



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IMMACULATE AND ST ANDREW HITCHIN

(In the care of the Augustinians of the Assumption)

Newsletter No 1337

25 July – 1 August 2009 Seventeenth Sunday of the Year



Diary



Times of Masses		Mass Intention
Sunday	8.30 am	R/S Michelina & Alfonso Fioretti
	10.30 am	People of the Parish
	5 pm	R/S Lucia Maria Caruso
Monday	10 am	Alacoque Gomes RIP
Tuesday	10 am	R/S Thomas Donnelly
Wednesday	10 am	Annie Friel RIP
Thursday	10 am	Intentions of Paul Smith & Family
Friday	10 am	John McNally RIP
Saturday	10 am	R/S Hetty Appleyard
<i>Anticipated Mass</i>	6 pm	Intentions of Stephanie Fernandes
Reconciliation		
Saturday	10.30 to 11.15 am	

Sunday 26 th	Coffee Morning Kings Foundation
Monday 27 th	Mother & Toddler Group Hall 10.00am – 11.30pm
	Meditation Group UCR 12.30 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 28 th	Morning Prayer Church 9.30 am
	Bethany Club Hall 10am – 4pm
	Eucharistic Service Church 7.15 pm
Thursday 30 th	Rosary Church After Mass
	Meditation Group LCR 6.30-7.30pm
Friday 31 st	Mother & Toddler Group Hall 10.00am – 11.30pm
Sunday 2 nd	Coffee Morning Diapalante

Contacts

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Carol Mascarenhas
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Psalm Response: **You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires**

Intercessions

Prayer: **Hear us, Lord**

Response: **Give food to the hungry!**

Parish News- this weekend



The Day of Life Collection falls due, to foster the agencies which support the value and dignity of human life and the conditions necessary to sustain it.

Please be as generous as you can.

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10.30am Mass: we complete the Celebration of **Finley Tye's** Baptism into the Church at our main Gathering of the Community, to emphasise our role as prayer guides and example setters to our Families and Children who are growing into the ways of Faith. We pray therefore, for him and his Family.



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Hospital

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! If you are in Pinehill

Hospital please contact the parish directly.

If someone close to you has died our Bereavement Team is specially trained to help.





IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE DIOCESE CONCERNING THE EFFECTS OF SWINE FLU: With immediate effect, the Diocesan has asked that we suspend the Giving of the Chalice at Communion at Mass, for the foreseeable future. This also applies to the Giving of Communion on the Tongue, which is no longer permissible, so we for ask the forbearance of those of you who prefer to receive Communion in this way to receive, henceforth, in the hand. At the moment we are maintaining the traditional form of the Sign of peace, to see how things progress, when we will follow Government and Diocesan Guidelines. Thank you for your anticipated support for the health and safety of the Community as a whole as we live through this difficult time.

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New Rota for Eucharistic Ministers is available from the link. This has been altered to take into consideration the issues raised above. A new rota will be issued when the Diocese restores normal practice.



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Well done! Congratulations to our year 6 pupils at Our Lady's School, on their performance of "Scheherazade" – our Secondary School will be delighted to receive those who are going there, with its Arts Specialism – they will be a blessing to the School and be blessed in turn with the richness of that School!

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We wish our Teaching and Support Staff at Our Lady's School every blessing, and to our Children a time of refreshment and renewal, as they continue their Journey of Faith and Life with us. We give thanks to the Lord for how our School Community has grown and matured over the past year.

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Altar Frontal Photographs of our Children: have now been returned from the School, especially those from Theresa's Group. They are available from the Parish Office either on Sundays or during the week for collection; we do not want to leave them out on the tables in the Porch. They certainly formed a beautiful tableau for our Celebrations!



The List for Meeting with Fr Michael, concerning Admission to John Henry Newman School is now on the Board, for signing. You will need to bring with you the completed form of your Self Assessment Form; there is no need to bring the child or children concerned. Please make sure that you give as much information as you can about yourselves, asking yourselves the question: "Why is John Henry the School for my son or daughter, or children?"

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Children's Liturgy rota is now available in the link. Please pick up your copy now.

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Thanks to all Traidcraft customers who spent the princely sum of £162 last weekend. There will be no Traidcraft stall in August as Jodi and Rob will be away on their honeymoon.



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The CAFOD collection for July came to £464.30 of which £152 was gift aided.

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Bridie Pinney sends this message: "Thank you all for your Mass Intentions, prayers, cards and good wishes. A Mass will be offered for your Intentions on 1st September. Thank you all and God Bless."

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Pope's New Encyclical

A summary of the Encyclical and the download of the full text can be obtained from the Diocesan website: www.rcdow.org.uk/archbishop



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Next Sunday: at 8.30am Mass: we will complete the Baptismal celebrations for Jan Horak. We pray for him and his Family as he enters into the Journey of Faith and Life with us.

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From the following week onwards: Fr Tom will be in residence and covering the spiritual life of the Parish during the month of August, it is good to welcome an old friend back into the Parish



and we thank him for taking on the responsibility for pastoral care.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 28 July

Eucharistic Service 7.15 pm A simple service where we sit before the altar, think about God's word, pray for ourselves and our needs, and those of our family and friends, in a reflective atmosphere.



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Fr Michael is meeting with Anthony Curran, to look at Catechetical work in the Parish and Deanery for the coming year.

Friday 31 July

12 noon to 1.00pm The next **Save The Children Community Lunch** will be at Church House in Hitchin. Please note that there will not be a lunch in August.



