



# 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 2004

16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2022 16<sup>th</sup> 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:** [Gen 18:1-10, Col 1:24-28, Luke 10:38-42](#)

**Entrance Antiphon:** See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

**Psalm: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

**Intercession:** We pray to the Lord

**Response: Lord, hear us!**

**Next Week: Readings:** [Gen 18:20-32, Col 2:12-14, Luke 11:1-13](#)


### Ramblings

Welcome the Lord, welcome the Word into your life! How well this is done will affect the way you live your life. In hindsight the three visitors that Abraham makes welcome have come to symbolise the three persons of the Trinity. The story helps us realise that whenever we pray to one of the persons of the Trinity, we pray to all three – they are inseparable. In the gospel the verb translated as “welcome” means “to receive warmly and graciously.” This implies that Martha did more than simply let Jesus and his entourage stay in her home. Rather, she opened, not just the front door, but also her heart. There is little doubt that she wanted to offer Jesus an opportunity to rest and be refreshed. In fact, her effort to prepare a “big dinner” was an important part of her hospitality. Martha wanted Jesus to feel truly at home with her and her family... Is this the kind of welcome you give to Jesus?

If we truly love Jesus, we will want to fulfil his mission which began in baptism, when we welcomed the One whom the Father, Jesus, fully into our lives.

*(Adapted from Fr Frank's poetry) Two sisters, two hospitalities: busy Martha, the flawless hostess, Mary who lazes as wisdom washes over her. Christian pundits, have seen this as an object lesson in action and contemplation, an illumination of laborare et orare. Contemporary commentators offer a cautionary tale about Martha's perfectionism and the need to live in the present moment. Each sister has her own way of being good, her own way of whispering, "love me." Martha's control vs. Mary's compliance; fuss versus surrender. Yet, neither seems to realise that Jesus already loves them both not because they are good but because He, Jesus, is good. Jesus is well worth the welcome.*

### Diary Dates

<b>Sun 17 July</b>
 <b>Coffee Morning</b> after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses. Many thanks to all who supported Diapalante's recent coffee morning. £85 was raised for the education centre in Senegal. This Sunday's OWLS coffee morning will be in support of the London Mining Network, a group which works in solidarity with communities around the world harmed by mining companies based in, or financed from London. Do join us in the hall after the Sunday morning masses where cakes, preserves and books will be on sale as well as religious cards and artefacts.
<b>Mon 18 July</b>
<b>6pm Beavers &amp; 7.15pm Cubs</b> Scout Hall
<b>Tuesday 19 July</b>
<b>10.30am Coffee Morning</b> Hall *****
<b>7pm Scouts</b> Scout Hall
<b>Wed 20 July</b>
<b>6pm Feed Up Warm Up</b> Scout Hall *****
<b>7pm RCIA</b> EC
<b>Thurs 21 July</b>
<b>1pm Italian Club</b> Hall *****
<b>6.30pm Brownies</b> Scout Hall
<b>Fri 22 July St Mary Magdalen</b>
<b>2-4pm Hitchin Pantry</b> Scout Hall
<b>Sat 23 July St Bridget of Sweden</b>
<b>1-3pm Hitchin Pantry</b> Scout Hall



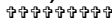
**Children's Mass 10.30am next Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July** will focus on the theme **The Fatherhood of God** - What kind of Father is God to us - to you? Children are invited to bring pictures or items to help answer this question to show at the Mass when Fr Tom calls them out.



**Prayer diary**  
Opportunities for communal prayer

- Tuesday** NO Eucharistic Service this week
  - Wednesday** 9.30am Rosary Church  
3pm Meditation Emmanuel Centre
  - Thursday** 6.30pm Meditation Emmanuel Centre
- All are welcome for private prayer at any time in the church which is open 8.30am - 7pm

Next Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July is **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** Pope Francis established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly which took place for the first time on Sunday 25 July 2021. In 2022, the celebration will fall on Sunday 24 July, the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, Grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's celebration is: "In old age they will still bear fruit" (Psalm 92:15).



The next **Marriage Course** will take place here on Sat 29<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 9am to 5pm. See [Marriage Preparation](#) to book



**Future Dates**

**17<sup>th</sup> September 2022** An invitation from **Catholic Voices, Word on Fire & The Guild of Our Lady of Ransom** Are you passionate about renewal in the Church? Are you ready for mission? **'Sharing the Church's Story'** conference with Bishop Baron. See <https://www.sharingthechurchsstory.com/> for tickets.

**17<sup>th</sup> Nov – 8<sup>th</sup> Dec Scripture - 'God Who Speaks'** - 'Journeying through Advent'. We are delighted to offer a series of 4 online talks by Fr John Deehan, Thursday evenings, 7.30pm – 8.30pm. Registration details available in the autumn.

17<sup>th</sup> November, *Hasten to Meet Him!* The Mass Prayers for Advent  
 24<sup>th</sup> November, *A Prophet in Waiting, Isaiah.* The Old Testament Readings for Advent Year A.  
 1<sup>st</sup> December, *Unfinished Business – Paul and James.* The New Testament Readings for Advent.  
 8<sup>th</sup>. December, *Waiting in Expectation.* The Gospel Readings of Advent.


**Other items of interest**


See <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/45027> for details of the LGBT+ Catholics Westminster at Pride-in-London on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. It was an important Catholic presence and it was certainly a tremendous evangelising opportunity. A special hymn they sang at Farm Street Mass is below:

*Guide us to openness, Spirit of mercy, aid us in seeking God's justice and grace.  
 Move us to show Christ's compassion through witness, love first to offer and hate to erase.  
 Guide us to openness! Guide us to openness!  
 Let no one ever be shunned or denied.  
 Make of the Church a bold place of compassion, that all who seek you may come and abide.*

*Spirit of tenderness, impart your presence, fill both our hearts and our hands with your care.  
 Let no one suffer or grieve unattended, grant us your kindness and warmth here to share.  
 Guide us to openness! Guide us to openness!  
 Let no one ever be shunned or denied.  
 Make of the Church a bold place of compassion, that all who seek you may come and abide.*

*Though there are those who would limit Christ's graces, still we refuse to believe in such lies,  
 for in this time we have made a commitment never to limit love's power or size.  
 Guide us to openness! Guide us to openness!  
 Let no one ever be shunned or denied.  
 Make of the Church a bold place of compassion, that all who seek you may come and abide.  
 Rev W Robert Martin*

 St Peter at Cockcrow (in Gallicantu) is the Assumptionist house and church in Jerusalem. It is believed to be the site of the High Priest's house. In the lower chapel there is a round hole through which prisoners were lowered into a cell (reached by stairs today). The stairway dating from the Roman times and which Jesus might have used is in the grounds. This is protected to prevent pilgrims chipping souvenirs.

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 292** *Love made fruitful - The love of a mother and a father* A father possessed of a clear and serene masculine identity who demonstrates affection and concern for his wife is just as necessary as a caring mother for the well being and growth of their children.

**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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