

# St Hugh of Lincoln RC Church

Parish House: 84 Pixmore Way, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, SG6 3TP

Tel: 01462 683504 Email: letchworth@rcdow.org.uk Parish Priest: Fr Jimmy Garvey

Administrator: Patricia Saunders Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth>

Confessions: Saturday 10.00am to 10.30am and 6.15pm to 6.45pm



**1 December 2013**

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## First Sunday of Advent

*A new season and a new liturgical year begin today, and immediately our focus is on the coming of Christ - but not in the past, we celebrate at Christmas; rather, in the present, and in the future.*

### **First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5**

Isaiah's transforming vision of a lasting peace, crafted from former causes of destruction.

### **Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14**

Salvation is not just about the future. It is near; it is already at hand.

### **Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44**

Stay awake, preparing for the coming of the Son of Man.

## Services and Mass intentions

**Saturday 30 November to Sunday 8 December**

<b>Saturday 30</b>	9.30am	Hilda Boland RIP <i>Feast day of St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland</i>
	7.00pm	Barney and Peg Palmer RIP
<b>Sunday 01 December</b>	8.00am	Julia Helen Luke RIP Anniv.
	9.30am	Leonardo Antonaci RIP
	11.30am	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 2</b>	9.30am	Kathleen & William Cunningham INTS <i>feria</i>
<b>Tuesday 3</b>	9.30am	Fr Howard Houghton RIP <i>Memorial of St Francis Xavier, Priest</i>
<b>Wednesday 4</b>	9.30am	Saverio & Guiseppa Rizzo <i>feria</i>
	10.30am	Funeral Service of Michael Berezowy RIP
<b>Thursday 5</b>	9.30am	Sheila Wagstaff INTS <i>feria</i>
	11.00am	Funeral Service of Eileen Ireland RIP
<b>Friday 6</b>	9.30am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion <i>feria</i>
<b>Saturday 7</b>	9.30am	Oliver Pykerman RIP <i>Memorial of St Ambrose, Bishop &amp; Doctor</i>
	7.00pm	Brenda Ryan RIP
<b>Sunday 8</b>	8.00am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	John Brennan RIP
	11.30am	Hilda Boland RIP

## **Kanyike Project Appeal**

Dear Fr. Jimmy and the whole community of St. Hugh of Lincoln I am most grateful for the sum of £1886.10 given to me for the KANYIKE PROJECT. May God bless you all until we meet again, hopefully, in two year's time.

**Mwebale! Mwebale! Mwebale!**

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

## **APF**

Would the A.P.F. promoters please collect their magazines from the front porch. Thank you  
Rosina Denton.

## **First Holy Communion—update**

Parents session Wednesday 4 December at 7.30pm

Children's session Saturday 7 December 10.30am till Noon

Should you have any queries please contact Julie Cranston at [sthughsfirstcommunion@mail.com](mailto:sthughsfirstcommunion@mail.com) or on 07875 229580.

## **The Alternative Christmas Present**

Give your friends and family the joy of knowing that their present is helping to put the tin roof on the Nursery School at the Kanyike Project. Gift Cards are available from the Repository £5.

## **Advance Notice**

Day of Reflection for Eucharistic Ministers and Readers will take place on 22 March 2014 at the Focolare Centre, Welwyn Garden City, Further details will be provided soon.

## **Giving Smarter**

Thank you to those people who have responded to last week's appeal. If you didn't have a chance to pick up a Standing Order form or Gift Aid form, please contact the Parish Office and these can be posted or emailed to you.

## **Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

As Christmas approaches the SVP would like to make an appeal on behalf of a number of our clients who are in desperate need of financial support.

Rather than making a church door collection we are appealing to those of you who feel you can help to please contact Ciaran (483627) or Frank (671461) who will be happy to receive your donations.

## **Weekly collection**

Total collection and donations to the Church last Sunday: £1,492.77

Thank you for your generosity.

## **Family Open Mic Night in aid of KISS**

Can you sing, play a musical instrument, tell a joke, dance, tell a good yarn?? On Saturday 7 December, we will be hosting a Family Open Mic Night at St Thomas More School in aid of KISS. The entrance fee at £5 per family (payable on the door) is a snip for a night of fun and entertainment. And you can perform too! The stage is open to anyone who has the urge and, from past events, we know there are some of you out there! Please do support us, either by doing a "turn" on stage or simply coming along to watch and have fun. Hope to see you there.

### **Supper Concert, 13 December at 7.30pm**

Come and join Fr. Kakuba in Fortescue Hall for supper and an informal concert –

### **Good Food! Good Music! Good Company!**

Tickets £10 available after Sunday Masses or phone 01462 675117

### **Fortescue Hall**

For parish individuals and groups who require use of the hall, please in the first instance contact Jacquie Maddison Tel: 01462 675117 to check that it is available.

