

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 2138

8th February – 15th February 2025 – FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year C

Parish Jubilee prayer – Pilgrims of Hope

Father in heaven, may our faith in you reawaken in us hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us! May the gospel recreate, in us and the cosmos, a new heaven and a new earth. Vanquish the powers of Evil so that your glory will shine eternally. May the graces of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a desire to spread joy and peace throughout the earth. To you be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Readings: Is 6:1-8, Cor 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11

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: Jer 17:5-8, Cor 15:12.16-20, Luke 6:17.20-26

Ramblings Like Isaiah we can sometimes be overcome by the power and presence of God that we feel unworthy of the experience, yet still feel grateful like Isaiah. This is why we greet the eucharist with the words “*Lord, I am not worthy to receive you under my roof ...*” Today Jesus reveals the power and generosity of God and identifies the special place Jesus gave to his disciples.

Once a professor gave a balloon to every student, who had to inflate it, write their name on it and throw it in the hallway. The professor then mixed all the hundreds of balloons. The students were given 5 minutes to find their own balloon. Despite a hectic search, no one found their balloon. At that point the professor told the students to take the first balloon that they found and hand it to the person whose name was written on it. Within 5 minutes everyone had their own balloon.

The professor said to the students: “*These balloons are like happiness. We will never find happiness if everyone is looking for their own. But, if we care about other people's happiness, we'll find ours too!!*”

By working together we will achieve much more than if each of us works alone. By sharing our journey with others, although individually we are like a single unique balloon among many others; when we join together, we can soar into far greater heights than we ever could on our own.

Jesus obviously wanted a synodal church from the beginning i.e. a church that actively encourages participation and dialogue among all its members, where everyone is invited to listen to one another, share their perspectives, and work together to discern God's will on important issues, essentially “*journeying together with Jubilee hope*” As a community we make decisions as the People of God focusing on communion, participation, and mission, while listening and including the different demographics within the church.

Diary Dates

Sun 9 Feb



This Sunday's coffee morning will be provided by **KISS**. All are welcome. We particularly welcome new Parishioners and visitors to join us in the Hall.

Mon 10 Feb **St Scholastica**

9.30am Parent & Toddlers Hall

6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Scout Hall

Tue 11 Feb

10.30am Tuesday Chat Hall

2pm Craft Circle LCR

7.30pm FHC Parents Session Hall

7pm Scouts Scout Hall

Weds 12 Feb

10.30am Praise Group LCR

11.30am Funeral Mass Andrew Cassidy

6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

Thurs 13 Feb

1pm Italian Club Hall

6.30pm Brownies Scout Hall

6.45-8.15pm RCIA LCR

Fri 14 Feb **Sts Cyril & Methodius**

2pm-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

2.30pm Scripture Fr Andrew Christopher House

Sat 15 Feb

1pm-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

The coffee morning last Sunday made **£179.65** for the Pro-life movement! We wish to thank everyone for their support with special thanks to Peter for his professional contribution to hosting the raffle!

We welcome into the Family of the Parish, through the Sacrament of Baptism, **Arthur Enright Cullen**; we pray for his family as they continue this important time in their lives – the life of Faith.



🙏Prayer diary🙏

Tuesday 11.30am **Meditation** Emmanuel Centre
NO Reflection on Sunday readings
Wednesday 9.30am **Rosary** Church
Thursday 6.30pm **Meditation** Emmanuel Centre
Saturday 10.30 **Exposition & Reconciliation**
All are welcome for private prayer at any time in the church which is open 8.30am - 8pm

Livestream policy notifications All our Masses are livestreamed via Facebook. If you do not wish to be seen on the livestream when going to communion please let the MC know before Mass (see him in the sacristy), then sit in the front row pew and stand up for communion when those who are not able to walk forward for communion also stand. Communion will be brought to you by the Priest or a Eucharistic minister. Children who do not wish to be seen on the livestream camera when they come back in after children's liturgy should not go forward beyond the camera table and during the homily at the Children's Mass they should sit beside *with Diocesan livestreaming policy.*

New Sunday Missal – There are still a number of payments outstanding for the purchase of the new Missals. Payment may be made by cash, cheque or bank transfer. Many thanks.

A polite reminder that the Police have asked us to ensure that everyone leaving our Car Park should turn left towards Ickleford Road to exit and not to turn right towards Grove Road. Thank you for your understanding.

There will be a second collection after all Masses next weekend (15th/16th February) in aid of Racial Justice. Racial Justice Sunday is a special day of prayer in the Catholic Church, which focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. The theme: "Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice".

Help needed for a family at Our Lady School

There is a family who have a need for the following items to help them in their new home.

- Washing machine
- Wardrobe for kids
- Sofa
- Duvets
- Rugs
- Pillows
- Curtains
- Bed sheets
- Mirror

If you can help with any of these please can you contact Seaneen Robinson at seaneen.robinson@acumenmobile.com

Other Dates

March 1st 9.45am to 5pm **Day With Mary** is taking place at Westminster Cathedral. Further information at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

Other items of interest

St Thomas More, have Nursery places available from September 2025. There will be an open day on Friday 28 February at 9.30am.

To book your spot – call 01462 620670 or email: admin@STMLetchworth.co.uk



Prayers for our intercession: *We pray for people suffering from illness especially:* Pauline Lanaway, the Fennell families, Stella Paterson, Regine Hallinan, Evie Roberts, Niall Heffron, Ann Milner, Joe Darby, Antoinette Fernandes, John Clark, Greg Knight, Janette Duffy, Margaret Noel, Betty Crawford, Graham Felton, Tina King, Vincent Turner, Ms Lopez-Toxqui, Rogan Hodgeson, Paul O'Reilly, Gaël, and Annette Field.

We pray for those whose anniversary is about now: Winifred Obidiaso, Bertha Robbins, Giuseppa Martorana, Lucia Maria Caruso, Gill Blake, Johnny McGonigle, Vincenzo Lanni, John Byrnes, John Drumm, Violet Adams, Gill Glenholme, George Green, Giuseppe D'Angelo, Agnes McDonald and Bridget Barber. We pray for Andrew Cassidy whose funeral is on Wednesday this week.

Need for prayer? Contact Mary on 07759195487 with your request.



Many of the Assumptionist communities are in the Nord Kivu area of the DR Congo. Working with our sister congregations the Assumptionists in Goma are helping the very many people fleeing from the fighting that is continuing in their region. Please remember in your prayers the many people suffering and those who have lost their lives.



Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 422 *Pastoral Perspectives – Accompanying the first years of Married Life*
 Each marriage is a kind of 'salvation history', from which fragile beginnings grow over time into something precious and enduring.

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

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Retired Priest Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570

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