbow, the beauty of flowers and fields. Words cannot adequately express the magnificence of all you have created. With the psalmist we pray, “O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth.” May we show our love and reverence to you, Lord, by caring for all that you have created. Amen.*

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



## Diary Dates

<b>Sun 24 Oct</b>
2pm Baptism Finlay James Bennett
<b>Mon 25 Oct – Sat 30 Oct</b>
10am Mass in the Church
<b>Tues 26 Oct</b>
11.30am Meditation – EC Meeting Room ††††††††††
2pm Craft Circle – Scout Hall ††††††††††
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 <a href="#">Eucharistic Service</a>
<b>Wed 27 Oct</b>
6pm – Feed Up Warm Up – Scout Hall ††††††††††
7.30pm-9pm RCIA EC Meeting Room
<b>Thurs 28 Oct Sts Simon &amp; Jude</b>
6.30pm – Meditation – EC Meeting Room
<b>Fri 29 Oct</b>
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Launched Liz and her team will be in the Scout Hall to welcome Bishop Paul as he officially opens our Pantry. Please see below for donations required.



## 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

### **No Pasta please**

**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 There is a box in the porch area for other donations.**



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Trish attended the Cathedral last Saturday for the launch of the Synod in the Diocese. A copy of the Cardinal's homily is available at [Synod 2021](#) on the parish website. You can

find all the resources here as we receive them. The Pastoral team will be meeting on Wednesday to discuss how we can effect this 'Journeying together conversation' in our parish and will report back soon.

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**Our In Memoriam service** for those in our parish who have died in the past year will be held in the church on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm**. We weren't able to hold it in the same way last year so we welcome all parishioners to this service where we read out the names of those who have died since our last service and prayer for all those we have loved and who have died.



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**Another recycling opportunity**  
**Hasbro Toys and Games Recycling Programme** Start saving them up,

**we will start collecting these from 1st Dec 2021!** Please note that this programme accepts all the Hasbro games and toys, such as Hasbro Gaming, NERF, Play-Doh, Littlest PetShop, Monopoly, My Little Pony, Mr Potato Head, Transformers, etc. For the full list, click here

[Hasbro toys](#). Remember this is a Cardboard and Plastic only recycling scheme.



### **What is NOT accepted:**

- Hasbro electronic toys and games
- Toys and games from other brands
- Batteries and battery operated toys and games

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### **The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM)** is a global spiritual community united in the practice of meditation in the Christian tradition. It shares the fruits of this practice widely and inclusively, serving the unity of all and building understanding between faiths and cultures. Members of WCCM span more than a hundred countries. There are about sixty-seven national coordinators. Its international centre is Bonnevaux – an ancient monastic site now dedicated to global peace and dialogue around the daily practice of meditation – near Poitiers in France.

In the 15 years that the two Meditation groups have met here at Our Lady's Church, we have received and continue to receive many other resources in paper form or online, regular newsletters, daily and weekly teachings etc. We also have access to podcasts and online meditation with meditators worldwide. The London headquarters host talks and retreats throughout the year and a weekly online meditation period. As a community, WCCM offers contemplative and practical support in many areas for Justice and Peace and is currently promoting support for COP26 and continuing with conferences on climate issues. To help facilitate the work in the UK and internationally, and for further information, please visit the WCCM website at [www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org)

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**Virgin Money Giving** has made the decision to close later this year. A subsidiary of Virgin Money, VMG was created 12 years ago when Virgin Money began its sponsorship of the London Marathon. This year the sponsorship comes to an end. As a result VMG will stop operating on 30 November 2021 following the

race in October. VMG was launched with the ambition to provide charities and fundraisers with a not-for-profit alternative to other fund-raising websites. VMG has helped to deliver on this ambition, helping over 20,000 charities and more than a million fundraisers raise in excess of £900 million. The Diocese have already been working towards a new online payment system called Stripe, that will offer not just an alternative to VMG, but a more comprehensive and accessible way for parishioners and visitors to give to the Parish. Through the Parish Microsite it will be fully mobile-optimised, meaning that people who want to will be able to give via Stripe on our microsite using their smart phone apps, e.g. Apple Pay and Google Pay

### Future Dates

**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/>**

THE SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
**SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING**  
 2022 ADMISSIONS  
 Thursday 11th November  
 6:30 - 8:30 pm Presentation speech at 7:30pm

Click [Open Evening](#) for full details.

