

ST HUGH OF LINCOLN RC CHURCH

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

Tel: 01462 510015 Email: letchworth@rcdow.org.uk Parish Priest: Fr Jimmy Garvey

Administrator: Aimee Barnes Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth>

Parish Office open: Monday to Thursday 9.30am—12 noon (Closed Fridays)

Mass Times: Sunday (Sat 7pm) 8am, 9.30am & 11.30am. Holy Day Mass 9.30am &

7.30pm. Weekday Mass Mon-Thurs 9.30am. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion Fri 9.30am. Morning Prayer Mon-Fri 9.10am. Confessions: Thursday & Saturday 10.00-10.30; Sat 6.15 to 6.45; & on request.



8th December 2019

2nd Sunday of Advent The Parish Mass Book Year A Volume 1 Psalter Week 2

First Reading: *Isaiah 11:1-10*

The spirit of the Lord will rest on the offspring of Jesse, and he will judge the wretched with integrity.

Second Reading: *Romans 15:4-9*

Christ came to bring salvation to all, pagans as well as Jews.

Gospel: *Matthew 3:1-12*

John the Baptist call us to prepare the way for the Lord through baptism and repentance.

Reflection

Today's readings speak to us of the peace we may expect with the coming of Gods kingdom. There is an undertone of violence and retribution in the call for our repentance and change of heart.

Parish Mass Book: 85 : Eucharistic Prayer III 28; **9.30 Mass** Eucharistic Prayer II 25

Mass During the Night (Midnight Mass) Please note this Mass is being brought forward from 11.30 to 10.45pm on Christmas Eve to make it more convenient for parishioners to attend. We thank Fr Cezary and the Polish Community for moving their Mass to 9.00pm to accommodate this.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Journey in Faith Next Sunday, December 15th, at the 11.30 Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens, a liturgical rite for those preparing to become catechumens, when they will publicly express their desire to follow Jesus as Catholic Christians. We will also celebrate the Rite of Welcome for those inquiring to become Roman Catholics. Together, we pray for them as we accept their intention and welcome them into our parish community.

The next RCIA meeting is on Wednesday 11th December in the St Hilda Room at 7.30pm.

Candle offerings can be placed in the stand by the statue of Mary in the Lady Chapel or in the wooden box as you exit the inner doors of the Church. Thank you.

The Shrine Chapel of St Hugh

Our Statue of St Hugh, our Parish Patron Saint, is now restored in its own Shrine Chapel near the entrance to the Church. The stained glass window of St Hugh in the chapel and the windows of St Edmund of Abingdon and St Richard of Chichester in the porch, have come from Hare Street House near Buntingford. This house was left to the Archbishop of Westminster for his use by the scholar and novelist, Fr Robert Hugh Benson, on his death in 1914. Our windows have come from the chapel built over Benson's tomb after his death. As this property is currently being disposed of by the Diocese, the three stained glass windows, originally one window over the high altar of Benson's Memorial Chapel, have found a home in our church.

The God Who Speaks enables us to celebrate God's Word by enriching our worshiping and our spiritual community; by helping us to live God's Word through enhancing our social action and outreach; it will help us share God's Word by deeper formation, proclamation and evangelisation. There is a range of events, activities and resources, available at: www.rcdow.org.uk/faith

The Parish Advent Reconciliation Service is on Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm. Priests will be available for Confession in preparation for the celebration of the Birth of the Lord. All are welcome to attend.

Journey Through Advent

The Walk With Me daily meditation booklet, priced £1 each and the Children's Advent & Christmas Calendars for 2109 are available in the church porch. Please put money for the booklets in the newspaper box.

The General Election Message from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales is available at the back of Church.

SVP Foodbank—Vinnie Packs contain cold weather items for people who are rough sleepers and homeless. They include a thermal hat, gloves, socks and some basic toiletries. The National SVP have bought sufficient stock to provide 10,000 packs to people around the country who are homeless and forced to spend their days on the streets this winter. Our Letchworth Conference of the SVP have acquired enough Vinnie Packs to distribute to people in our town who rough sleep through the Letchworth Foodbank. Each pack costs £3.50 to put together. We invite you to assist us with the cost of these packs and to Gift Aid your donation if appropriate. There was a Gift Aid envelope attached to your newsletter last weekend, please return it in the collection today, or any Sunday in Advent. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you.

Caritas Westminster have lunched a Advent Giving Calendar. The calendar gives suggestions of items which can be donated each day to the local foodbank, in time for Christmas. The Advent Giving Calendar is an opportunity for the whole parish to continue to be involved in social action through support of our local Foodbank and people in need. The calendar also provides families dealing with food poverty with information about where they can access help when they are struggling. Please support this initiative by taking a calendar from the Church porch. There is further information on the back of the calendar and at www.caritaswestminster

The Salvation Army are opening their doors on Christmas Day to people who will be alone this festive season. Volunteers are needed to help with various jobs on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If you have some spare time please contact Wendy on **01462 677263**

Funeral Announcement

The Funeral Mass for the late Ann Veronica Alderman is at 10.00am on Thursday 19th December followed by the Committal at Arlesey Cemetery. Please keep the Alderman family in your prayers.

