



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW HITCHIN

(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)

Newsletter No 1332

20 - 27 June, 2009

Twelfth Sunday of the Year



Times of Masses		Mass Intention
Sunday	8.30 am	Bridget Lehan RIP
	10.30 am	People of the Parish
	5 pm	Intentions of Bill & Margaret Clarke
Monday	10 am	R/S Richard Creagh
Tuesday	10 am	R/S Stephen Withers
Wednesday	10 am	R/S Peter Kelly Snr
Thursday	10 am	R/S Bridie Shannon
Friday	10 am	R/S Richard Walsh
Saturday	10 am	R/S Bridie Shannon
<i>Anticipated Mass</i>	6 pm	Deceased members of Corcoran Family RIP
Reconciliation		
Saturday	10.30 to 11.15 am	

Contacts	
Parish Priest	E-mail:
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Fr Christopher Burgess	
Pastoral Assistants	Tel: 01462 455577
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Parish Safeguarding Representative	
Carol Mascarenhas	
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If you are going into hospital please notify the RC Chaplain, Bernadette Cassidy on **07884 187463** directly, as the Hospital procedures do not allow them to pass on the information!

Diary	
Sunday 21st	Coffee Morning One World Group
Monday 22nd	Parent & Toddler Eucharistic service Church 9.15 am
	Mothers & Toddlers Group Hall 9.30 – 11.15am
	Meditation Group UCR 12.30 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 23rd	Morning Prayer Church 9.30 am
	Bethany Club Hall 10am – 4pm
	Union of Catholic Mothers Hall 8 – 10pm
Wednesday 24th	Mothers Rosary Group Hall 9.30 – 11am
	Scripture Group LCR 1.30 – 3 pm
	Fourth Talk on Life & Work of St Paul – Hall 8pm
Thursday 25th	Rosary Church After Mass
Friday 26th	NO MASS IN CHURCH MASS AT OL SCHOOL
	Mums & Toddlers Group Hall 9.30-11.15am
Saturday 27th	Adoration Church 10.30 – 11.15am
	Gateway Club Hall 1 – 5pm
Sunday 28th	Coffee Morning Rainbows

Psalm Response: O give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever.

Intercessions
Prayer: Lord, we pray to You....
Response: **May we trust You always!**

If someone close to you has died our Bereavement Team is specially trained to help. You can contact them through the parish office on 01462 459126.



Parish News

This Weekend: We celebrate the second aspect of our Reception of Holy Communion with our Young People: their more visible entry into the Community, when they take a more visible part in the mass and renewing, with their Parents and God Parents, their Baptismal Vows. There are 9 or 10 Families who are celebrating this important moment in their lives of Faith at the 10.30am Mass, this weekend and next. We pray also for those who have been sharing their Faith with the Parents and their Children over the past year.



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Today is also **Fathers' Day**, so we rejoice with all those of you who live this important calling. May your words and example be a continued inspiration and source of guidance to those committed to your love and care!



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One World Group: The proceeds from this weekend's coffee and cakes after mass will go to **SMILETRAIN**, a charity which funds cleft repair surgery for thousands of poor children throughout the world.

During the next month every donation to SMILETRAIN will be doubled, up to a maximum of £50,000. We don't usually raise this amount on Sunday mornings but your generosity will enable us to double our usual donation. Further information about SMILETRAIN will be available in the Hall.



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This month's copy of the Westminster Record is available in the porch. Please remember to place your money in the Pamphlets box between the doors of the church just as you go in. Many thanks.

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Our Lady's School Summer Fayre: The PTA is looking for donations of plants and cakes for stalls at the summer fayre.



Please take any donations to the school on Friday 10th July or contact Rachel Russell on 01462 454127, and she will arrange collection. If anyone is able to spare an hour or two to help either with the set up of

the Fayre or manning a stall for an hour please contact Rachel.

Use of the Church Premises: if Parishioners wish to use the facilities of the Hall for various activities (*not* parties or similar events) or if you know of people who are looking to settle on a place to meet – do let them know that our Hall is available, subject to arrangements being made through Carol, our Administrator, and outside what is needed by the Parish itself.



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It is with sadness that we reported the death on Friday 12th June, of Eileen Davey, a parishioner of many years. Eileen was a member of the CWL. She arranged the flowers and organised the rota and with her husband John, provided the repository for the parish. Her funeral service will be held at St Bonaventure's Catholic Church at 81 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, on Monday 29 June at 11.45 am. Family flowers only but donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Society c/o Austin's, 33 Wigmores North, WGC, Herts AL8 6PG

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Our prayers are asked for Christchurch for two special services they are holding today (Sunday 21 June) to mark their 40th Anniversary as a worshipping ecumenical community on Bedford Road. At 10.45am they have the Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church sharing his vision of Christian Pilgrimage within the context of ecumenism. They will be enacting their pilgrimage by going for a walk then continuing worship, having a picnic and playing games within the grounds of the Hitchin Boys' School. At 5pm the President of the Methodist Conference will be joining them for cakes before he preaches at their service of praise at 6pm on "The call of the church in the 21st century". Christchurch has warmly invited our congregation to join them for these services.



Dates for your diary

Monday 22 June

9.15 am Parent and Toddler Eucharistic service in Church with music and actions to engage the young and the young at heart. (20 minutes –



parents can go into the Mother and Toddler group afterwards.) All parishioners welcome.

Tuesday 23 June



7.30pm there is a Meeting of Governors and Staff of Our Lady's School, to plan the coming year and how we intend to move forward; a shared ministry in which we all share.

