



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, 5pm
Monday – Saturday 10am
Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am
during Exposition. All Masses are
livestreamed [Livestream Mass](#)

Newsletter No 2054

1st – 8th July 2023 – 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

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: Kings 4:8-11.14.16, Rom 6:3-4.8-11, Mat 10:37-42

Entrance Antiphon: All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

Psalm: I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

Intercession: We pray to the Lord

Response: Lord, hear us!

Next Week: Zech 9:9-10, Rom 8:9.11-13, Matt 11:25-30

Ramblings Clearly Jesus is not an either-or man but a both-and. We are called to love God and our neighbour because we cannot do one without the other. However, because we have to start somewhere, Jesus wisely says start with God. Another wise person said: *When you put God first you never come second and nor does anyone else.*

To help us understand this more clearly, God reveals himself to us as a community, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and, although he sees all of us as unique individuals, God also sees us as a community, as a family of brothers and sisters. Wisdom has also taught us to think of the Spirit emanating from the Father and the Son and uniting them; it is the same Spirit, given to us in Baptism, who makes a home within us, who unites us and makes us a family. It is this family that we celebrate with love and thank God every time we gather for the eucharist. The more we become integrated into this family the more we will see how Christ is present within us, within others and within creation. We will then begin to see what another wise person saw: *"The butterfly in a caterpillar, the eagle in an egg, the saint in a selfish person, life in death, unity in separation, the divine in the human and the human in the divine."*

In an Easter letter before his death, Bishop Klaus Hemmerle of Aachen wrote, *"I wish each of us Easter eyes, able to perceive in death, life; in guilt, forgiveness; in separation, unity; in wounds, glory; in the human, God; in God, the human; and in the I, the You."*

And when you are able to see in this way, you will begin to understand the wisdom of Jesus who asks us to put God first!

Diary Dates

Sun 2 July
 Coffee Morning after 8.30am and 10.30am Masses is in support of Cancer UK. All are welcome.
Mon 3 July St Thomas
6pm & 7.15pm Beavers/Cubs +++++
Tue 4 July
10.30am "Tuesday Chat" Hall +++++
2pm Craft Circle LCR +++++
7pm Confirmation Session 13 Hall +++++
7pm Scouts Scout Hall
Weds 5 July
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall +++++
7pm RCIA EC
Thurs 6 July
10.30am St Pio +++++
6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall
Fri 7 July
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall +++++
2.30pm Scripture Fr Andrew Christopher House
Sat 8 July
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 - 8pm



We welcome into the Family of the Parish, through the Sacrament of Baptism, **Alana Ann Perry**; we pray for her and her Family as they start this important time in their lives – the life of Faith.

Many thanks to all who supported the recent One Wold/Live Simply Group Coffee Morning. A total of **£115.70** was raised for “Freedom from Torture”.

Our children had a wonderful celebration for their **First Holy Communion** last Saturday. Many thanks to all involved. We look forward to seeing many of them in Masses over the next few weekends as they collect their certificates at the first Mass they attend.

Other Dates

4th July 7pm-9pm The Well meets again in St John’s Parish Centre 296 Sundon Park Road LU3 3AL for tea/coffee. Michelle Moran (appointed by Pope Francis) to Inaugurate International Charis Service Worldwide, is speaking. Everyone welcome. Donation only event.

9th July 6.30pm Hitchin Theological Society is in St Mary’s Church. It will take the form of a conversation between Stephen Copson and Charmaine Sabey-Corkindale on the theme **Tradition and superstition**. All welcome. This is the last meeting in the current session - we start again in September.

14th July 7-8:30pm **Mission Unleashed: Embracing the Social Dimension of Evangelisation** hosted Mission Unleashed: an event with Cardinal Tagle. The Church has a mission but what is it and how should we do it? Cardinal Tagle of the Philippines has

responsibilities for evangelisation and mission in the Vatican and is an inspirational speaker. Join CAFOD online for Mission Unleashed: Embracing the Social Dimension of Evangelisation hosted by CAFOD Please see www.bigmarker.com/cafod/evangelisation to book your place for this webinar and be sent the recording. All welcome.

Other items of interest

HAPpy camps are back this summer Hertfordshire County Council is once again launching its free summer activity camps for children and young people in Hertfordshire.

Fully funded holiday activity camps return for the summer holidays, providing eligible children and young people with the chance to meet friends, learn new skills and enjoy nutritious food.


The HAPpy programme, funded by Hertfordshire County Council and the Department of Education (DfE) via the government’s Holiday Activity and Food programme, and coordinated by Herts Sports Partnership and the Hertfordshire Community Foundation, is running approximately 180 activity camps with over 40,000 free places from 24 July – 31 August 2023 (not bank holiday).


At the sessions, which vary in duration from four to seven hours long, eligible children and young people can enjoy free food, free sports and free craft activities this summer. They will also receive advice on nutrition and cooking skills to enhance their health and wellbeing.

If your child is eligible and you have not received your code ask your school office for it.


Free places can be booked from 12 noon on Monday 26 June via the Herts Sports Partnership’s website:

<https://sportinherts.org.uk/booking>

 The delegates at the General Chapter finished their work last Saturday. A great blessing was an audience at the Vatican with Pope Francis. Despite his poor health he addressed the members and took time to be photographed with them. The decisions of the chapter will soon be sent out to us all .and will give us the priorities for the next six years.

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 342** *Love made fruitful - Life in the wider family - Being sons and daughters* Growing up with brothers and sisters makes for a beautiful experience of caring for and helping one another.

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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