



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 2035

18th – 26th February – 7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 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: Lev 19:1-2,17-18, Cor 3:16-23, Matt 5:38-48:38-48

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Psalm: **The Lord is compassion and love.**

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: **Hear our Prayer!**

Next Week: Gen 2:7-9,3:1-7, Rom 5:12-19, Matt 4:1-11

Ramblings Key words this week are **Temple:** we are temples of God becoming so in baptism. The other word is **Holy.** Be Holy as God is Holy!! A challenge!"

Definitions of Holy: A Holy person is worthy of complete devotion and trust. Someone who has set themselves to serve God. It refers to something connected with God. A holy person is someone who has dedicated their lives to living in God's way, it is the way we live rather than an attribute. Ultimately it is someone or something that speaks to us or opens us up to the presence of God. As temples we provide a place for God to live within us. Rather than keep God locked within the temple, the holy person lets God use them for his kind purposes. We use Holy in reference to God.

Ronald Rolheiser believes gratitude to be the ultimate virtue, undergirding everything else, even love. He also believes that it is synonymous with **holiness.**

Macrina Wiederkehr osb


"Holiness comes wrapped in the ordinary. There are burning bushes all around you. Hidden beauty is waiting in every crumb."

Taking off your shoes is a sacred ritual. It is a hallowed moment of remembering the goodness of space and time. It is a way of celebrating the holy ground on which you stand

O God beyond all names, I want to encounter the unfathomable poem that you are. O Holy One, you have pitched a tent in my heart. You are my shelter, my tree of life. You are my cave, my haven, my abode. You are the sanctuary where I dwell. I am the sanctuary where you dwell. I do not ask you to free me from the storms of life that assist my growth. I ask only that you protect me and help me make wise choices. O let it be!

Diary Dates

Sun 19 Feb

 Proceeds from the **Coffee Morning** after 8.30 & 10.30am Masses by One World Live Simply will go to **'Feed Up Warm Up'** a homeless charity based in our parish which provides a safe, welcoming place along with a hot meal, chat and practical and emotional help. Cakes, preserves and books will be on sale. All are welcome.

Mon 20 Feb

6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Scout Hall

Tues 21 Feb

10.30am "Tuesday Chat" Hall

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2pm Craft Circle LCR

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7pm Scouts Scout Hall

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7pm FHC Session 8 Hall

Weds 22 Feb **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Masses will be at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses. There will also be a service of readings and hymns (**not a Mass**) at Milford Lodge Care home at 11am with Fr Andrew.

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4.30pm FHC Non Faith Schools Hall

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6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

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7pm RCIA EC

Thurs 23 Feb

6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall

Fri 24 Feb

10am-4pm Warm Spaces Hall includes coffee after morning Mass. Do pop in.

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2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

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2.30pm Scripture Fr Andrew Christopher House



Fri 24 Feb cont

6.30-8.30pm Prayers for Ukraine at Walsworth Road Baptist Church. We mark with sadness, one year since the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. Everyone is invited to pray for an end to this conflict and for the safety of all those who remain in Ukraine, despite the ongoing threat to life.

Sat 25 Feb

1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

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3-5.30pm Baptism Course 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 UCR

Thursday 6.30pm Meditation Emmanuel Centre

All are welcome for private prayer at any time in the church which is open 8.30am - 7pm

KISS Coffee Morning - thank you to all those who prepared, baked, helped, and supported last Sunday which raised **£127** – we are blessed to be supported with the generosity of you, our parish community. Thank you to all those actively involved in the raffle, tidying up and clearing away tables.

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Our Lady's Special Support Group thanks all those who helped to raise **£167.70** at the recent coffee morning.

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A huge thank you to you all for your generosity towards the **CAFOD** retiring collection last weekend. A total of **£645.16** was raised for their

continued work in Turkey/Syria amid the recent earthquake.

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We pray for **John Drumm** whose funeral is here on **Mon 6 March 2023 at 10am**. May he rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort his family.



Other Dates

25th March Celebrate the joyful Feast of the Annunciation at Walsingham, England's National Shrine to Our Lady, to pray for the sanctity of life. Coach fare to be confirmed /special rates for families. Contact rosemary.roscoe@gmail.com or 07723 546642 or Margaret Leahy 01727 763832 margleahy@gmail.com

Other items of interest

Another stream of recycling now available.


1) Cheese Packaging Recycling Programme


Accepted Waste: (placed in the red bin with the bread bags) - All brands of flexible plastic cheese packaging & nets & Plastic labels from Cathedral City Minis packs of 6.

Waste that is NOT accepted: - Plastic cheese tubs and trays & Cardboard cheese boxes and paper wrapping (these can be recycled through local council facilities)



- Aluminium cheese wrapping
- Wooden cheese boxes
- Cheese wax and wax paper
- Cheese slice dividers
- Squeezy cheese tubes
- *No Labels from nets* products of mini cheeses

 Our prayer life is nourished by the Word of God, particularly through the meditation of Holy Scripture, the celebration of the Divine Office and the liturgy. Its centre is the Eucharist. Communion in the body of Christ spurs us on to live in brotherly love and to be servants of unity among people. Through the reception of the sacrament of penance we open ourselves to God's forgiveness and thereby share more fully in the Paschal Mystery (Rule of Life. Prayer)

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 323** *Love made fruitful - Life in the wider family* - Being sons and daughters Parents must not be abandoned or ignored, but marriage itself demands they be 'left', so the new home will be a true hearth, a place of security, hope and future plans, and the couple can truly become 'one flesh'.

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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