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 2206

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

31st May – 6th June 2026 – Trinity Year A

A Parish Prayer for Peace 2026 Lord, send us the gift of peace. Change the hearts of those who choose violence and wage war. Turn them away from persecution and lead them towards peace. Transform hatred into understanding, anger into compassion, and fear into hope. Through your love, heal what is broken. Fill us with your Spirit, so that with one voice, we may cry out together, throughout the world: Lord, send us the gift of peace. Amen.

Readings Ex 34:4-6.8-9, Cor 13:11-13, John 3:16-18
Entrance Antiphon: Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.
Psalm: To be praised and highly exalted for ever!
Intercession: Lord hear us…
Response: Lord, graciously hear us!
Next Week: Deut 8:2-3.14-16, Cor 10:16-17, John 6:51-52

Ramblings

Jerusalem was filled with pilgrims from across the known world on Pentecost day— Parthians, Medes, Elamites, visitors from Egypt, Rome, Arabia, and beyond. Different languages, different faces, different stories. And yet, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, something extraordinary happened. Each person heard the Good News proclaimed in their own tongue. Rather than erase their differences, the Spirit transfigured them into communion.

That same Spirit is alive and at work among us today. The Spirit does not wait for us to be ready, or confident, or free from difficulty but meets us precisely in our uncertainty, our weariness, our fragility — and begins a quiet, powerful work of transformation. Like wind, the Spirit moves where he wills. Like fire, he purifies and illuminates everything he touches never leaving us as he finds us.

A young woman had drifted far from her faith. Life had been hard — loss, disappointment, the slow erosion of hope. One evening, she slipped into the back of a church almost without knowing why. She expected nothing. But during the service, something shifted — quietly, without drama, like a window opening in a room that had been shut too long. She described it simply afterwards: "I felt as though someone had breathed on a flame I thought had gone out."

That is Pentecost. Not always thunder and rushing wind, though sometimes that too. More often it is a gentle, persistent breath — warming what has grown cold, illuminating what has grown dark, restoring what life has worn away.This is the breath that filled the apostles who were sent out with a joy they could not contain. The same breath is offered to us. The Spirit who raised Christ from the dead dwells within us — renewing, emboldening, calling us forward. We are not spectators of the Gospel. We are its carriers.

So go — transformed, and filled with the urgent, joyful conviction that the Good News is real, it is alive, and the world is waiting to hear it!!!

Diary Dates

Sun 31 May



Proceeds from this Sunday's coffee morning will go to support **Cancer UK**. Cakes, preserves and books will be on sale. All are welcome especially new parishioners.

Mon 1 June
9.30am Parent & Toddlers Hall
6pm Beavers & 7.15pm Cubs Scout Hall

Tue 2 June
10.30am Tuesday Chat Hall
2pm – 4pm Craft Club LCR
7pm Scouts Scout Hall

Weds 3 June
6pm Feed Up Warm Up Scout Hall

Thurs 4 June
1pm Italian Club Hall

Fri 5 June
2pm-4pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall
2.30pm Scripture Study Fr Andrew, Christopher Hse

Sat 6 June
1-3pm Hitchin Pantry Scout Hall

Prayer diary 🙏

Tuesday **11.30am Meditation** Emmanuel Centre
Wednesday **9.30am Rosary** Church
Thursday **6.30pm Meditation** Emmanuel Centre
Friday **9.30am Rosary** Church
Saturday **10.30 Exposition & Reconciliation**
All are welcome for private prayer at any time in the church which is open 8.30am - 8pm

Many thanks to all those who supported the recent coffee morning. £177 was raised for **Hitchin Pantry**

First Holy Communion: Our First Holy Communion Mass will be celebrated at 2pm on **Sunday 7th June**. Please continue to pray for the FHC children, and their families, as they prepare to receive Jesus for the first time.

FHC Mass- help wanted: We are seeking additional volunteers to help set up and serve refreshments in the parish hall for the FHC children and their families. Donations are very welcome and can be left in the hall kitchen over the FHC weekend (please mark clearly 'FHC MASS'). We thank you for your kind generosity.

RCIA: Our RCIA programme 2025-2026 has now come to an end. A new cycle will begin in the Autumn Term and we will be hosting three taster sessions over the summer. If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church, or would like to deepen your faith, please contact LJ.

Pub Theology St Mark's is holding one of its Pub Theology sessions on **Sunday 7th June**, 7.00 pm in the Angels Pub, Bedford Road, SG5 2NG. It is delighted that the speaker will be the Rev Andrew Henton Pusey of Walsworth Road Baptist Church and he has chosen the theme `Shouldn't God stay in church?' Members of all churches are welcome to come along.

Church Cleaning: Do you have just one hour every 5 weeks, to work with a delightful team to keep our lovely church looking the way it should. For further details, please contact Alan O'Mahony (*alanom@btinternet.com*) for further details."

Healing Sunday on 13th/14th June: Parishioners have the opportunity for prayers and anointing at all four masses during the Mass. All welcome.

Offertory income – April 2026

Offertory	April
Envelopes	£ 498.50
Standing Orders	£ 7439.09
Contactless	£ 583.50
Loose Plate	£ 850.32
Donations	£ 1000
TOTAL	£ 10,371.41



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



Prayers for our intercession: *We pray for people suffering from illness especially:* Rogan Hodgeson, Rita Lambie, Pauline Lanaway, the Fennell families, Stella Paterson, Antoinette Fernandes, Vincent Turner, Paul O'Reilly, Pauline Phillips, Steph Dias, Glennice Burlison, Michael Burke, Evie Roberts, Michael Flatley, Ken Buck, Elizabeth Donnelly, Jim Brookes, the Sheldon family and Margaret Holford.

We pray for those whose anniversary is about now*:* Zita Rowe, Grainne Fitzakerley, Anita Mansi, Philomena Hazel, Maureen Henery, Francis Gannon, Denis Chapman, Bridget Sweeney, Francesca Barrowand Sophie Partridge. **If you have been bereaved and would like to talk with a member of our Bereavement visitors please ring 01462 459 126**

A visitor to the Assumptionist parish in Togo might be surprised to find that the parish church, the community hall and the house for the clergy have all been built in the twenty years since the Assumptionists founded the parish. We thank God that so much has been achieved in so short a time.



Amoris Laetitia the joy of love 484 *Pastoral Perspectives – Casting light on crises, worries and difficulties.- The challenge of crises."* Accompaniment after breakdown and divorce. "Separation may become morally necessary when it is a matter of removing the more vulnerable spouse or young children from serious injury due to abuse and violence, from humiliation and exploitation, and from disregard and indifference. Catechesis (24 June 2015): L'Osservatore Romano, 25 June 2015, p 8.

Parish Safeguarding representative: Tomasz Pernak via **07969 362341**

Parish Priest	Fr Adams Tatsidjodoung 07438 408350	**E-mail:**	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk
Retired Priest	Fr Tom O'Brien 07547 171570	**Website**:	https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hitchin

Parish Tel no 01462 459126	**Sacramental Co-ordinator** L J Ross	ljross@rcdow.org.uk	press 3
	Administrator Siobhan Morgan	hitchin@rcdow.org.uk	press 2

Please note that the Administrator's working hours are Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri (9am-2pm). The Administrator works from home on Mondays, but is contactable by email.