



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW

16 Nightingale Road, HITCHIN, SG5 1QS

(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)

Newsletter No 2051

10th June – 17th June 2023 – CORPUS CHRISTI - Year A

Mass Times

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am, 5pm

Monday – Saturday 10am

Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am

during Exposition. All Masses are
livestreamed [Livestream Mass](#)

A Prayer for Asylum Seekers and Refugees: Lord Jesus, you call us to welcome members of God's family who come here to escape oppression, poverty, persecution, violence, and war. Help us not be fearful, doubtful or suspicious. Help us welcome migrants and refugees with joy and generosity, realize that you call us to learn the ways of peace and justice, share of our abundance and witness to your love for everyone, as we celebrate the many gifts they bring. We make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Readings: Deut 8:2-3,14-16, Cor 10:16-17, John 6:51-52

Entrance Antiphon: He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Psalm: O praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Intercession: We Pray to the Lord

Response: Lord hear us!

Next Week: Deut 11:18,26-28,32, Rom 3:21-25,28, Matt 7:21-27

Ramblings The importance of this celebration is marked by the fact that it has been moved from the Thursday to the Sunday, to enable more people to be blessed with life in this special way. We have little difficulty in believing we are made in the image of God even if we lack understanding or a realisation of what this really means. Although we cannot touch or see love, we can feel its presence as a power that surrounds, fills and overpowers us. When the love of God is given to us in the eucharist, we understand this as God's true presence. Since nothing exists without God's presence, we are not celebrating some past event, or remembering some event that happened some 2000 years ago, but God present, alive and real and full of love. When we experience this presence in the Eucharist, it becomes easier for us to feel and be touched by the presence of the divine in every area of creation: the earth and sky, the trees and plants, the water and the sun, the sea and the wind. All radiating not just the presence of God but God's resplendent love.

Ronald Rolheiser says:

"The Eucharist is not abstract, nor is it a theological instruction, or a creed; neither is it a moral precept or a philosophy, it is not even an intimate word. It is corporeal, it is an embrace, it is a kiss. In fact, it is something shockingly physical. It is the real presence in the deepest possible way."

Another writer wrote:

The reason why I personally prefer to receive the host in my hands is because I feel it takes me closer to how the disciples would have been given the bread 2000 years ago and that long gift of apostolic succession stretches out to me in the here and now. For me Christ is tactile and when I receive the host, I am also able to say "Take my hands and make them as your own".

Diary Dates

Sun 11 June Corpus Christi



Coffee Morning after 8.30am and 10.30am in support of Parkinson's UK. All are welcome.

Mon 12 June

6pm & 7.15pm Beavers/Cubs

Tue 13 June St Antony of Padua

10.30am "Tuesday Chat" Hall

2pm Craft Circle LCR

7pm Confirmation Session 11 Hall

7pm Scouts Scout Hall

Weds 14 June

10.30am Praise Group LCR

6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

7pm RCIA EC

Thurs 15 June

6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall

Fri 16 June Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

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 17 June Immaculate Heart of Mary

1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

Our stained glass windows are up and lit. Thanks to everyone who has made this possible. Fr Andrew is delighted. This has been his desire since before the new church was built.



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

Thanks to everyone who supported the coffee morning on the Feast of Pentecost. £110 was raised in aid of Zoe's Place, Children Hospice, Coventry.

Our Lady's Special Support Group would like to thank all who helped with their recent coffee morning - £112 was raised. Many thanks.

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



Next weekend 18th June the Fair Trade stall will be open after the 8.30 and 10.30 Masses for all your fair trade items.



Cook required for Priests during the week The lady who has been cooking for our Priests over the past few years is leaving the area and we need to find someone who is interested in providing this service which is a paid position. A main course and simple pudding to be provided by 1pm Monday-Friday. You can cook in the presbytery kitchen or cook in your own home and bring to the church. It is possible to bring cooked meals for two days at a time if that works better. If

this is of interest to you please contact Cheryl in the parish office in the first instance.

Return of Sunday 5pm Mass this Sunday 11th June. If this was your normal Mass time in the past please do attend over the next few weeks.

On **Wednesday 21st June at 7pm** we will be holding a Bereavement service for all those who have anyone they wish to remember in prayer. All parishioners are very welcome to attend. There will be light refreshments served afterwards. Could you let Cheryl know if you plan to attend so we have an idea of numbers.

Other Dates

14 June 6.30 Westminster Cathedral Friends will host a quiz with a Fish and Chip supper. Enjoy a good night out whilst supporting Westminster Cathedral. Advanced booking by 10am on Wednesday 14 June for catering to be finalised.

20 June 7.15pm Cardinal Vincent Nichols will speak and host a number of speakers on the theme Coronation Reflections. Full details of booking at <https://tinyurl.com/CathedralFriends>

Other items of interest

We now have a QR code for that supporters can scan to go to the easyfundraising page for Our Lady's RC Church Hitchin. See the QR code here and you can raise money for the church without having to spend anything additionally.



Fr d'Alzon reflections. The Assumptionist General Chapter started on June 1st at Valpre, Lyon, France. This important meeting will elect the next Superior General, his Assistants and map out the apostolate priorities for the next six years. It is scheduled to last just over three weeks. Please keep it in your prayers.

Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 339 *Love made fruitful - Life in the wider family - Being sons and daughters* Relationships between brothers and sisters deepen with the passing of time. When consolidated by an atmosphere of openness to others, it is a great school of freedom and peace

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

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