



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 2018

22nd- 29th October 2022 30th 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 35:12-14.16-19, Tim 4:6-8.16-18, Luke 18:9-14

Entrance Antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Psalm: **This poor man called; the Lord heard him.**

Intercession: We pray to the Lord

Response: **Lord, hear us!**

Next Week Readings: Wis 11:22-12:2, Thess 1:11-2:2, Luke 19:1-10

Ramblings Anthony de Mello SJ offers the following exercise, used by Saint Teresa of Avila, as a way to experience Christ's love for you: Imagine you see Jesus standing before you... He is looking at you... Notice him looking at you... That is all! Teresa puts it in a very brief formula: "*Mira que te mira.*" Notice that he is looking at you. She adds two very important adverbs, however. *Notice that he is looking at you*, she says, **lovingly and humbly**. Take particular care to feel both attitudes in Christ as he looks at you: see him look at you with love; see him look at you with humility.


Both of these attitudes can be difficult. Many find it hard to imagine Jesus looking at them lovingly — their image of Jesus is that he is harsh and demanding, someone who, even if he loves them, loves them only if they are good. The second attitude they find even more difficult to accept: that Jesus should look at them humbly . . . Impossible! Once again, this is because they have not understood the Jesus of the New Testament. They have never taken seriously the fact that Jesus has become their servant and slave, the one who washes their feet, the one who willingly died the death of a slave out of love for them.

So, look at him looking at you. And notice the love in his look. Notice the humility. One of Saint Teresa's Sisters, who practiced this method of prayer faithfully, for hours on end, said she always experienced dryness in prayer. When she was asked what she did in prayer, she replied, "*I just allow myself to be loved!*"

Spending time being looked at lovingly and with humility by Christ, we will be able to act lovingly and with same humility as Christ!!

Diary Dates

Sun 23 Oct

 **Coffee Morning** after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses in support of Diapalante. Proceeds from this Sunday's coffee mornings after the 8.30 and 10.30 masses will go to support Diapalante's Education Centre in Senegal. Do join us in the Hall where cakes, preserves, books and Christmas cards will be on sale. There will also be a raffle with many attractive prizes.

4pm Interfaith Peace Service to end the Week of prayer for World Peace. All welcome.

Monday 24 Oct

6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Half Term

Tuesday 25 Oct

10.30am Coffee Morning Hall

7pm Scouts Half Term

Wed 26 Oct

6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

7pm RCIA EC

Thurs 27 Oct

1pm Italian Club Hall

6.30pm Brownies Half Term

Fri 28 Oct **Sts Simon & Jude**

2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

Sat 29 Oct

10am Marriage Course Hall

NO PANTRY TODAY

Tuesday 1st November All Saints Masses will be at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm. Envelopes for Masses for the Dead to be remembered will be available from this weekend. They should be returned to the black box on the wall.

Wednesday 2nd November All Souls Mass will be at 10am followed by blessing of the graves in St John's cemetery from 11am.



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

10.30 Mass this Sunday 23rd Oct is a children's Mass and we are having a baptism during our Mass. We ask all children attending to bring their baptismal candles so they can be lit when the young boy being baptised receives his candle. It will be lovely to welcome him to our Christian family. Also don't forget to bring your colouring picture we sent out last week!

This Sunday 23rd October **World Mission Sunday** is the one day in the year when the entire global Church comes together in support of mission. Coordinated by Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, this is an opportunity to support every mission diocese and faith community that needs our help.

It is one of only three annual Papal collections and has been especially chosen by the Holy Father to support the mission of our Church via Missio. This special day is celebrated in every Catholic community in the world. It is a moment of grace to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are living in situations of poverty, violence and oppression.

The theme the Holy Father has chosen this year is: **You shall be my witnesses** (Acts 1:8). In his message for World Mission Sunday 2022, Pope Francis says: *'This is the heart of Jesus' teaching to the disciples regarding their mission in the world. The disciples are to be witnesses of Jesus, in every place and situation, thanks to the grace of the Holy Spirit that they will receive... In a similar way, every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ. The Church's only mission, as the community of Christ's disciples, is to bring the Gospel to the entire world by bearing witness to Christ.'*

Please take an envelope as you leave Church. Many thanks.



We pray for **Philip Holmes** whose funeral is on Wednesday 2 November 2022 at

1pm. May he rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort his family.

The First Holy Communion Enrolment during the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 30th October 2022. We welcome all the young children as they continue on their journey preparing to make their First Holy Communion.

Young Adults Social

What: Parish Pals Young adults social (18-35)
When: Monday 31st October at 7pm
Where: Our Lady's Hitchin- inside Church
Why: Meet like-minded people and have a moment to connect with God in Adoration.

Charismatic Prayer Group

What: Charismatic Prayer (Open to all)
When: Every Wednesday 2-3pm
Where: Our Lady's Hitchin- inside Church
Why: Meet like-minded people and have a moment to connect with God.

