



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 2006

30th July – 6th August 2022 – 18th 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: [Ecc 1:2;2:21-23, Col 3:1-5.9-11, Luke 12:13-2](#)

Entrance Antiphon: O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

Psalm: O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: Hear our prayer!

Next Week: [Wis 18:6-9, Heb 11:1-2.8-19, Luke 12:32-48](#)

Ramblings *Vanity of vanities* Ecclesiastes writes. All our toils, all our gains eventually come to nothing. Or do they? Jesus talked about sowing seeds. If we sow seeds of justice, peace, gentleness and kindness, of mercy and compassion, they will all grow in those in whom they have been planted, if not immediately, then eventually. Jesus, we know clung to nothing. He even gave away the whole of his life and his life has since grown in countless numbers of people down the ages including ourselves. Despite the sorrow, grieving, pain and loss, funerals reveal the true treasures of a person's life. It is not so much in their achievements but in the kind of person they were: how they helped and cared for people, especially their families; the sacrifices they made because of their love; the inspiration and encouragement they gave to others; in being a listening ear, offering support, and encouraging perseverance when life has become difficult or seemingly impossible. Most of all they have instilled a desire to emulate all their good qualities. Given time to reflect more deeply on their lives, we will discover that they preached the gospel of Christ to us, taught us what loving God means and how best to love our neighbour. They have breathed life into us.

Nooma. "Breathe." Rob Bell. (Abridged)

With so much happening every day, how many think about their breathing, about the meaning of breathing? For thousands of years, people understood physical breath to symbolise a deeper spiritual reality. In scripture, the word for "breath" is the same as the word for "spirit." We are created in the image of God and possess immense power and strength. At the same time, our lives are incredibly vulnerable and fragile. With more insight into the meaning of breathing, we would better understand how God created us – and what is truly important in life.

Diary Dates

Sun 31 July
No Coffee Morning this morning as no-one has offered.
Monday 1st August St Alphonus Mary de'Liguori
Tuesday 2 Aug
10.30am Coffee Morning Hall
Wed 3 Aug
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall +++++
7pm RCIA EC
Thurs 4 Aug St Mary John Mary Vianney
1pm Italian Club Hall
Fri 5 Aug
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall
Sat 6 Aug Transfiguration
1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall



Prayer diary

Opportunities for communal prayer

Tuesday **No Eucharistic Service**
11.30am Meditation Emmanuel Centre
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

Exciting news – SAVE THE DATE

We are delighted to say that subject to approval from Rome that provisionally Br Adams will be ordained as a Priest in our parish by Cardinal Vincent Nichols on **Saturday November 12th at noon**. Please make a note in your diaries of this very special occasion and be assured of more news in the future. We will confirm arrangements as soon as we are able.

An extra meeting of the **Hitchin Theological Society** has been arranged for **Sunday 7th August, 6.30 to 7.30 pm** at St Mary's. The theme is 'Heresy' and Charmaine Sabey-Corkindale and Andrew Surry will prompt a conversation on what this means today. All welcome.

Other items of interest



St Elizabeth's Adult Home closure. It has been a huge shock to the families of residents of St Elizabeth's in

Much Hadham to hear of its closure in November. So many of the adult residents have been there for many years. One of our parishioners has a sister who has lived there happily for over thirty years. They have set up a petition to ask for the closure to not happen. If you would like to consider signing this you can do so by clicking [STOP THE ST ELIZABETH CENTRE OF EPILEPSY CLOSURE.](#)



For the first time in history the relics of [St Bernadette](#) will be touring England.

This very special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the gifts and charisms of Lourdes, in a church or cathedral near you. I would like to invite you and your parish to [visit Westminster Cathedral for this special event on the weekend of 3-5 September.](#)

The veneration of the relics will start on Saturday 3 September at 1pm and will last all through the two days and nights until Monday 5 September at 6am. There is no need for advance booking. The visitors are invited to come at a time suitable for them and join the queue on the Piazza for entry via the West Doors. Be advised that at peak times, especially before or after liturgies, we expect long queues. Wheelchair access will be available at all times without the need for queuing.

Entry for Masses and Liturgies will be via the side door of the Cathedral on Ambrosden Avenue. Please be aware that those who, apart from the veneration of the relics would like to participate also in the Mass may, when full capacity of the Cathedral is reached, not be able to do so, as that part of the Cathedral will have to be closed.

Please note the **Service of Anointing of the Sick** which will take place on **Saturday 3 September at 2.30pm**. This is the only liturgical event to which admission will be by ticket only. Tickets will be sent to our parish where we will distribute them to those parishioners who are in need of the Sacrament. Please note that there will be only 50 places available for wheelchairs and these will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. More news as we receive it.

In his earliest notes concerning our Assumptionist work Fr d'Alzon put pilgrimages as one of the apostolates. Soon after the apparitions at Lourdes he encouraged us to be involved there. People laughed at the idea that train loads of people would take part. At the first effort one train was not enough. This developed into the French National Pilgrimage which takes place every year during the week of the Assumption in August. This is the most crowded event of the year and is still planned and serviced by the Assumptionists.

Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 294 *Love made fruitful - The love of a mother and a father* God sets the father in the family so he may be close to his children as they grow - when they play and when they work, when they are care free and when they are distressed.

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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