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**ST IPPOLYTS CHURCH NATIVITY CRIB FESTIVAL 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> December, 11am to 5pm** We are very much looking forward to having our wonderful Nativity Crib Festival back in the Church this Christmas.



It will be fabulous to be back in the church this year with, hopefully, more cribs than ever to see (we had 200 in 2019) and a host of angels! Each crib has a card telling its own "story", learning about what makes the crib important to its family is what really makes the Crib Festival so special. Come along and see for yourself!

For more information please contact Barbara Thomas on 07443 228468 [barbara.thomas@live.co.uk](mailto:barbara.thomas@live.co.uk) Entry is £3, children are free

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**Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Dec** is back at Holy Saviour Church, SG5 1QG so make a note in your diary to come!



### Other items of interest

WINTERSHALL  
 Experience the story  
 EVENTS EDUCATION GET INVOLVED DONATE SHOP ABOUT US NEWS  
**The Nativity Journey**  
 15:00 Dec 2021 • Wintershall  
 Book your tickets  
 Small groups and individuals please book here groups see on website please call us if you have any queries  
 Experience the Christmas story in a new way.

**Experience the Christmas story in a new way.** Walk with Mary, Joseph and the donkey on the winding, steep road to Bethlehem. Register for the census and journey with other travellers, Roman soldiers and shepherds as you enter the stable to watch the miracle unfold. The Nativity Journey is an unforgettable experience, bringing the true meaning of Christmas to life for the whole family. Trish Bonnett is one of the people playing the role of innkeeper so look out for her. Book your tickets to one of our sell-out 90-minute performances and enrich your experience of Christmas forever. Book tickets at <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/nativity-play>

**School performances - 15th and 16th December at 12:30 pm, email [admin@wintershall.org.uk](mailto:admin@wintershall.org.uk) to book. General Performances 16th December 5 pm and 18th, 19th and 20th December.**

Tea, coffee and cakes will be available before and after the show on 18th, 19th and 20th December. **Parental guidance advised for under 5s.**

*Please note that some scenes are performed outside and some inside Holly Barn Theatre, your visit includes a 10 minute walk up a steep hill. Limited disabled parking is available for those who need it most next to Holly Barn Theatre but those parking there will miss the first scene. This must be prebooked by emailing [admin@wintershall.org.uk](mailto:admin@wintershall.org.uk).*

**A message from CAFOD:**

Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal for our recent Family Fast Day. Every donation helps us in our work and is gratefully received. [cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis](http://cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) Please pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31 October to 12 November. Please pray that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world, those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see [cafod.org.uk/COP26](http://cafod.org.uk/COP26) May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.

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**Afghan Refugee Response How can I help?**

Caritas are looking for groups who can provide assistance by

- Finding accommodation, whether that's long-term rented accommodation or short-term hosting in people's homes
- Welcoming and befriending new arrivals
- Co-ordinating local responses to specific needs eg. For clothing, household items, laptops.
- Support with integration, including navigating the British health and education systems.

Individual volunteers are needed , particularly if they have skills such as

- Speakers of Farsi, Dari or Pashtu
- Qualification to teach English as a Second Language (ESOL/TEFL)
- Psychotherapists and counsellors.

Any offers of help can be registered with the [Caritas Volunteer Service by clicking here](#) or email [cvs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cvs@rcdow.org.uk) .

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Dave braved the shave on Monday and looks wonderful without the longer locks. So far he has raised £420 (with a target of £300) so that is brilliant. You can still donate by clicking [Sponsor David](#) Congratulations David. We are so proud of you.

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**There is still space to attend** the ordination to Priesthood of Br Joseph and the ordination to the Diaconate of Br Adams (who is now with our parish) All are welcome to the Mass at Our Lady of the Assumption, Bethnal Green on **30th October at 4pm**. There is space for 9 more parishioners to attend the reception afterwards. If you would like to attend both please can you let Cheryl Saunders know asap.

**Focus on past parish Priests** Fr Aidan Kenny was appointed in 1952 as parish priest. He was already elderly having been founder of the Becket School Nottingham and parish priest at Bethnal Green. He maintained the parish life mainly by being available to parishioners and relied on his assistant Fr Michael Lee to do the running around.

**AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 254** *THE TRANSFORMATION OF LOVE* In the course of every marriage physical appearances change, but this hardly means that love and attraction need fade. We love the other person for who they are.

**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)