Please contact Rob for more information about either of these: roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk or on 07862 764 884

Coffee Mornings 2023 – we have several spaces for Sunday Coffee mornings and if you would like to offer to do this and raise some money for a charity or cause please let [Cheryl](#) know asap. Dates available at present are:

- Jan 1 & 29
- May 7 & 28
- Jun 4 & 11
- Jul 2 & 30
- Sept 24
- Oct 29
- Dec 24



Selection Packs for Christmas Hampers In the past we have collected chocolate logs but this year we have been asked to collect **200 chocolate selection packs**. If every family who attends Mass just brings us **1 pack** we will have more than enough. They seem to be in the shops now (just check the use by date is after Christmas) so bring them along and leave them in the box in the porch and we'll give updates on how we are doing!



Your help needed to clean church on 5th November at 11.30am in preparation of the ordination of Br Adams and the visit of Cardinal Vincent the following weekend. The more who come the quicker it will be. Please let [Alan](#) know if you are able to come.

Sunday 6th November 3pm is our **In Memoriam** service for those in our parish who have died in the past year. We welcome all parishioners to this service where we read out the names of those who have died since our last service and prayer for all those we have loved and who have died.



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Congratulations to Grace Wills and John Scott who are finalists in this year's Caritas volunteers' awards. The awards are being held face to face for the first time in three years on 17th November. We'll update you after the event. Thanks to them both for all they do for the parish and parish projects.

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Parish Mission Statement **Last chance to make your comments** If you have any suggestions for amendments please let [Trish Bonnett](#) know by 30th October.

*Our mission in the Church, is to:
live simply, peacefully and sustainably;
be attentive to the call of the Holy Spirit;
support the poor and marginalised;
be a source of comfort to those in need
and seek out those distanced from the Lord.
We strive to strengthen the bonds of families and
friendship through our ministries, outreach and
liturgies.
We ask the Lord's guidance to make us mindful of
our duty to protect the earth and everything he has
created and make us joyful messengers of His
Kingdom.*

**PROVIDING SPACES WITH
RESPECT, DIGNITY & WARMTH**



We had a good response to our **Warm Spaces** appeal but we do need more people. **Warm Spaces** is an initiative to open our church facilities to those who cannot afford to heat their homes or have nowhere warm to be. We plan to

offer our church hall for this purpose on Fridays as soon as possible as it is getting colder. **Hitchin Pantry** volunteers will support this from 12pm-4pm and we need more parishioners who will help with setting up from **8am** and welcoming and providing teas and coffees from **9am-12pm**. If you are willing to help for an hour setting up or 2 hours for welcoming in this way please let [Trish](#) know asap. Trish will be attending a meeting about this on Thursday and then will plan to get things moving as soon as possible after that.

Other items of interest

North Hertfordshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – Consultation : Consultation on proposed walking and cycling improvements in Hitchin, Letchworth Garden City, Baldock, Royston and Knebworth as part of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs). Consultation started on 26th Sept 2022. **Closing date: 7th November 2022** click on [Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan](#)

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LONDON JESUIT CENTRE **Ignatian Way I.** An Introduction to Ignatian Spirituality. Starts 8th November 6:30pm - 7:45pm at the London Jesuit Centre 114 Mount Street, London. Click on [London Jesuit Centre](#) for booking details.

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Last but very much not least.....

We are sure the parish would wish to make a contribution to a gift for Br Adams on the occasion of his ordination (traditionally a chalice is given) If you would like to can you leave your donation in an envelope marked **Br Adams gift** with Cheryl or place in the black box on the wall in the church. There will also be a card and sheets to sign in the porch from next weekend.



"Here is what I must strive for; to take Jesus Christ as my teacher, my light, my strength, my model. That says it all." E d'Alzon



Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 306 *Love made fruitful - An expanding fruitfulness* Married couples should have a clear awareness of their social obligations. With this, their affection does not diminish but is flooded with new light. As a poet says "Your hands are my caress/The harmony that fills my days./I love you because your hands/Work for justice.// If I love you, it is because you are/My love, my companion and my all./And on the street, side by side,/We are much more than just two. (Mario Benedetti, 'Te Quiero').

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 Trish Bonnett	roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk } 01462 459126 press 4 trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk }

Once again..... Trish is in the Wintershall nativity and still not offering any space in her Inn to a young couple in need. The Nativity is a great

drama for all ages and includes sheep and a donkey and horses. It is a wonderful experience for all the family. Do consider coming this year.



THE NATIVITY JOURNEY

A PLAY FOR ALL THE FAMILY

14 - 19 DECEMBER 2022

BOOK NOW!



Come and enjoy the real Christmas story at Wintershall

Walk with Mary, Joseph and the donkey on the winding, steep road to Bethlehem. Register for the census and journey with other travellers, Roman soldiers and shepherds as you enter the stable to watch the miracle unfold.

The Wintershall Nativity Journey is an unforgettable experience, bringing the true meaning of Christmas to life for the whole family.

Each performance lasts approximately 90 minutes.

Please note that some scenes are performed outside and some inside Holly Barn theatre, your visit includes a 10 minute walk up a steep hill. Limited disabled parking is available for those who need it most next to Holly Barn Theatre but this must be pre-booked by emailing admin@wintershall.org.uk.

Holly Barn, Bramley, Guildford GU5 0LR.



Book tickets **now** on our website:
www.wintershall.org.uk
or call 01483 892167

