



# 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 2019

29<sup>th</sup> October – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022 31<sup>st</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:** Wis 11:22-12:2, Thess 1:11-2:2, Luke 19:1-10

**Entrance Antiphon:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

**Psalm:** I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

**Intercession:** Lord, hear us

**Response:** Lord, graciously hear us!

**Next Week Reading:** Macc7:1-2.9-14, Thess 2:16-3:5, Luke 20:27-38

**Ramblings** Ronald Rolheiser writes: *Gospel-challenge doesn't shame us with our pettiness, it invites us to what's already best inside us.* He suggests that there are two types of people in us one is tall, the other small like Zacchaeus. The small one is petty, small minded, self-centred, controlling while the tall one is outward looking, adventurous, hopeful, ready to acknowledge failure and learn from it. The small one finds it hard to let God into his life in case he is forced to change, lose control or be challenged in a way that he is unable to respond or found wanting. The tall one invites God into his life and is willing to be challenged, ready to accept his failings and inabilities. He allows God to lead him down avenues he would never dare to walk alone or appear frightening. But, once the small Zacchaeus welcomes Jesus into his home he is transformed into the tall man ready to make recompense and restitution not out of guilt but out of love, because Jesus showed love to him - a love in which enabled him to grow tall.

In speaking to seminarians Pope Francis reiterated the importance of being so close to the sheep so as to smell like them. How can a minister serve the family community to which he has been invited without knowing the family members both in their goodness and in their failings, however ugly these might be? In the recent synod preparation, the Pope invited his huge family to get to know themselves better: to talk about faith, about joys and sorrows, about smallness and tallness. He, like Jesus, knows we are full of riches, many of which we fail to uncover and are lost. Acknowledging our smallness before God and with others will set the tall you and the tall me free. Just think of the wonders and hope that will follow!!

## Diary Dates

<b>Sun 30 Oct</b>
 <b>Coffee Morning</b> after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses in support of The Live Simply Group.
<b>Monday 31 Oct</b>
<b>6pm Beavers &amp; 7.15pm Cubs</b> Scout Hall *****
<b>7pm Parish Pals</b> Young adults social in church. Adoration followed by social time locally.
<b>Tuesday 1 Nov All Saints</b>
<b>Masses</b> at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm *****
<b>10.30am Coffee Morning</b> Hall *****
<b>7pm Scouts</b> Scout Hall
<b>Wed 2 Nov All Souls</b>
<b>4.30pm FHC Non-Faith Schools</b> LCR *****
<b>11am Blessing of graves</b> in St John's and Wilbury Hills cemeteries. *****
<b>6pm Feed Up Warm Up</b> Scout Hall *****
<b>7pm RCIA</b> EC
<b>Thurs 3 Nov</b>
<b>1pm Italian Club</b> Hall *****
<b>6.30pm Brownies</b> Scout Hall
<b>Fri 4 Nov St Charles Borromeo</b>
<b>2-4pm Hitchin Pantry</b> Scout Hall
<b>Sat 5 Nov</b>
<b>1-3pm Hitchin Pantry</b> Scout Hall

## 🙏 Prayer diary 🙏

Opportunities for communal prayer

**Tuesday 11.30am Meditation** Emmanuel Centre

**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*

**The First Holy Communion Enrolment** is during the 10.30am Mass this Sunday welcoming all the young children as they prepare to make their First Holy Communion.

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**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November All Saints** Masses will be at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm. Envelopes for Masses for the Dead to be remembered are on the table as you enter the church. They should be returned to the black box on the wall.

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**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November All Souls** Mass will be at 10am followed by blessing of the graves in St John's cemetery with Fr Tom from 11am. Fr Andrew will also bless the graves of family members who are at Wilbury Hills Cemetery at 11am. If you have a family member there please let [Cheryl](#) know that you will be attending. Email or ring on 01462 459126.

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Thanks to all who supported a recent Sunday's coffee morning. £122.15 was raised by the One World/Live Simply group for **Aid to the Church in Need**.

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Many thanks to all those who supported last Sunday's coffee morning. £122 was raised for **Diapalante's education centre** in Senegal.

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We pray for **Ann Campbell** whose funeral is on Friday 11 November 2022 at 10am. May she rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort her family.

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The parish library has been re-arranged and a number of books have been withdrawn -- because they are old, or because there is more than one copy of them, or because they do not really fit in a church library. Most of the books that have been withdrawn will be placed on a table in the hall after the Sunday morning Masses for the next few weeks (except Christmas Day!), and parishioners are welcome to take any that are of interest to them.



**Please also borrow books from the library!**

**Warm Spaces** – Trish attended a meeting on Thursday at which many churches were represented and the good news is that it is hoped that there will be a warm space provided at a different church on Monday – Friday at differing times and the wonder was that we didn't clash in our provision. We will be working on an advertising plan to get the message out to the community. We have also applied for a grant from Caritas to support the provision in our church and were awarded £1000. We will be applying for a grant from the Council also. As the weather is clement at present we are planning to start this service in December so our first date would be Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Trish will be in touch with all volunteers soon. Please keep this initiative in your prayers. 🙏


### Other Dates


**13 Nov 6.30 to 7.30 pm** The next meeting of the Churches Together in **Hitchin Theological Society** is in St Mary's Church. Three speakers from different Christian traditions - Chris Kell, Chris Bunce and Steve Jackson - will give presentations on the theme of Reconciliation and Forgiveness and there will be the usual opportunity for general conversation at the end. All are welcome.

### Other items of interest


#### White Peace Poppies

Kathleen Tuck of Christchurch has once again arranged for the sale of white peace poppies for those who wish to buy them to support the work of the Peace Pledge Union. They will be available at Christchurch on Sunday Nov 6<sup>th</sup> and Nov 13<sup>th</sup> before the morning services. Kathleen comments: *'This year, especially, we remember how fragile peace is and how conditions to create peaceful solutions need to be worked for. Remember the suffering of Ukraine and some Russians at this time'*.

 Make your own the sentiments of Jesus Christ, his words, his actions; make these your own sentiments, your own words, your own actions. This is seems to me, is what it means to put on Jesus Christ. E d'Alzon

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 306** *Love made fruitful - An expanding fruitfulness* A married couple who experience the power of love know this love is called to bind the wounds of the outcast, to foster a culture of encounter and to fight for justice.

**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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