The Westminster Year Book is now available in the church porch priced £4.50. Please put the money in the newspaper box, or drop it into the parish house.

Parish News The Parish Office will be closed on Monday 16th December, and reopen on Tuesday 17th December.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2020

The Confirmation programme will begin in January 2020. Candidate Application Forms are available from Fr Jimmy after Mass. Candidates will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 7th June 2020 at 9.30am Mass.

The Kanyike Supper Concert is on Sunday 15th December from 5.45pm in Fortescue Hall. Tickets priced £10 are now available on **01462 675117** for this enjoyable evening which includes a two course meal, entertainment and a chance to meet Fr Kakuba. Thank you for your support of the Kanyike Project.

SASH Seniors at St Hugh is a group for mature people who meet on Wednesdays at 2.30pm in The St Hilda Room. December 11th - Carols and Mince pies.

The Parish Christmas Party is on Friday 20th December from 7pm in the Parish House. Refreshments will be provided and all parishioners are invited to attend.

CAFOD World Gifts catalogues are in the porch. You can find lots of gifts ideas whilst supporting a worth while cause.

The Big Give This exciting match-funding scheme runs for a week from noon Tuesday 3rd December to noon Tuesday 10th December. All on-line donations made during that week will be doubled by the Big Give Charity and if you are a tax payer you can claim Gift Aid too. Making a donation of £5 to any charity will result in them being able to reclaim £12.50 so please consider it. Please use the link below to find out how to donate:- <https://donate.thebiggive.org.uk/christmas-challenge-2019>

The Kanyike Project is one of the chosen charities being supported to find our more please visit. www.kanyikeproject.org.uk

Entertaining Children at Mass If any parishioners have religious picture books they no longer need and would like to donate them to the church, please contact the parish office. We would like to keep a box in the porch for families to borrow during Mass.

Donations Thank you to the parishioners who have donated vestments in the different liturgical colours for use in our church and to the family who gave £1,000 in memory of their parents.

STM PA would like to thank everyone who attended the Christmas Market last weekend. It was a fabulous day and some much needed funds were raised for the school.

The North Herts Guild of Singers is performing a concert at St Mary's Parish Church in Hitchin on Saturday December 14th at 7.30pm. This will include 'Messe de Minuit' by Charpentier, world carols, plus carols for all. Proceeds from the interval snacks will go to Herts Welcomes Refugees. As we have welcomed 24 such families in North Herts, your support would be hugely appreciated. Tickets priced £14 for adults and £7 for students, are available from Sarah Martinelli on **07751 582486**.

We pray for all those who are sick and those suffering in any way including:

Lucia Camisa	George Powell
Elizabeth McKenna	Ken Freeman
Stephen Prohaska	Mary Wallace
Eileen McCarthy	Brian Palmer
Philomena Johnson	Pat Nevitt
Angela Horne	Roy Rostron
Christopher Gillham	Anna Harte
Della Stockwell	George Marston
Margaret Haywood	Joe Fernandes
Debbie Giacobelli	Aron Haughton
Nellie O'Brien	Sylvia Hills
Samuel Robinson	

Parish Collections

Sunday 1st December

Envelopes: £293.70; Loose: £488.34;
Standing Orders: £948.35; Total £1,730.39

Sick & Retired Priest Fund - £1,822.06

Thank you for your generosity to our Parish and to the various second collections.

Coffee After 9.30 Mass on Sunday

8th December - Youth Group

15th December - FHC

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event/Activity	Time & Place
Sunday 15th Dec	Kanyike Supper Concert	6pm Fortescue Hall
Wednesday 18th Dec	Parish Reconciliation Service	7.30pm Church
Friday 20th Dec	Parish Christmas Party	7pm The Parish House
Tuesday 24th Dec	Mass During the Night (Midnight Mass)	10.45pm Church
Saturday 7th March	KSC Quiz Night	Fortescue Hall
Sunday 7th June	Sacrament of Confirmation	9.30am Church

Our Catholic Schools

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

Tel: 01462 620670 www.strejmi.herts.sch.uk

The John Henry Newman RC Secondary School, Hitchin Road, Stevenage.

Tel: 01438 314643 www.jhn.herts.sch.uk

Safeguarding Officer - Rebecca Clarke 01462 646636 lethworthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Lister Hospital RC Team: Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333

Via text message: 07884 187463 Email: chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net

Please remember Catholic patients can only be visited by the Catholic Chaplain, or a priest, if they, or a relative, contact the Chaplaincy or nursing staff.