



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 1979

22nd – 29th January 3rd 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: Neh 8:2-6.8-10, Cor 12:12-30, Luke 1:1-4:4:14-21

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

Psalm: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy R/ Hear our Prayer!

Next Week's: Jer 1:4-5.17-19, Cor 12:31-13:13, Luke 4:21-30

Ramblings Jesus makes it very clear that he has come to bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, and proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He wants to rebuild the hearts and lives of people so that they find welcome, love, goodness and support in God. Paul reinforces this message by reminding us that we each have a unique role in this great family of God, a role that only finds its full purpose when undertaken with and for all the other members of the family. In giving something of ourselves to others, even the whole of ourselves, we receive back from each of them, however small, so much more. A wise person once said *in putting other people first, we never come second*. In this week when we focus on Christian Unity, we acknowledge that the witness to the Good News is far stronger when all the different branches of Christianity work together. Something we do so well here in Hitchin. The Unity Week theme this year is **"We saw the star in the East and have come to worship him.** (Mtt 2:2) *This star led the Magi to Christ and for us today it points to the presence of Christ, who has been revealed to us and whose light shines on us. As the Magi followed the star to Bethlehem, we gather under this star adding our own stars to the sky, uniting our own gifts and prayers for the visible unity of the Church. As we journey towards that goal, may our lives together give a luminous witness that leads others to know Christ.*

As together we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here now our lives tell your story.
Shine on us. Shine on us.

[Adapted from Shine Jesus shine (Graham Kendrick)]

Diary Dates

Mon 24 Jan St Francis de Sales
6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Scout Hall
Tues 25 Jan Conversion of St Paul
10.30am Coffee Morning Hall ††††††††††
11.30am Meditation Hall ††††††††††
6.45pm Confirmation Session 2 Hall ††††††††††
7pm Eucharistic Service – Please join us to consider the readings for next Sunday and share communion. To Zoom click on Eucharistic Service ††††††††††
7pm Scouts Scout Hall
Wed 26 Jan Sts Timothy & Titus
9.30am Rosary said before Mass in Church ††††††††††
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall
Thurs 27 Jan HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY
10.30am -12pm Holocaust Memorial Zoom service Theme 'One Day' and Fr Tom will be speaking with others. Zoom Details- Meeting ID: 854 7095 2137 Password: 343552 Youtube Link: Holocaust Memorial Event - YouTube ††††††††††
6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall ††††††††††
6.30pm Meditation EC
Fri 28 Jan St Thomas Aquinas
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall
Sat 29 Jan
1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

Rob is starting a **Young Adult's Group** open to all people aged **18+**. The group will meet every last Monday of the month starting on **Monday 31st January 2022 at 7pm** in the church. The structure will be very simple: a time of prayer

- a short talk on a theme
- then we will move to on to a pub to continue to socialise.

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Keeping our church clean is a vital ministry and we **really need** to get teams of people who can help clean the church once a month. Otherwise people will be walking through dirt and muck which is not respectful to them or to Our Lord.

Tasks below

- **Sweeping or dry mopping between the pews to remove debris**
- **Dusting the altars and statues**
- **Vacuuming the church including the sanctuary**
- **Washing porch floor**

Times can be 8.30-9.30am or after 11.15am for an hour. Can you can let [Trish](#) know asap if you can help once a month. We are aiming for 5 teams of at least three people.

Other dates

The New Testament for the Perplexed: talks by Fr John Deehan 27th January, 3rd and 10th February 7- 8 pm

Register through Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-god-who-speaks-the-new-testament-for-the-perplexed-tickets-221344626737>

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‘The God Who Speaks’ Scripture Festival - St Alban’s Cathedral Thursday 3rd - Saturday 5th February 2022.

From 10am to 4pm we will be offering different ways of exploring the Scriptures in prayer, through creative activities and in Bible study. Join us for a joyful and profound experience.

Come and join the pilgrimage. Explore the ‘tents of encounter with the Word’, participate in the times of prayer and reflection, enjoy family friendly activities and much more.

Find out what's on and how your parish can be involved at www.rcdow.org.uk/scripturefestival

Saturday 5th February - Why not come along to St Albans Cathedral to watch Steve Murray – Hanson from Behold Ministry bring familiar parables and scripture narratives to life through mime. The event is free but would recommend you book to ensure your place. For more information or to book please visit: <https://rcdow.org.uk/scripturefestival/whats-on/>



**Come and help us plant trees!
and plant a community Peace Wood
on a field in Little Hadham**

**Saturday 12th February 2022,
10 am - 12 noon**


Meet in the car park at Little Hadham Village Hall, SG11 2BP
We will have many saplings for planting


Trees don't just combat climate change - they are symbolic in many faith traditions of growth, harmony and reaching upwards. Bring your friends! Bring the family! There will be children from the local school helping too.

Just bring a spade or a trowel, your own refreshments, and come in wellies, and suitable clothing for the weather. The saplings are small so the work shouldn't be too hard.


Any other queries, contact: Chris Kell on chriskell37@gmail.com

Use this to mark your Hope for the Future!

 Our General Chapter will be held in spring 2223. In preparation each province has its own chapter. The delegates are being elected these present weeks. Please remember this chapter in your prayers. Pope Francis asks us to work as a synod. A chapter is very much a synodal event. People can express their hopes and concerns knowing that they will be listened to. May this be true of our chapter.

 **AMORIS LAETITIA THE JOY OF LOVE 267** *Love made fruitful - Love and pregnancy* Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you. (Jeremiah 1:5)

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

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