



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 2085

3rd February – 10th February 2024 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

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 Job 7:1-4,6-7, Cor 9:16-19,22-23, Mark 1:29-39

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord, our God.

Psalm: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Intercession: Lord in your Mercy

Response: Hear our Prayer!

Next Week: Lev 13:1-2,44-46, Cor 10:31-11.1, Mark 1:40-45


Ramblings Despite his lack of hope and the disappearance of joy and even filled with despair of anything changing having lost everything, Job never gives up trusting in God. To have this kind of trust in God is beyond many but it provides a basis for offering the Sacrament of the Sick at all masses this week-end. Suffering always brings us to Christ on the cross which reminds us of the suffering that he accepted for us. It is there, the Cross, where we find the source of our healing in body, mind and soul. It is through Jesus' suffering that we have been saved from an eternal death. It is there on the Cross that Jesus won life for us both here and hereafter.

In order to make this healing real, the sacrament of the sick was given to us. So often Jesus healed the sick through touch even when people touched him in order to be healed. Jesus takes the hand of Simon Peter's mother-in-law and raises her from her bed and she is healed.

John Henry Newman wrote *We all suffer for each other, and gain by each other's sufferings, for none ever stand-alone here; though he will each stand by himself/herself one day hereafter; but we are social beings and we go forward to our longed-for home as one of a large company.*

St Teresa of Avilla prayed: **Teach me, my God, to suffer in peace the afflictions which You send me that my soul may emerge from the crucible like gold, both brighter and purer, to find You within me.** *Trials like these, which at present seem unbearable, will eventually become light, and I shall be anxious to suffer again, if by so doing I can render You greater service. And however numerous may be my troubles and persecutions ... they will all work together for my greater gain though I do not myself bear them as they should be borne, but in a way which is most imperfect.*

Diary Dates

Sun 4 February
 Coffee Morning after 8.30am and 10.30am will be provided by The Pro Life Movement . All are welcome.
Mon 5 February St Agatha
9.30am Parent & Toddlers Hall *****
6pm & 7.15pm Beavers/Cubs – Scout Hall
Tue 6 February Sts Paul Miki and companions
10.30am “Tuesday Chat” Hall *****
2pm Craft Circle LCR *****
7pm Scouts - Scout Hall
Weds 7 February
4.30pm FHC Non Faith Schools Hall *****
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall
Thurs 8 February
1pm Italian Club Hall *****
6.30pm Brownies - Scout Hall
Fri 9 February
2-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall *****
2.30pm Scripture Fr Andrew Christopher House
Sat 10 February St Scholastica
10am FHC Session 9 Hall *****
1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

Prayer diary

Opportunities for communal prayer

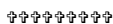
Tuesday 11.30am Meditation Emmanuel Centre
7pm Eucharistic Service Church
To Zoom click on [Eucharistic Service](#)

Wednesday 9.30am Rosary Church
12pm Charismatic Prayer UCR

Thursday 6.30pm Meditation Emmanuel Centre
7 – 8pm Exposition Church

All are welcome for private prayer at any time in the church which is open 8.30am - 8pm

Many thanks to all those that helped at the Sunday Coffee Morning to raise **£140** for Our Lady's Special Support Group.



We still have some Sunday Coffee Morning slots to fill. The following dates are available: **26 May, 30 June, 28 July, 22 September, 29 September and 29 December**. Please let Cheryl know if you would like to host any of these dates to help raise funds for your chosen charities. Many thanks!



We pray for **Lucia Smith** whose funeral is on **Wednesday 7 February 2024 at 1pm at North Herts Crematorium**. May she rest in peace and rise in glory and may the Lord comfort her family.



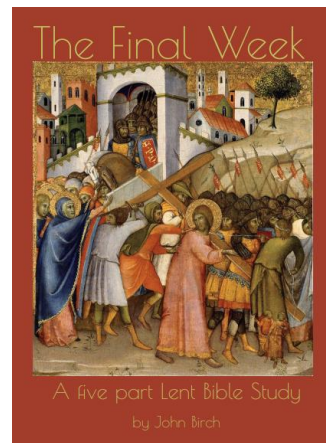
Lent books are available in the porch this weekend. My Day by Day adult book is £1 and the Infant and Junior books are 60p each. Please place all money in the pamphlets box inside the church door.



There are a number of prayer cards in the porch to continue our prayer for the people of Ukraine. Please help yourself to a prayer card.

Our Lady, Door of Mercy, pray for us

CTH Lent Discussion Groups 2024 These take place this year from Thursday 15th February through to Palm Sunday 24th March. Meeting in homes or churches, these can work in various ways. Some are set up just for the five weeks of Lent. Some existing groups that meet all year pause for those weeks



and use the Lent study, invite a few extra people from other churches to join them. Some meet fortnightly and continue well after Easter. Whatever suits people. The study is **The Final Week** by John Birch. There will be sign up sheets in the porch soon.

Fr Tom will be leading one of these groups beginning **Thursday 15th February from 10.45am – 12.15pm** in the Lower Committee Room. Please email Trish, if you wish to attend this group, who will provide you with the materials for the sessions.

Other dates

6th Feb 7pm for 7.30pm Everyone is welcome to come to The Well at St. John's Sundon Park Rd. LU3 3AL .Doors open 7pm for tea and coffee. Praise begins 7.30pm. Ends 9-9.30pm. Donation only. See you there!

1st March 1.30pm World Day of Prayer 2024 at Tilehouse St Baptist Church. A service for everyone with a theme of **Informed prayer, Prayerful Action** with material created by the women of Palestine. All very welcome to attend.



There have been a number of French Assumptionists who have been appointed bishop in the mission countries. Fr Benoit Gschwind is the first one to be named to a diocese in France.. He is now bishop of Pamiers, a diocese which goes through the Pyrenees right up to the border with Spain. The Assumptionists in Rumania have been giving thanks for 100 years in that country despite the war and takeover of communism.



Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 370 Pastoral Perspectives - Preparing Engaged Couples for Marriage
Young people should be helped to perceive the attraction of a complete union that elevates and perfects the social dimension of our life and gives sexuality its deepest meaning.

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** with your prayer intentions

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

Administrator	Cheryl Saunders	cherylsaunders@rcdow.org.uk }	press 2
Pastoral Assistants	Ciara O'Reilly starts hopefully soon	01462 459126	press 5
	Trish Bonnett	trishbonnett@rcdow.org.uk }	press 5