### **St Thomas More School Applications - Diocesan Priest's Reference Forms**

The Parish Office is receiving a number of enquiries re 'Part B'.

If you submitted 'Part A' during the summer, then simply post/hand deliver Part B to Fr Jimmy with a stamped addressed reply envelope. This will then be signed and returned to you.

If you did not complete 'Part A' you will need to make an appointment to see Fr Jimmy at the Parish Office.

Part A is kept by the Parish Office and is not sent to the School.

## **Advance Notice:**

## **Special Collection**

Next Sunday for The Sick and Retired priests' Fund.

**Pope Francis has this week** produced a letter to the Church entitled, *Evangelii Gaudium*, The Joy of the Gospel. While it will be printed in the Catholic press this weekend it is also available to read on-line at:

[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/francesco/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20131124\\_evangelii-gaudium\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_en.html)

### **Statement by Archbishop Vincent Nichols on the Publication of *Evangelii Gaudium***

This Apostolic Exhortation on the proclamation of the Gospel in today's world is a challenge to everyone, without exception.

Pope Francis' words are full of the 'Joy of the Gospel', the Exhortation's very title. They are marked throughout by the immediacy of the Holy Father's character and by the profound compassion which shines through all his actions.

This is a papal document with a difference. In it the Pope speaks of his 'dream' (27) and shares a humorous comment (135). But, at another level, it presents a searching examination of conscience for everyone who seeks to be a follower of Christ and for everyone who claims to have the good of society at heart. No one escapes its penetrating questions.

Yet these questions arise not from a burden of guilt but from a joyful heart, a generous heart which, expanded by God's merciful grace (142), seeks to liberate and renew (24). The document is an exhortation to all of humanity to let our hearts be taken up into the very heart of God (178).

Continued/...

**Statement Continued:** It presents a vision for the pattern of life of the Church present throughout the world, for parish life, for the work of the preacher, for the catechist, for the bishop, for the business person and the politician and for the ministry of the Pope himself. It contains a radical look at the crisis of poverty in our world and at the role of economics.

It offers a new light on the Church's social teaching and calls for dialogue between faith, reason and science, with our fellow Christians, with the Jewish community, with other religions and with society, especially in the context of religious freedom.

Indeed a spirit of freedom permeates this text as does the constant call for everyone to enter into the mercy of God and to offer that same mercy and compassion to others without reserve.

Pope Francis proclaims that by baptism we are called to be missionary disciples and that the spirit of our calling springs from this conviction: 'We have a treasure of life and love which cannot deceive, and a message which cannot mislead or disappoint. It penetrates to the depths of our hearts, sustaining and ennobling us. It is a truth which is never out of date because it reaches that part of us which nothing else can reach. Our infinite sadness can only be cured by infinite love.' (265)

This Apostolic Exhortation lays out the enterprise which lies ahead of us all. It is inspiring and presents some of the challenges faced by our world today for 'a Church without frontiers' (210).

+Vincent Nichols

26 November 2013

### Dates for your diary:

Date	Event/Activity	Time & Place
7 December	KISS Open Mic Night	St Thomas More School
13 December	Supper Concert in aid of Kanyike Project	7.30pm, Fortescue Hall
15 February 2014	St Valentine's Coffee Morning in aid of Kanyike Project	Fortescue Hall
14 June 2014	Barn Dance in aid of Kanyike Project	Fortescue Hall

### Our Catholic Schools:

***St Thomas More RC Primary School, Highfield, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3QB***

Tel: 01462 620670 Email: [admin@strcjmi.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@strcjmi.herts.sch.uk) Website: [www.strcjmi.herts.sch.uk](http://www.strcjmi.herts.sch.uk)

***John Henry Newman RC Secondary School, Hitchin Road, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 4AE***

Tel: 01438 314643 Email [admin@jhn.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@jhn.herts.sch.uk) Website: [www.jhn.herts.sch.uk](http://www.jhn.herts.sch.uk)

### Hospital Chaplains:

*Jacqueline Humphreys and John Paul Lyttle. Lister, Stevenage and QEII, Welwyn Garden City, Tel: 01438 285518, Mob: 07884 187463*

**Fortescue Hall Bookings** *Jacquie Maddison Tel: 01462 675117*

***Please submit any items for the newsletter to the Parish Office by midday Wednesday***  
*(Contact details on the front page.)*

*Please note that this newsletter is now available to view on our website at:*

**<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth/news>**