



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 1978

15th – 22nd January 2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year C

Prayer: We pray for the healing of creation: God, source of all goodness, we call you Creator; you have made our wonderful world out of nothing and constantly keep it alive. Help us to be full of care and grateful for our home received from you as a gift. May we work to keep this, our common home, filled with peace and justice. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings: [Is 62:1-5](#), [Cor 12:4-11](#), [John 2:1-11](#)

Entrance Antiphon: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

Psalm: **Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.**

Intercession: Lord hear us

Response: **Lord graciously hear us!**

Next Week: Readings: [Neh 8:2-6.8-10](#), [Cor 12:12-30](#), [Luke 1:1-4:4:14-21](#)

Ramblings Have you ever asked yourself what is this Spirit that we all share? Of course, it is the Holy Spirit but doesn't it have other names? Love would also be appropriate, or sharing, or welcome, or compassion, or caring. As St Paul says, we are better at some of these than others and it is the differences that makes each of us unique and special. As John Henry Newman said, we all have a unique role to play that no other person can fulfil. Yet our uniqueness only finds its fulfilment in the whole, in the family, the group, the community, the fellowship. This reminds us once again that we not only on a journey together but that we are stronger together. A teacher has no purpose if there is no-one to teach or a governor with no-one to govern. Some may call us a tapestry and that we only see the other side with all the bits and ends that look more like a mess than a picture. A picture we will only really see on the other side of the grave. We need others in order to find completion which is why marriage is so important. Another image is that of a symphony in which as the number of instruments increases the energy, flow and effectiveness of the music is more powerful. This is why, in our encounters with others, we can also encounter another piece of self that is missing.



This Sunday, 16 January, is **PEACE SUNDAY** and this year Pope Francis asks us to think about 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace'.

The need for peace in the world is obvious. People are struggling against violence and conflict, growing inequalities, the effects of climate change and the covid pandemic. How can we harness the gifts and energy of all generations in the work of peacemaking? Which 'tools for building lasting peace' do you think Pope Francis might be talking about?

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which does a great deal of good work to promote peace and nonviolence through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website suggests many ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children.

<https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022>

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x>

If you'd like your personal donation to be counted towards your parish contribution please give your parish name and town in the 'Additional Information – Order Notes' box on the checkout page.

Or send a cheque payable to 'Pax Christi' to: Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London NW4 4TY Tel: 0208 203 4884

- *A symphony must be like the world. It must contain everything. You can't play a symphony alone; it takes an orchestra to play it. **Life is a symphony**, and the action of every person in this life is the playing of his particular part in the music.*

- *In this **symphony** that is my life, God is not content to be a member of the audience or stage crew. He is not even content to be the conductor. He wants to be the composer. - Brad Wilcox*

Diary Dates

Sun 16 Jan

One World/Live Simply /Diapalante coffee morning cancelled for today. As the rate of Covid infections is still very high we have decided to postpone holding Sunday coffee mornings until things improve. We very much hope to resume coffee after Sunday morning masses in the near future.

††††††††††

6.30-7.30 pm CTH Theological Society in St Mary's Church. **Diversity in Unity** and speakers from different Christian traditions will look at our various approaches to faith, asking whether/how we can disagree in a kindly way and remain in fellowship with each other. All are welcome – in an open and airy environment.

Mon 17 Jan St Antony

6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Scout Hall

Tues 18 Jan

10.30am Coffee Morning Hall

††††††††††

11.30am Meditation Hall

††††††††††

6.45pm FHC Sesson 5 Hall

††††††††††

7pm Scouts Scout Hall

††††††††††

7pm Understanding the Theology of Synodality Zoom session [Click here for details](#)

Wed 19 Jan

6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

††††††††††

7pm RCIA EC

Thurs 20 Jan

6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall

††††††††††

6.30pm Meditation EC

Fri 21 Jan St Agnes

2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

Sat 22 Jan

1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

Spiritual thoughts of interest If you miss the daily reflections and would like the occasional input go to [Prayers and Reflections](#) on the parish website where these are still posted most weeks.

Other items of interest



Message from WCCM (Meditation) - This is a personal invitation to all members of our community to join together for an online community retreat, hosted by the UK, in the series 'Levels of

Consciousness and the Fruits of the Spirit' which will take place between **27/30th January**. The retreat entitled "The Heavenly Jerusalem" will be led by Fr Laurence who will be talking about the changing spiritual consciousness and the hopeful light of the rising of contemplative consciousness. There will also be some special film presentations about the UK community which our members have been working very hard to bring to fruition. To register and read more about this event go to <https://wccm.org/events/levels-of-consciousness-and-fruits-of-spirit-retreat-8/> This retreat will offer us a wonderful opportunity to start the new year coming together to connect, reflect and be inspired during these incredibly challenging times.

††††††††††

WE ARE ALL BELOVED OF GOD This is a very beautifully written meditation and signposting thoughtful webinars [Click here for details](#)

††††††††††


St Richard Reynolds College is looking for for a Lunchtime Supervisor to join us as soon as possible, Monday to Friday 11.30am to 1pm. Please also get in touch if you would like to talk in more detail about the role. <https://www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/our-college/work-at-srr>



Fr d'Alzon gave us the words of the Lord's prayer, Thy Kingdom Come, as our motto. He explained that we work for the spreading of God's Kingdom in our apostolate and in our own lives too. All of us pray this every time we say the Lord's prayer. May his Kingdom come.

AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 266 *Love made fruitful - Love and pregnancy* Every child growing within the mother's womb is part of the eternal loving plan of God the Father

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	trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk } 01462 459126 press 4