



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 2046

6th – 13th May 2023 – 5th 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:6:1-7, 1 Pet 2:4-9, Jn 14:1-12 0

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia. **Psalm: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. Alleluia!**

Intercession: Lord, hear us

Response: Lord, graciously hear us!

Next Week: Acts: 8:5-8, 1 Pet 3:15-18, Jn 14:15-21

Ramblings *You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God, who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.* (1 Pt 2:9)

These words carry a significance this weekend like no other as Charles III is anointed King. Charles was chosen by his birth to a mother, Elizabeth II, who gave her life in service of the people, of us. Indications are that Charles also wants to dedicate his life in service of the people; we pray that it will be so. Like him, however, we too have been chosen but we had the freedom to say no. Being chosen by God means God wants us for some special service that no other person can do (viz John Henry Newman) which will not be imposed but offered. Priesthood, like kingship, is also a call to service and the power received enables us to offer our whole lives in service and to be able to act in the name of the people in giving thanks and praise and glory to God. In whatever form of priesthood we live, we are called to feed and nourish people, to encourage them to offer their lives in service with royal dignity and honour. We are not special because we are set apart but because we choose and yearn to sing the praises of God in all that we do in our lives. We allow and want the presence of God, who lives within, to shine with the light of Jesus. We want to be a light of support, of reassurance, of guidance, of wisdom, of healing of gentleness and compassion: in fact, with all the qualities and virtues of a true servant of the Word of God. It is in this way that we become living models of the Way, the Truth and the Life of Jesus.

Diary Dates

Sun 7 May
 Coffee Morning after 8.30am and 10.30am by The Pro Life Movement . All are welcome.
Mon 8 May
6pm & 7.15pm Beavers/Cubs Bank Holiday
Tues 9 May
10.30am "Tuesday Chat" Hall *****
2pm Craft Circle LCR *****
7pm Confirmation Session 7 Hall *****
7pm Scouts Scout Hall
Weds 10 May
10.30am Praise Group LCR *****
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall *****
7pm RCIA EC
Thurs 11 May
6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall
Fri 12 May
10.30am-3.30pm Community hub Coffee after morning Mass. Do pop in. *****
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall *****
2.30pm Scripture Fr Andrew Christopher House
Sat 13 May Our Lady of Fatima
1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout 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

First Holy Communion and Confirmation cards are on sale after the 8.30 and 10.30 Masses this weekend and also after Mass on Tuesday morning of this week.

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Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. It is not too late to make a donation if you wish. Envelopes are available in the back of the Church or by contacting the parish office. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood. For more information, or to make a donation, visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

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Do you want the 5pm Sunday Mass to return? We need to have at least 30 people to have it sanctioned for celebration on a Sunday. We will also need the following roles for each Sunday to be covered:

- 1 MC to set up, serve during the Mass and clear after.
- 1 Minister of the Word for the readings, bidding prayers and announcements.
- 1 Eucharistic minister to help with the distribution of communion from the chalice.
- 1 person to take the collection.

If you wish to attend this Mass and help please complete your details on the sheet in the porch with the number from your family attending and tick the help you would be willing to give. Full training is available for all roles.

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The Cheese Packaging Recycling Programme – Accepted Waste (placed in the Red bin with the bread bags)

- All brands of flexible plastic cheese packaging and nets.
- Plastic labels from Cathedral City Minis packs of 6.


- Waste that is NOT accepted:** - Plastic cheese tubs and trays (these can be recycled through local council facilities)
- 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


Other Dates

14th May 6.30 to 7.30 pm The next meeting of the Theological Society at St Mary's Church. The theme is 'Singing the Faith' and the speakers will be the Rev Val Reid of Christchurch, Alan Childs of St Mary's and Tim Hallas of Zeo Church. There will be the usual opportunity for conversation at the end of the presentations. All welcome.

Other items of interest


Join a Health Walk today Walking is a simple and easy way to get more active. It helps you look and feel good and helps create a greener, cleaner, healthier Hertfordshire #walkingtocleartheair. Take a walk during the day and feel the benefits of fresh air on your mood and focus. To register and find a Health Walk near you go to [Health Walks Summer Timetables](#) There are walks for all abilities and backgrounds. Our entry level First Steps walk is ideal for those who are otherwise inactive or are returning after injury or illness. And you will meet others in the same situation. To find out more about Health Walks and what our volunteers are doing to clear the air go to [National Walking Month: Health Walks - YouTube](#)

 Congratulations to Fr Roland Imhoff on his 105th birthday. He is the oldest Assumptionist ever. There are a few at 99. These elderly religious are mainly in our retirement homes in France. Their apostolate reduced by age is now very much one of prayer, prayer for the Church, the Assumption family and world peace. The sick and the elderly are the powerhouse of the Church through their apostolate of prayer.

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 334** Love made fruitful - Life in the wider family - Being sons and daughters Grandparents' words, their affection or simply their presence help children realise history did not begin with them, and they need to respect all that came before them.

We are a Safeguarding parish EduCare (now part of Tes) safeguarding leaflets can be downloaded from our website at <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin/diocese/safeguarding-in-our-parishes/>

Safeguarding representatives: Trish Bonnett and Maria Greene via 01462 459126

 If you have a need for prayer, please contact **Mary** on **07759195487** and let her know your prayer intentions

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