



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 2025

10th – 17th December 2022 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A

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 35:1-6.10, James 5:7-10 Matt 11:2-11

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Psalm: Come, Lord, and save us.

Intercession: Lord hear us

Response: Lord graciously hear us!

Next Week: Is 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7 Matt 1:18-24

Ramblings Although John's question *Are you're the Christ?* may not be our question. Jesus' reply: *'Tell him what you see and experience in what I say and do and the miracles I work'* is pertinent to us. It leaves us with the question of *Who Jesus is for me?* Advent is the time for us to ponder this question more deeply. The promises made through the Advent readings is that we are on the verge of a new age that heralds a deeper harmony, mutual respect, honour and dignity; an age in which people work hard at creating and maintaining peace. As we reflect, we will realise that this new age does not come gifted on a plate but something towards which we need to work. Hopefully our reflection will lead us to make plans of how we are going to do this. Reassuringly, this Sunday encourages us to spend this period of waiting with **joy filled expectation.**

God comes, and his ways are near to us. God saves in history. Each person's life, each one's history, is the meeting place God comes to.

How satisfying to know one need not go to the desert to meet him, need not go to some particular spot in the world. God is in your own heart. St Oscar Romero December 1978

Let us imagine peace and nonviolence for ourselves in a world of peace and justice where no mouth is left hungry and the forgotten are embraced. Let us imagine a world of enough for all. Let us imagine touching sadness with a smile. Let us imagine touching discouragement with hope. Embracing this incredible abundance, we trust that it is never too late for God to invigorate and revitalize a person, a church, the world.
Sister Edith Prendergast RSC


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Friday 23rd Dec 6.30pm Service of Carols and readings for Christmas.
This will be followed by mince pies and



Diary Dates

Sun 11 Dec

 **Coffee Morning** after 8.30am and 10.30am
Masses' Proceeds from this Sunday's coffee morning will go to support **KISS**
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4.30 pm Carols in the Market place
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6.30pm Hitchin Theological society St Mary's on the theme *Portraying God,*.

Monday 12 Dec **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

10am Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass will be followed by tea and coffee in the hall with a short video of her apparition. All very welcome.
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1.30pm School Dress Rehearsal LCR
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6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Scout Hall

Tuesday 13 Dec **St Lucy**

10.30am Coffee Morning Hall
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1.30pm-4pm School Nativity LCR
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2pm Craft Circle UCR
+++++
7pm Scouts Scout Hall
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7pm FHC Session 6 Hall

Wed 14 Dec **St John of the Cross**

10.30am Praise Group LCR
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4.30pm FHC Non Faith Schools Hall
+++++
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall
+++++
7pm RCIA EC

Thurs 15 Dec

1pm Italian Club Hall
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6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall

Fri 16 Dec

10am-5pm Warm Spaces Hall
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2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall
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2.30pm Scripture Session with Fr Andrew EC



mulled wine in the hall.

Sat 17 Dec

2-4pm Hitchin Pantry 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

and now the boiler is working well, all radiators in the church and upper committee room are also working well. Thanks for keeping us all warm.



JHN students would like to invite Seniors and Older Adults to their school on **16th Dec 10am - 11.30am** for a morning of refreshments and festive cakes, seasonal music and entertainment. RSVP to Mrs A Berwick Tel: 01438 314 643

or email BerwickA@jhn.herts.sch.uk

Assembly of Crib Friday 23rd Dec

11am If you can give an hour or so to help assemble our crib please come along. We also need **greenery** to decorate the back drop - **fir tree greenery** is most helpful. Please leave this outside the back door of the church by Friday morning.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sat 24th Dec

5pm Children's Christmas Mass

9pm Vigil Mass

Sun 25th Dec


Mass at 8.30am and 10.30am


Mon 26th Dec 10am Feast of St Stephen

Other Items of interest


The Universe Catholic Weekly Is true to its mission of being "a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it" Keeping Catholics informed about their faith, and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep the high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription. There is an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount.

Many thanks to Michael Eltringham and John Scott who helped sorting out the electrical issues

 Recent good news. Four Vietnamese brothers have been admitted to final vows. Please keep them in your prayers. Fr Andrew thanks everyone for their good wishes and prayers. He is having physiotherapy and hopes to be about soon.

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 313** *Love made fruitful - An expanding fruitfulness*
A family's fruitfulness expands and in countless ways makes God's love present in society.

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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