



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 1990

9th – 16th April 2022 – PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - Year C

Prayer for Ukraine: God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine; for peace and the laying down of weapons. Give comfort to those who fear for tomorrow. Grant wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide those who have power over war and peace. Hold and protect your precious children, at risk and in fear. We pray in the name of Jesus, Prince of Peace. Amen.

Readings: Lk 19:28-40, Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Lk 22:14-23:56

Entrance Antiphon: The children of the Hebrews, carrying olive branches, went to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: Hosanna in the highest.

Psalm: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Intercession: Lord hear us

Response: Lord graciously hear us!

Next Week: Acts:10:34-37-43, Col3:1-4, John 20:1-9

Ramblings Today's readings in all their detail sound like a story of someone snatching defeat from the jaws of victory – from triumphant entry to Jerusalem to death on a cross. We have spent Lent following Jesus on his journey to the cross, hearing how and why it had to happen like this. Let us make these final days of Jesus' journey putting ourselves in his sandals. What kind of questions did he ask himself? What would have been really important to him? What helped him? How did he get through it all? One can only surmise but Jesus knew the scriptures and understood the kind of sufferings he would face. The harder questions for Jesus were: *What I am going to do, will it be worth it?* When his disciples ran away, it must have been heart-breaking. In contrast, seeing his mother and women friends follow him up the hill would have been some comfort. He was not alone! Not many, if any, are forced to face and accept death on the promise of rising again shortly after. It is only in the face of death, that faith, trust and love and really put to the test. St Paul understood that it was love that pulled Jesus through. Love for God and love for us. If Jesus did not want to let his Father down, he certainly did not want to let us down either. The more we identify with these deep human struggles of Jesus, the more we will realise the greatness of God's infinite love for us. We cannot pay back this debt and Jesus does not ask us to try. Instead, he wants us to be inspired, motivated and encouraged to live our lives, with the same kind of love, service and sacrifice!! In embracing the Cross, Jesus believes we can!!

Wednesday 9.30am Rosary Church

All are welcome for private prayer at any time in the church which is open 8.30am - 7pm

Diary Dates

Sun 10 April The Passion of the Lord

Coffee Morning after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses in Hall DIAPALANTE You are warmly invited to join us for coffee. Proceeds will go to support Diapalante's education centre in Senegal. Cakes, bread, preserves and Easter cards will also be on sale.

7pm Penitential service for Lent – a chance for the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Mon 11 April

10.30am Lent Ecumenical Group Hall

7.30pm Passover Meal Hall for those booked.

Tues 12 April

10.30am Coffee Morning Hall

2pm Reconciliation Prep Non Faith Schools

Wed 13 April

10.30am Praise Group Hall

6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

7pm RCIA

Thurs 14 April Maundy Thursday *

Fri 15 April Good Friday *

Sat 16 April Holy Saturday *

1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

* See separate sheet for service times

There are copies of **PRAYING HOLY WEEK WITH ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH 2022** Inspired by the Writings of Henri Nouwen, with images reflecting the plight of the people of **Ukraine**. Please help yourself to a copy.

Prayer diary

Tuesday 11.30am Meditation Emmanuel Centre

7pm Eucharistic Service Church

To Zoom click on [Eucharistic Service](#)

The Children's library is available again. If anyone would like to take responsibility for keeping this area tidy, please let Trish know.

Cheques for Easter Collections (which go to the clergy). Please make these out to the Parish – i.e. Our Lady's Church and not to the Order. This will make accounting more straightforward. Please be assured that all such donations will end up in the right place! This retiring collection will take place as you leave Church on Easter Sunday and the Easter Vigil Mass on Easter Saturday.

The collection on Good Friday goes for the support of the beleaguered Church in the Holy Land. Giving to this is a visible sign of our support to those who live the Christian faith in difficult circumstances in the land of its birth.

This retiring collection will take place after the Service on Good Friday as you leave the Church. For details of the importance of this go the letter from Cardinal Sandri: [Holy Land Collection](#)



We pray for **Peter Atthews** whose Memorial Mass takes place on **Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 11.30am**. We also pray for **Giuseppe Corda** whose funeral is here on **Thursday 21st April 2022 at 11.30am**. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. May the Lord comfort their families.

HITCHIN PANTRY Many thanks to all those who supported last Sunday's coffee morning. £38:60 was raised which will be used to purchase food for the Pantry. Parishioners have been very generous in donating goods of all kinds which can be placed in the crate in the porch. We are very grateful. Items which need refrigeration can be brought to the Scout Hall on Friday or Saturday afternoons.

Other Dates

Good Friday 15th April 11am For the first time since 2019, there will be a Churches Together Good Friday service in the Market Place. It will be led by ministers of member churches, with Christchurch providing the music - and hot cross buns will be distributed! It has not been possible to arrange a Walk of Witness from Bancroft Gardens beforehand - all are invited to come along either individually or in small groups from your church, maybe carrying a symbol of your faith, and to gather round the three crosses.

15th April 2-4.15pm Messy St Mark's Good Friday Workshop in St Mark's church and hall. Music, craft activities cooking, treasure hunt, refreshments, songs and much more. Open to all children accompanied by parents.

17th April 5.45am Easter Sunday Sunrise Service Walsworth Road Baptist Church is holding a Sunrise Service on Pinehill Field, Hitchin - closest access from Chiltern Road, or from Benslow Lane (just below Pinehill Hospital), or walk across the field from Stuart Drive (by William Ransom School). A simple service in the open air to celebrate the significance of the day. Cooked breakfast is available afterwards, but only by pre-booking a place - contact the church on: adminsupport@wrbchitchin.org.uk before Wednesday 13th April, please.

Sunday 24th April DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 3pm Holy Hour and confessions at Holy Trinity & St Augustine of Canterbury Church in Baldock. The Feast of Divine Mercy was extended to the entire Catholic Church by St John Paul II in 2000, the day that he canonized Saint Faustina. There is a novena which begins on Good Friday and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday. Priests will be available to hear confessions during holy hour.



Adoration of the Blessed Trinity. Loving Christ means first of all loving God, and to love God means to adore Him, as creatures must. We adore the Father in the Son who reveals him, to us and in the Spirit of love given to us. Father, Son and Spirit are pleased to share with us their intimate divine life.



Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 278 *Love made fruitful - love and pregnancy* Your child deserves your happiness. Don't let fears, worries, other people's comments or problems lessen your joy at being God's means of bringing a new life to the world.

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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