



# 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 2042

8<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION - 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** Acts:10:34-37-43, Col3:1-4, John 20:1-9  
**Entrance Antiphon:** I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.  
**Psalm: This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad**  
**Intercession:** We pray to the Lord  
**Response: Lord, hear us!**

**Next Week: Acts:2:42-47, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31**

**Ramblings** At the Easter Vigil the cantor sings:  
*Oh, truly necessary sin of Adam, blotted out by the death of Christ!*

*O blessed fault, which won so great a redeemer!*  
Some think that Jesus may not have come to live among us if sin had not entered into the world but did not Jesus also come because he wanted to teach us about the love the Father has for us? We did sin and Jesus came to redeem us through his death and resurrection. But Jesus also came to show us that God will not let sin and evil defeat him and that God can use something evil to create not only something good but something better.

The Easter Sequence makes clear: we gather together to offer a sacrifice of thanking and praise to Christ. We, the sheep, have been ransomed by the lamb of God, Jesus Christ. The innocent one has given his life to reconcile us and bring us back to the Father with love.

Tremendous grace flows from Jesus through his death and resurrection not only of forgiveness and mercy and love but with a desire to help and strengthen us to be his hands, his arms, his mouth and his ears in the world today. Together we make Jesus incarnate, he whose presence sustains, strengthens and promotes the silent goodness, kindness and compassion that pervades the world. When we seek the presence of the risen Christ this Sunday and we will, it will be found in the images of Jesus all around us.

*“If we have died with Christ, we believe that we are also to live with him. His death was death to sin, once for all; his life is life for God.”*

On Sunday we will proclaim with rejoicing that:  
**The Lord has risen. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
You will find him in yourself and in your families!!  
A blessed Easter to you all! Alleluia!

## Diary Dates

<b>Sun 9 April Easter Sunday</b>
 <b>Coffee Morning</b> after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses will be provided in support of local <b>Refugees/Asylum Seekers</b> . All are welcome.
<b>Mon 10 April</b>
Bank holiday
<b>Tues 11 April</b>
<b>NO “Tuesday Chat”</b> ††††††††††
<b>2pm Craft Circle LCR</b>
<b>Weds 12 April</b>
<b>10.30am Praise Group LCR</b> ††††††††††
<b>6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall</b> ††††††††††
<b>7pm RCIA EC</b>
<b>Thurs 13 April</b>
<b>10.30am St Pio LCR</b> ††††††††††
<b>11.30am Funeral Regina Lorenzetto RIP</b>
<b>Fri 14 April</b>
<b>10.30am-3.30pm Community hub</b> Coffee after morning Mass. Do pop in. ††††††††††
<b>2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall</b> ††††††††††
<b>2.30pm Scripture Fr Andrew Christopher House</b>
<b>Sat 15 April</b>
<b>1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall</b>

**Thanks** to the many people who have prepared the Liturgies, the church, the music and who have taken part in our services, cleaning, setting up, flower arranging, welcoming, serving, reading, ministering, singing, having feet washed and all the myriad of tasks that have contributed to our Holy Week. We are truly blessed in our parish and Frs Tom, Andrew and Adams thank you for your service and offer you Easter blessings.

 **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*

**Cheques for Easter Collections.** It would be appreciated if cheques for the Easter collections are made out to the Parish, and not to the Order. This will make accounting more straightforward. Please be assured that all such donations will end up in the right place!

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We thank parishioner James Laing for his angelic singing of Vivaldi's Stabat Mater after the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday evening. For those who were not able to be there you can watch this prayerful musical moment by clicking [James Laing Stabat Mater](#)

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Trish thanks the many parishioners who watched or attended the Wintershall Passion in Trafalgar Square on Good Friday. You can watch it now at [Wintershall Passion](#) You don't see a lot of Trish but you can certainly hear her!

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There will be a Mission Appeal at all Masses next weekend on behalf of The Sisters of St Peter Claver.

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**Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023** – Thank you for your generous support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. This year's funds will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster,


as well as initiatives run by parishes. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to continue this work throughout our Diocese. You can view a short film about the impact of your previous support, by clicking on this link: [The People of Caritas Westminster - YouTube](#)


**Other Dates**

**23<sup>rd</sup> April 3pm** at St Hugh of Lincoln Parish in Letchworth Fortescue Hall - screening of the movie **THE LETTER**, a documentary film by Emmy-winning director Nicolas Brown, released in October 2022 by the Laudato Si' Movement. The title refers to Pope Francis' encyclical letter Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home, written in 2015 and addressed to 'every person living on this planet'. In the film, Pope Francis himself describes how the encyclical came about, and we hear something of the reaction that followed its publication. The film's protagonists represent four voices from the world's peripheries, deeply impacted by climate change: we see a letter going to each of them, containing an invitation to a personal dialogue with Pope Francis. Following the movie, refreshments will be available. All are welcome. The event is free of charge. Donations can be made on the day to CAFOD to support their work combatting Climate Change effects on vulnerable communities.


**Other items of interest**

**CAFOD thanks** Shukla is a mum in Bangladesh who has been very worried about her children's nutrition. After joining a community project in Bangladesh, which is supported by CAFOD, Shukla has a productive garden and can grow food for her son. This generosity and compassion reaches hard-working mothers like Shukla. Thank you. To read Shukla's story, go to [cafod.org.uk/GiftInWill](http://cafod.org.uk/GiftInWill)

 St Augustine does not hesitate to call charity 'that affection of the mind which aims at the enjoyment of God for His own sake. This affection is instilled by God but it is nevertheless an affection that entails the free movement of the human heart and this is what constitutes its beauty (E d'Alzon meditation on charity).

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 330** *Love made fruitful - Being sons and daughters* How I (Pope Francis) would like a Church that challenges the throw-away culture by the overflowing joy of a new embrace between the young and old! (Catechesis 11.3.2015).

**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

<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	E-mail: <a href="mailto:hitchin@rcdow.org.uk">hitchin@rcdow.org.uk</a>
<b>Asst Priest</b>	Fr Adams Tatsidjoun 07438 408350	Website: <a href="https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/">https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/</a>
<b>Parish Tel no</b>	01462 459126	
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Cheryl Saunders	<a href="mailto:cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk">cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk</a> }
<b>Pastoral Assistants</b>	Robert Hitchcock	<a href="mailto:roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk">roberthitchcock@rcdow.org.uk</a> }
	Trish Bonnett	<a href="mailto:trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk">trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk</a> }