



# 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 2044

22<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER - 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:2:14.22-33, 1 Pet 1:17-21, Lk 24:13-35

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Psalm: **Show us, Lord, the path of life. Alleluia!**

**Intercession:** Lord in your Mercy

Response: **Hear our Prayer!**


**Next Week:** Acts:2:14.36-41, 1 Pet 2:20-25, Jn 10:1-10

**Ramblings** This week's question (*which we ask many times in our lives*) is where and how will we meet Jesus having celebrated with great joy his resurrection? In fact, we may turn away from Jesus, give up, seek other avenues of life but Jesus never gives up on us, never stops trying to find ways to meet us, on whatever road we might be traveling. He will not give up until we recognise his presence. Jesus' presence is recognised and experienced by many in the eucharist but we can also encounter him in the people we meet along the way. In the people who show kindness and warmth to someone who is homeless, in the care of a wife for her dying husband, in the joy that a child can bring to the family, in the generosity of someone supporting a person with long term mental-health difficulties. On these occasions and others when our hearts are warmed and burn with admiration, it is because we have recognised Christ's presence. Like it or not life takes us through times of crucifixion, trials, sufferings, disappointments, unfair and unjust treatment, envy, jealousy some of which endure. The Easter experience states categorically that however long the wait, resurrection, new life, new joy, new hope will follow.

If or when our hopes and dreams are shattered and we believe that Jesus has left us and we turn away seeking some sort of solace far away (Emmaus), *we never ever quite reach Emmaus. In one guise or another, Christ will always meet us on the road, burn holes in our hearts, explain the latest crucifixion to us, and send us back - to Galilee (our hearts) - and to our abandoned discipleship. Only there in the Galilee of our hearts will it all make sense for us once again.*

(Ronald Rolheiser)

## Diary Dates

<b>Sun 23 April</b>
 <b>Coffee Morning</b> after 8.30am and 10.30am by <b>The Flower Group.</b>
<b>Mon 24 April St George</b>
6pm & 7.15pm Beavers/Cubs Scout Hall
<b>Tues 25 April St Mark</b>
10.30am "Tuesday Chat" Hall ††††††††††
2pm <b>Craft Circle</b> LCR ††††††††††
7pm <b>Scouts</b> Scout Hall ††††††††††
7pm Fr Andrew 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ordination Mass followed by <b>Bring and Share Supper.</b>
<b>Weds 26 April</b>
6pm <b>Feed Up Warm Up</b> Scout Hall ††††††††††
7pm <b>RCIA</b> EC
<b>Thurs 27 April</b>
10.30am <b>St Pio</b> LCR ††††††††††
6.30pm <b>Brownies</b> Scout Hall
<b>Fri 28 April</b>
10.30am-3.30pm <b>Community hub</b> Coffee after morning Mass. Do pop in. ††††††††††
2-4pm <b>Hitchin Pantry</b> Scout Hall ††††††††††
2.30pm <b>Scripture</b> Fr Andrew Christopher House ††††††††††
6pm-8pm <b>Youth Group</b> Hall Year 9 and above welcome for <b>Faith, Food &amp; Fun</b> with Rob, Fr Adams and others, every fortnight.
<b>Sat 29 April St Catherine of Siena</b>
1-3pm <b>Hitchin Pantry</b> Scout Hall

**One church cleaner needed on Saturday once every two months** to dust and vacuum the church and porch as part of a team of three. This is an important service to keep our church clean and beautiful. Please contact [Alan O'Mahony](#) if you can help.

 **Prayer diary** 

Opportunities for communal prayer

- Tuesday 11.30am Meditation** Emmanuel Centre  
**No 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*

**A big thank you** to all who came and supported the OWLS Coffee Morning last week. A total of £80.70 was raised for Pax Christi. Also, £236.37 was raised on Easter Sunday for the local Refugees.

To all who supported the recent Mission Appeal on behalf of the Sisters of St Peter Claver, a total of £683.37 was raised and has been sent to them. As always, thank you for your ever continued generosity.

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Next Sunday the Fairtrade stall will be available after both Masses for all your needs.



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**25<sup>th</sup> April 7pm** There is still time to sign up for Fr Andrew's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination Mass and Bring and share supper. If you have a memory or anecdote you would like to share about Fr Andrew please send it to [Trish](#) asap. There is a card for him for you to sign in the porch after all Masses this weekend.

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We welcome **Annabel Drain** into the Family of the Parish, through the Sacrament of Baptism. We pray for her and her family as she starts this important time in her life – the life of Faith.



**A final call for the Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony on Saturday 13th May at 2.30pm**


The Cardinal is inviting to this celebration all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023. Details of attendees (names, wedding date, full postal address and email address or telephone number) should be given to Cheryl asap.


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**Priest Training Fund** Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 48 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 14 of whom are from our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. Last year 8 men who studied at Allen Hall were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. This fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You make your donation online by visiting [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations). Thank you for your generosity.


**Other Dates**

**23<sup>rd</sup> April at 3pm 27<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Helping Herts Homeless** in our parish Hall. Please contact Jayshree Mistry at [jayshree.mistry@helpinghertshomeless.org.uk](mailto:jayshree.mistry@helpinghertshomeless.org.uk) for the Teams invite if you wish to join virtually.

 As our Assumptionist General Chapter approaches we are asked to pray that the decisions made will be truly those needed for our foundations worldwide and that the Chapter will face the need for new apostolates given the changes in the world of today. Please keep these intentions in your prayers over the coming months.

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 332** *Love made fruitful* - Very often it is grandparents who ensure the most important values are passed down to their grandchildren.

**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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<b>Asst Priest</b>	Fr Adams Tatsidjodoung 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> } 01462 459126 press 4
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