

Ramblings Dictionaries are most helpful in understanding the meanings of words. Yet, however good their definitions, they often fall well short of the reality, especially with words like faith, hope and love. These, like many other words, have to be lived to bring us nearer to a proper understanding, not just with our heads but with our hearts. These words have to be lived. Faith, as Hebrews shows, is portrayed by people who lived their faith in a very particular and important way. Until we live our faith and put it to the test, we will never have a true understanding of it. This may include times we have turned away from our faith, times of despair as well as tragedy and deep suffering. Eventually we realise that the only reason we emerged from those times, when our faith seemed to be absent, was that faith had carried us through.

Story: A mountain climber wanted to climb the highest mountain. He spent many years in preparation but, wanting the glory just for himself, he decided to climb the mountain alone. It was a long climb and all too soon the sun began to set. He kept on climbing even in the dark. Just a few feet from the top of the mountain, he slipped and fell. The climber felt the terrible sensation of being sucked down by gravity. Thinking he was about to die, all of a sudden, the rope around his waist tightened stopping his fall. He hung there and, after a moment, screamed: HELP ME GOD!! All of a sudden, a deep voice answered: "What do you want me to do?" "Save me, God!!" "Do you really think I can save you?" "Of course, I believe You can!"

"THEN CUT THE ROPE AROUND YOUR WAIST".... The man, however, decided to hang on to the rope.

The rescue team found the climber the next day dead and frozen... his body hanging from a rope... ONLY 10 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND!!

Diary Dates

 Sun 7 Aug

 Coffee
 Morning
 after
 8.30am
 and

 10.30am
 Masses.
 This week's coffee

 morning
 will be in aid of Our Lady's

 Special
 Support Group

6.30 to 7.30 pm Hitchin Theological Society 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.

Mon 8 Aug St Dominic
Tuesday 9 Aug St Teresa Benedicta
10.30am Coffee Morning Hall
Wed 10 Aug St Laurence
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall
7pm RCIA EC
Thurs 11 Aug St Clare
1pm Italian Club Hall
Fri 12 Aug
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall
Sat 13 Aug
1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

A Prayer diary A 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



Message from Fr Euloge 'I hope everybody if fine over there. I am fine too here in Goma. Just to let you know that I have to move to Tanzania, in a city called Arusha where we have one of our formation houses of philossopy. I have to be there in mid-

August. Once I get there I will give Trish my correct and complete address. (She will be able to send the mobile phones then) God is good all the time. Once again, shalom to each and everyone. I miss you all. Euloge aa.



The next **Marriage Preparation Course** will take place in the church hall on Saturday 29 October 2022, 9am to 5pm. Anyone considering marriage in the church in 2023 should book onto this course. To book a place please

email <u>catholicmarriageprep@outlook.com</u> with your full names (both parties). The fee is £60 per couple.

Future Dates

17th 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.

Other items of interest

A prayer from Richard Rohr Lover of All

Lord, lover of life, lover of these lives,

Lord, lover of our souls, lover of our bodies, lover of all that exists . . .

Trish Bonnett

In fact, it is your love that keeps it all alive . . . May we live in this love.

May we never doubt this love.

May we know that we are love,

That we were created for love,

That we are a reflection of you,

That you love yourself in us and therefore we are perfectly lovable.

May we never doubt this deep and abiding and perfect goodness

That we are because you are.

Hitchin Pantry has generously been offering free membership to the Ukrainian families and they are coming regularly to shop and meet up together. We need to support this generosity financially to ensure they can continue to offer this to new refugee families. Can you make a one off or a regular donation to Hitchin Pantry to help support those in need? If so go to <u>Donate to</u> <u>Hitchin Pantry</u>

Hitchin Pantry needs a top-up of fresh, frozen or seasonal food

If you want to top up the Pantry when something is needed, but hasn't been donated, you can. To make a financial donation just select Hitchin Pantry

Hitchin Pantry



and choose whether it will be a regular donation or a one-off.

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Set up a regular donation

The next page takes you to your payment details and you can also Gift Aid any donations you make and give **Hitchin Pantry** even more!

Thank for helping continue to be generous.

You can still donate fresh food when the pantry is open on Fridays and Saturdays and other food can be left in the collection box in the church porch.

The next Healing and Wholeness service is Sunday 4th September but in-between our quarterly services, the Healing Ministry team are happy to pray with you after Mass on a Sunday.

The French National pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place as usual. Our students will, as usual, help with the care of the sick and other duties as they are needed. Brother Adams will work among the invalids. He will remember us all at the grotto and other times of prayer. May this be
a fruitful time in his preparation for the priesthood.
Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 295 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 when they are talkative and
when they are silent, when they are daring and when they are afraid
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 FrTom 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 <u>cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</u> }
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