



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 2009

20th – 27th August 2022 – 21st 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: [Is 66:18-21](#), [Heb 12:5-7.11-13](#), [Luke 13:22-30](#)

Entrance Ant Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Psalm: Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: Hear our Prayer!

Next Week: [Ecc 3:17-20.28-29](#), [Heb 12:18-19.22-24](#), [Luke 14:1.7-14](#)

Ramblings

Rabbit is up to Tricks © Joy Harjo

In a world long before this one, there was enough for everyone, until somebody got out of line. We heard it was Rabbit, fooling around with clay and the wind. Everybody was tired of his tricks and no one would play with him; he was lonely in this world. So Rabbit thought to make a person. And when he blew into the mouth of that crude figure to see what would happen, the clay man stood up. Rabbit showed the clay man how to steal a chicken. The clay man obeyed. Then Rabbit showed him how to steal corn. The clay man obeyed. Then he showed him how to steal someone else's wife. The clay man obeyed. Rabbit felt important and powerful. The clay man felt important and powerful. And once that clay man started he could not stop. Once he took that chicken he wanted all the chickens. And once he took that corn he wanted all the corn. And once he took that wife, he wanted all the wives. He was insatiable. Then he had a taste of gold and he wanted all the gold. Then it was land and anything else he saw. His wanting only made him want more. Soon it was countries, and then it was trade. The wanting infected the earth. We lost track of the purpose and reason for life. We began to forget our songs. We forgot our stories. We could no longer see or hear our ancestors, or talk with each other across the kitchen table. Forests were being mowed down all over the world. And Rabbit had no place to play. Rabbit's trick had backfired. Rabbit tried to call the clay man back, but when the clay man wouldn't listen Rabbit realized he'd made a clay man with no ears.

Jesus spent his life inviting the people of the Gospel into the kingdom.

They had ears but refused to listen.

Diary Dates

Sun 21 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 . Proceeds from this coffee morning will go to provide goods for the Hitchin Pantry. Cakes, preserves, books and religious cards and artefacts will also be on sale. All are welcome. Thanks to all who supported last Sunday's Coffee Morning. £124.50 was raised to purchase goods for the Hitchin Pantry.
Tuesday 23 Aug	
10.30am Coffee Morning Hall	
Wed 24 Aug	
1pm Funeral Mass Margaret Connolly	
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall *****	
7pm RCIA EC	
Thurs 25 Aug	
1pm Italian Club Hall	
Fri 26 Aug	
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall	
Sat 27 Aug	
1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall	

Prayer diary

Opportunities for communal prayer

Tuesday 11.30am Meditation Emmanuel Centre
7pm Eucharistic Service Church
To Zoom click on [Eucharistic Service](#)

Wednesday 9.30am Rosary Church
2pm Charismatic Prayer 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 pray for **John McDonald** whose funeral is on **Wednesday 31 August 2022 at 12 noon**. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. May the Lord comfort his family

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SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION



Baptism Preparation Course the next course will be on Saturday

22nd October 2022 10-11.30am in the Church Hall. [Register here](#)

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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 catholicmarriageprep@outlook.com with your full names if interested. Many thanks.

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First Reconciliation and Holy Communion programme 2023 Application forms for next year's FHC programme is now available. Please note: if your child was baptised outside of the parish then you will need to upload a copy of their certificate.

The first parents meeting details:

Tuesday 27th September 7-8.30pm

Please arrive from 6.45 to allow a prompt start (tea and coffee will be served). If you have child care issues, then children are welcome to join.

Applications and more details can be found on the following: [First Eucharist](#)

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3pm Sunday 4th September, we are holding our next **Service of Healing and Wholeness**.

Parishioners who feel the need for these gifts are invited to share in this time of prayer, during which the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing will be celebrated.

Other Dates

24th August 7.30pm Prayer for Ukraine Realising that this coming Wednesday, 24th August, marks exactly six months since the current invasion of Ukraine began, Walsworth Road Baptist Church is hosting a gathering for prayer in the church at 7.30pm for around an hour.



This will be more in the format of a time for sharing in prayer together (including, we hope, with some Ukrainian believers), and is in addition to the church being open for Prayers for Ukraine (and anything else) every Thursday evening 6.30-7.30pm. All are welcome.

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Other items of interest

Parish Administrator - St Paul's Walden with Preston. The Vicar and churchwardens are seeking a skilled and flexible administrator to support the day-to-day administration of their two lovely churches and to act as personal assistant to the Vicar. The person chosen will be self-employed, have good people skills and be tech savvy, including familiarity with social media and websites.


The hourly rate will be £12.50, and the work will be spread over 2 to 3 days, including Tuesdays and Wednesdays which are the vicar's two working days.


For a job description and discussion about the role, please contact the Vicar, Canon Stephen Fielding, on 01438 871121 or email him on sfielding@hotmail.com

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Hot off the press – Full report coming soon.

We are delighted to be able to report that we "passed" the Parish Audit carried out by the Diocese last week which was very thorough. Thanks to David Wilson, Cheryl Saunders and John Scott for their hard work preparing for it.

 Fr Benoit Bigard our provincial superior has just returned from a visit to Canada and proposed that we take as our own three challenges Pope Francis put to the people of Canada. 1) Make Jesus known in today's world. 2) Be witnesses of Christian life 3) Be welcoming, all should feel at home in our church.

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 297** *Love made fruitful - The love of a mother and a father* God sets the father in the family to be a presence: 'Children need to find a father waiting for them when they return home with their problems.' (Catechesis 5.2.2015)

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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