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Union of Catholic Mothers
Tuesday 23 June at 7.30pm in the hall. This is the Area Meeting when we welcome our new Diocesan President. Please remember to bring your refreshments and any money or menus for Walsingham.



Wednesday 24 June

Fr Michael is having a steroid injection into his ankle, with ultra sound, to ease the discomfort caused by the muscles which have atrophied during the long time that the foot was misaligned.

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SERVANT OF THE GOOD NEWS

8.00pm: Fr Michael is giving the final Talk in our series on "St Paul, Servant of the Word" on the relevance of his writings to the issues which we face today. As usual, everyone is more than welcome to share, contribute and comment – we aim to finish by 9.15pm.



Friday 26 June

10 am Our Parish Mass is being celebrated in the School by Fr Christopher, whilst Fr Michael is celebrating Mass at John Henry Newman School. We continue our prayer for Fr Joe, the School Chaplain who continues to be unwell. He is a great asset to the School and sadly missed by all the School Community. **THERE WILL BE NO MASS IN THE CHURCH.**

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Save The Children
Community Lunch will be on Friday 26th June from 12 noon to 1.00pm at Church House in Hitchin. They will be serving soup, cheese or ham roll, fruit, tea or coffee for only £3.



Saturday 27 June

Fr Michael is celebrating Mass in the evening at the Church of the Transfiguration, Stevenage, in the absence of Fr Frank.

Saturday 27 June cont

Loreto School Old Girls Reunion

This will take place at the School on Saturday 27 June, 2.30 – 5.00pm. Afternoon tea will be served at 3.30pm at a cost of £5. For further information, or to let us know that you are coming so that we can make the necessary catering arrangements, please contact Pat Allen on 01727 863 431, or at loreto.reunion@yahoo.com.

FUTURE DATES

The Annual Bereavement Service will be held in the Church on **Thursday 2 July at 7.30pm**. There will be an opportunity to place names in a basket of Remembrance which will be placed on the altar. All are welcome.



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Fr Michael's 70th Birthday Party, together with those of you who have significant 00s in your lives: personal or in marriage. This is being held on **Friday 3 July** (his actual Birthday). Details are on the flyer in the porch and hopefully will create a pleasant evening for us to enjoy together. Parishioners and Friends are most welcome! Begins with Mass at 7.30 pm. **Please can those planning to attend sign up on the sheet on the tables so we know for catering purposes.**



The PTA at Our Lady School is holding its

annual summer fair on Saturday **11 July** from 12 noon to 4pm! This year we are looking forward to fun and games with an American theme. We look forward to welcoming all the parish. Raffle tickets are available in the yellow basket in the porch.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST



On the noticeboard is a lovely letter of thanks received by the Parish from the

daughter of an ex-resident at Elmside Residential Home.

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Gap Year Opportunity

SPEC is part of the Diocese of Westminster's Agency for Evangelisation and provides a ministry to children and young people through residential and day programmes for schools and parishes in Westminster Diocese.



We are now recruiting for our volunteer team for 2009-10

- Are you 18-25 years old?
- Are you committed to young people or children?
- Do you have a sense of mission or purpose?
- Are you willing to deepen your faith?
- Do you want to inspire others and transform lives?

See poster on noticeboard for details of posts available or go onto website

www.spec.org.uk/volunteer

is part of



Diocese of Westminster

AGENCY FOR EVANGELISATION

Registered Charity 233699

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Are you a budding young journalist? **The Westminster Record, the Diocese of Westminster's monthly newspaper, has**

launched its first ever Young Persons Writing Competition on the theme of 'My Faith Matters'. If you are aged between 16 and 19, it offers you a chance to write about what your Catholic faith means to you and why it is important to the way you live your life in the 21st Century. The Writing Competition is open to all Catholic young people aged between 16 and 19 who either live or study in the Diocese of Westminster.

We're looking for a newspaper style article of up to 1000 words, which we will need to receive no later than 1 August 2009. The winning entry will receive a cheque for £200 and the two runner up essays, £50 and £25. Judges for the competition will include Bishop John Arnold, Editor of the Westminster Record; Jo Siedleckla, Deputy Editor of the

Westminster Record and Dave Burke, Director of Youth Services for the Diocese of Westminster. For details contact pao@rcdow.org.uk

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Key items from recent Council meeting, in which Our Lady's will be involved and will need your support.

1. Philip Turner, as Chair of CTH, has been invited to organise a conference bringing together those involved in responding to the needs of the homeless in Hitchin. As a first step, he is holding a meeting at his home, 12 Ruskin Lane, 7.30 pm on Thursday 9 July for members of churches who are interested in helping him do so. If you would like to come, please give Philip a ring on 01462 646326 - he will be delighted to hear from you.
2. Dr Brendan Devitt of St Mark's is organising another beginners' New Testament Greek course from September. The first course has been highly commended by those who took part - if you are interested in joining this one, contact Brendan on 01462 621776.
3. Covenant Praise Church is organising a morning on Domestic Violence Awareness on Saturday 3 October. Full details are being worked on and will be sent round shortly but if you would like to know more, contact Janet Graham on 01462 452658.
4. 'Lent lectures' on the theme of unity and mission will be held at Christchurch between 23 February and 24 March.
5. 'Born for this', a dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross and the Resurrection, will be produced by Our Lady's between Easter and Pentecost and they want to do so with full participation from members of all CTH churches.
6. A 'party in the park', involving all churches, will be held, probably in Bancroft Gardens, on Saturday 12 June 2010.



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SUMMER FETE: The John Henry Newman School, on **SUNDAY 12 JULY 12 noon – 4pm.** Come with the whole family and support them. More stalls than ever before and food from around the world! All Welcome

