



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 2001

25th June – 2nd July 2022 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 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: [Kings 19:16.19-21, Gal 5:1.13-18, Lk 9:51-62](#)

Entrance Antiphon: All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!
Psalm: **O Lord, it is you who are my portion.**
Intercession: We pray to the Lord
Response: **Lord, hear us!**

Next Week: [Is 66:10-14, Gal 6:14-18, Luke 10:1-12.17-20](#)


Ramblings Chesterton once said “*The way to love anything is to realize that it may be lost.*” He was speaking not only to us but to anyone who would listen. However, the quote is equally applicable to God. So as not to lose any of us, God sent his Son to guide us back to him. God will do anything to save us from harm and the feast of the Sacred Heart reminds us of that. We can also see in these words of Chesterton the infinite depth of God’s love for us “*To love means loving the unlovable. To forgive means pardoning the unpardonable. Faith means believing the unbelievable. Hope means hoping when everything seems hopeless.*” All shown in Jesus. The hardest of paradoxes is to accept that of handing over our lives fully to God. Yet, this is the only way for us to become fully free. By giving up our freedom like Elisha, we will become fully free. Elisha sacrificed his life and career by sacrificing the oxen and the plough - the tools necessary for his work - and becoming a servant of Elijah. In giving up his natural family he inherited a greater family: the people of God.

“*According to most philosophers, God in making the world enslaved it. According to Christianity, in making it, He set it free. God had written, not so much a poem, but rather a play; a play he had planned as perfect, but which had necessarily been left to human actors and stage-managers, who had since made a great mess of it.*” To choose to be truly free we must hand our lives completely over to God. The catch, which causes us the most fear and prevents us from doing it, is that we have to do it to find out!!



Diary Dates

Sun 26 June

 **Coffee Morning** after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses. Many thanks to all those who supported the OWLS coffee morning last weekend. £65 was raised for the Hitchin Pantry which will be used to buy essential supplies. This Sunday’s coffee morning will be to support Diapalante’s education centre in Senegal. Cakes, preserves, books and bric a brac will also be on sale in the hall. All are welcome.

2pm First Holy Communion

Mon 27 June

6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Scout Hall

7pm Parish Pals A young adults social (18-30) in the church Meet like-minded people and have a moment to connect with God.

Tuesday 28 June

10.30am Coffee Morning Hall

7pm Scouts Scout Hall

7.30pm Sacrament of Confirmation

Wed 29 June

6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

7pm RCIA EC

Thurs 30 June

1pm Italian Club Hall

6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall

7pm Finance Meeting Lounge

Fri 1 July

2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

6pm Clothes Swap Hall

Sat 2 July

1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall



Prayer diary

Opportunities for communal prayer

- Tuesday 11.30am Meditation** Emmanuel Centre
NO Eucharistic Service
 - Wednesday 9.30am Rosary** Church
 - Thursday 6.30pm Meditation** Emmanuel Centre
- All are welcome for private prayer at any time in the church which is open 8.30am - 7pm*

We have resumed taking the collection at Mass by passing the collection bag. You can put in your planned giving envelopes and cash or cheques (made out to Our Lady Immaculate & St Andrew.)



This Sunday the 10.30 Mass is a children's Mass.

Future Dates

16-17th July 2022 Save the date: . Marriage Encounter are hosting a non-residential marriage enrichment weekend. This is a wonderful opportunity for couples to spend time reflecting on, refreshing and rejoicing in their wonderful vocation. For details go to: [Marriage Encounter](#)

Other items of interest

Helping Herts Homeless update

The Sanctuary has been providing 'move on' accommodation and support to homeless men, but is now in need of extensive modernisation.

The building is owned by Helping Herts Homeless (HHH), a registered charity operated by volunteers. Day-to-day services have been provided by a contractor, Haven First, who are withdrawing from their agreement with HHH at the end of 2022. With the building then otherwise due to lie empty, there is an opportunity to reconsider its purpose, and take radical action to determine its future.

The Board of Trustees of HHH met and made the decision to continue to operate the North Herts Sanctuary - subject to raising funds to redevelop it - so that it can be made fit for purpose. A project is now underway to establish what needs

to be done, how it can be done, and how to fund it. It will require a major fundraising campaign. The Hitchin community has always been generous in its support for the Sanctuary, and early indications are that this news will be widely welcomed.


In addition to operating the North Herts Sanctuary, HHH has increasingly been developing partnerships with other charities both elsewhere in Hitchin and more widely in Hertfordshire, addressing other aspects of homelessness. The Board intends to build on this 'hub' role, sharing resources and collaborating with other related charities (which currently include award-winning Resolve, and the YMCA).

The Board of HHH is very pleased to announce that it has appointed Shelley Hugill as its Interim Chair. She will be both overseeing the building project, and introducing new ways of operating for the volunteers who work with HHH. This includes upgrading its use of technology, and improving its ability to communicate with all its stakeholders. It will mean that very shortly, better information will be available to enable all its supporters and volunteers to 'raise the game' in this important mission. A new leadership structure to carry HHH forward will be put in place, in due course.

Amongst these changes, it will become possible for people to register as 'Friends of Helping Herts Homeless'.


The changes to the building and to the governance and operational structure, will be rolled out over the next 3-4 months. The speed at which this can proceed, will depend on HHH's ability to recruit additional volunteers who can offer some of their time, even if it is only a few hours a week, to implement them.

For further information, contact Rhannon.Chapman@helpinghertshomeless.org.uk or Shelley Hugill at Shelley.Hugill@helpinghertshomeless.org.uk

 Fr d'Alzon spoke a great deal about 'Zeal for souls' by this he meant that the virtues we develop find their full meaning in the apostolate in which we are engaged. Talents and virtues are God's gifts to be used in His name for the coming of the Kingdom its Creator.

Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 289 *Love made fruitful - The love of a mother and a father* A mother who watches over her child with tenderness and compassion helps him or her to grow in confidence and to experience that the world is a good and welcoming place

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	E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Tel no 01462 459126	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 }

01462 459126 press 4