



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 2071

28th October – 4th November 2023 – 30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

Prayer for those seeking sanctuary

Lord Jesus, we pray for those members of God's family who come here to escape oppression, poverty, persecution, violence, and war. Let them not meet with fear, doubt or suspicion from the local population. May those seeking sanctuary in our country receive a warm and generous welcome as they settle-in and commence their new life. Joyfully, we welcome the many gifts they bring to us. We make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Readings: Ex 22:20-26, Thess 1:5-10, Matt 22:34-40

Entrance Antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Psalm: **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: **Hear our Prayer!**

Next Week: Mal 1:14-2:2.8-10, Thes 2:7-9.13, Matt 23:1-12

Ramblings "Love God and love your neighbour!"

Easier said than done. An American columnist Dale Francis has a son with major disabilities. He wrote the following about him:

Guy is my son and I love him love him not as the young man he might have been, but as the son he is. If we are given children, we must love them as they are. Sometimes, when I see signs of the leadership he might have shown, the compassion he possesses, I have a twinge of sadness for the man he might have been, but it doesn't stay with me even a second. I love him for who he is.


One small achievement that gave me great satisfaction was a day I was busy writing and typing and Guy wanted my attention. I kept on with my work. He came up to me and showed me pictures he'd drawn and I said they were very nice and I went on working. He wrote "Guy" – the only word he knows how to write and I said that was very good and went on working.

He was away for a little while and then came to me beaming. "Look, Daddy", he said, and handed me another piece of paper. There he had written in big but crooked letters "DALE", my name. How he had written it I do not know. He had never written it before and has never written it since. But he did it that day. He held it up very proudly. "That's very good, Guy," I said. "Do you want to play want me to play with you now?"

He grinned and I left my typewriter and so we sat down and drew airplanes and cows and trains and I thought there aren't many fathers who could gain a sense of joy in seeing a twenty-year-old son's writing of a name.

Loving your neighbour means loving them as they are. It's the best way to show love for God!!

Diary Dates

Sun 29 October	
	Coffee Morning after 8.30am and 10.30am will be provided by KISS . All are welcome.
Mon 30 October	
9.30am	Parent & Toddlers Hall *****
6pm & 7.15pm	Beavers/Cubs – Scout Hall
Tue 31 October	
10.30am	"Tuesday Chat" Hall *****
2pm	Craft Circle LCR *****
7pm	FHC Session 4 Hall *****
7pm	Scouts - Scout Hall
Weds 1 Nov	
4.30pm	FHC Non Faith Schools Hall *****
6pm	Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall *****
7pm	RCIA EC
Thurs 2 Nov	
10.30am	St Pio Group Hall *****
1pm	Italian Club Hall *****
6.30pm	Brownies - Scout Hall
Friday 3 Nov	
2-4pm	Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall *****
2.30pm	Scripture Fr Andrew Christopher House
Sat 4 Nov	
1-3pm	Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

This **Saturday 28th October** Fr Norbert Fernandes will be celebrating **6pm Mass** at which Fr Justin will formally be inducted into the parish as our Parish Priest by making his profession of faith and affirming his loyalty to the Bishop. Please join us for this important time in Fr Justin's ministry in our parish.

 **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
12pm **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

Wednesday 1st November All Saints Masses will be at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm. Envelopes for Masses for the Dead to be remembered are on the table as you enter the church. They should be returned to the box after Mass and this will be removed after each Mass. At other times envelopes can be posted through the parish letter box.

Thursday 2nd November All Souls Mass will be at 10am followed by blessing of the graves in St John's cemetery with Frs Tom, Justin and Adams from 11am. Fr Andrew is also willing to bless the graves of family members who are at Wilbury Hills Cemetery at 12pm. If you have a family member there please let [Cheryl](#) know that you will be attending. Email or ring on 01462 459126.

Sunday 12th November 3pm is our **In Memoriam** service for those who have died in the past year. We welcome all parishioners to this service where we read out the names of those who have died since our last service and prayer for all those we have loved and who have died.



Our Lady School Admissions Evening Tuesday 15th Nov 7pm Places available for September 2023. You're invited to visit Our Lady Catholic Primary School for our Admissions evening.



The Second Collection next week will be for the **Sick and Retired Priests of our Diocese**. Most Priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to service in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. Last year, the Diocese of Westminster provided care to 82 retired Priests, at a cost of £850,000. Caring for our brother Priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is a fundamental part of the mission of our Diocese. By supporting the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund, you can help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met. You will find an envelope in the Porch. Please take one home and bring it back with your donation next week. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. The envelopes and poster feature a QR Code that you scan with a phone camera to donate online. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all our clergy; active, retired and ill. Thank you.

Other dates


Nov 11th 7pm North Herts Orpheus Choir at Tilehouse Street Baptist Church performing a number of pieces under the theme of "In Memoriam". Funds raised will go to the Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal. Pay on the door £10 (concessions £8). **Please note we will be having the Orpheus Choir at Our Lady's for a Christmas concert on 9th December so please make a note of this for your diaries.**


Other items of interest




New UK Laws to Make Charging An Electric Vehicle Easier & Quicker. Click [EV Laws](#) for details.

Needed - a parishioner with accounting skills to inspect the accounts for a registered charity (with a small budget) **Street Talk**. If you can help please contact oliver@street-talk.org.

 First of all, since you have come together in community, live in a household of perfect harmony, having but one mind and one heart intent on God. (Rule of St Augustine)

 **Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 357** Pastoral Perspectives - Proclaiming the Gospel of the Family Today
The Synod Fathers highlight the need to highlight factors within our cultures that prevent authentic family life and lead to discrimination, poverty, exclusion and violence.

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 Justin Kasereka 07438 793351	E-mail: hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Asst Priest	Fr Adams Tatsidjoudoung 07438 408350	Website: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin
Retired Priest	Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	Parish Tel no 01462 459126

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