Save the Children®

Saturday 1 August

EDAID is a small charity founded by past parishioner Doreen Rolfe which sends tools and supplies to needy schools in Gambia. Over the years people in our parish have sent material, paper, hand sewing machines etc to help both children and adults in this desperately poor country. Today there will be a further opportunity to support EDAID at a GARDEN PARTY held at 1, Abbis Orchard Ickleford (Pam Brannigan's home) from **12noon until 6pm**. Refreshments including lunches and teas will be available. Further details on the poster in the porch



Other Items of Interest



❶ Does anyone have a wood turning machine which could be borrowed or they would be willing to use to create a lid for a holy water container to be used by the Bishop when he comes to bless the new rooms at Our Lady's School. Please contact the pastoral office if you can help.

❷ Is anyone willing to repaint the Holy Water Stoop in the porch. If you have the time and inclination to help in this way please let Trish know, who will arrange convenient times and supplies for you.

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Grateful thanks to Ann Milner who has brought some **Holy Water** from **Lourdes**.



If you would like to take some please bring a small bottle to the Priest's Sacristy.

Saturday 8 August from 7:30pm ~ 9:30pm in the church hall. On the eve of the 64th Anniversary of the dropping of the Atomic Bomb on Nagasaki (9 August) you are invited to a talk and discussion evening given by **Martin Birdseye** C.Eng MIET

Followed by an exercise in the:

"MORALITY OF THE NUCLEAR DETERRENT"

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Volunteer Opportunities at Stagenhoe can be seen on the website

Sue Ryder Care

<http://www.suerydercare.org/pages/volunteer.html>.

At Stagenhoe they are particularly keen for people to **befriend** residents, to make visits, chat and read, send postcards - just simple little things that can make a difference. There are also opportunities to help with **maintenance and gardening**, and for people to join in with **activity sessions**. These sessions involve arts and crafts. Another area they are keen to expand is **IT**. Some of the residents cannot / have difficulty accessing the internet. It would be great to have a volunteer to help them check their email and explore the web.

There is also a need for fundraising volunteers. They need help with **collection pots** and used to have a lady who took care of them all. At present they have difficulty administering the scheme as they are in various locations. Is someone would be prepared to take responsibility for a village or area? They would also love to have a **coffee morning** at Stagenhoe. There is the opportunity to have bring and buy sales, raffles etc at these events. This would also be a good way of introducing people to Stagenhoe. If you are interested in helping please contact Elliott Port on 01438 871427.

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SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION & TRAINING DATES AUTUMN 2009 onwards

Please put these dates in your diary if you are involved in the Ministry of Reader or Eucharistic Minister, or if you will be preparing or helping a young person prepare for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, First Reconciliation and First Eucharist next year.

You are welcome to join us if you just wish to find out more about your faith. See *overleaf* for dates.

All welcome. We meet in the Lower Committee Room from 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION & TRAINING DATES

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION for parents thinking of presenting young people for Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist & Confirmation. All sessions 8.00pm in the Hall

- †Monday 28th September
- †Monday 19th October
- †Monday 23rd November
- †Monday 14th December

PARENTS MUST ATTEND ALL THESE SESSIONS

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RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

for those interested in finding out more about Catholicism, wanting to become a Catholic, or returning to the practice of the faith -



COME & SEE EVENING

WEDNESDAY 16th SEPT 7.30PM HALL

RCIA SESSIONS START:

WEDNESDAY 23rd SEPT 8.00PM UCR

Please come along to Come & See if you are an **adult** seeking to be confirmed

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BAPTISM PREPARATION

There will be a Preparation Course in the HALL on: **Sundays 8th and 15th Nov** from 3 - 4.30 pm

Please sign up on the sheet on notice board and come along on the days indicated.



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CONFIRMATION FOR YOUNG PARISHIONERS

Confirmation Preparation will start in the autumn. Please watch the notice board for details as dates are yet to be confirmed. **If you wish to be considered for Confirmation you need to make yourself available for all the sessions.**



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MARRIAGE PREPARATION

This will take place in the New Year, so please watch the newsletter for details.



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SCRIPTURE GROUP

Scripture Group will start meeting again on **Wednesday 16th September**



Ministry of the Word

Young Readers' Training

For any young person from year 4 upwards to join a team ministry. If you cannot make any of the training sessions below please let Trish know and she will arrange a further training course.

Wednesday 5th AUGUST 11 – 11.45 am

Tuesday 11th AUGUST 2 - 2.45 pm

Thursday 20th AUGUST 11 – 11.45 am

All sessions will take place in the church.

Adult Reader Training

We welcome new people to this ministry and offer a short training course with supplementary booklet. There are meetings throughout the year for Ministers of the Word to support their delivery of the word in this important aspect of our Liturgy. Both sessions are in the church. Please let Trish know if you are interested in this ministry.

Session 1

Monday 7th SEPTEMBER 7.30 PM

Wednesday 7th OCTOBER 7.30 PM

Session 2

Monday 14th SEPTEMBER 7.30 PM

Wednesday 14th OCTOBER 7.30 PM

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EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS Training

We welcome new ministers who will help with Communion during the Mass and/or take communion to the sick or infirm in our community. This is an important ministry and we are keen to support the development of the ministry in our Parish. The aim would be to have a Eucharistic minister in every family so they could take the Word and Eucharistic to another family member who unable to come to Mass through sickness. Please consider coming to the training. You are under no obligation to take up the Ministry until you feel ready.



Session 1

Thursday 10th SEPTEMBER 8.00 PM

Saturday 12th SEPTEMBER 11.30 AM

Session 2

Thursday 17th SEPTEMBER 8.00 PM

Saturday 19th SEPTEMBER 11.30 AM

Session 3

Thursday 8th OCTOBER 8.00 PM
Saturday 10th OCTOBER 11.30 AM