



# ST HUGH OF LINCOLN RC CHURCH

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**PARISH OFFICE is open from 9am to 1pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.**

SUNDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2021

SOLEMNITY OF LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

## The Word of God

### READINGS

**First Reading:** Daniel 7:13-14; His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty.

**Responsorial Psalm 92;** The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.

**Second Reading:** Apocalypse 1:5-8; Ruler of the kings of the earth... he made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God.

**Gospel:** John 18:33-37; It is you say I am a king.

### NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Traditionally, in November we pray for the Holy Souls, our friends and relations who have gone to the Lord marked with the sign of faith. If you would like your loved ones remembered at Masses in November, please take a Holy Soul's sheet from the back of Church, write their names on it and return it to the Parish House, enclosing a donation if you wish.

### SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

Please return your envelope for the annual collection for our Sick and Retired priests' Fund. Please collect an envelope from the table in the porch, you can scan the QR code on the Fund poster or give online via the Diocesan website. We have more than 80 retired priests in our Diocese, a figure set to double by 2025. While priests have to offer their resignation at 75, many continue to serve in parishes. After a lifetime of service, they depend on the Diocese for help with housing, health needs and other essentials. Thank you for your generosity to this collection in the past and if you can, please be as generous this year. Please keep our sick and retired priests in your prayers.

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY WINDOW

**'Mine is not a kingdom of this world'**

*Almighty, ever-living God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the Universe, grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.*

The Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, brings the Church's year to a close and calls us to celebrate again Jesus's victory over suffering and death. As servants, we offer all we are and invite him to reign within our hearts, so we can play our part in bringing God's truth, love, justice and peace to the world. Foretelling the coming of Jesus, Daniel describes a vision of a 'son of man' coming on the clouds of heaven to be crowned King, with everlasting sovereignty and ruling over an empire which will never be destroyed. Such is his glory people of all nations and languages become his servants. Psalm 92 rejoices in the glory of the Lord, the king with majesty enrobed. We sing of the eternal nature of the Lord's power and the trust we can place in him. The Apocalypse describes Jesus as coming on the clouds and as ruler of the kings of the earth. The depth of his love for us has been shown by his sacrifice on the cross, bringing us ever closer to the God who is, who was, and who is to come. In the Gospel, we witness Pilate asking Jesus, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' In his reply, Jesus speaks of a kingdom in which those who seek the truth listen to his voice and follow his ways. We ask God for the grace to open our hearts and minds to the needs of those who do not yet know his voice. We pray by the service of our lives we will draw others to his loving embrace.

We welcome Bishop Paul McAleenan, the Bishop in Hertfordshire, who will give the Sacrament of Confirmation to our young people at 9.30 am Mass. **Fr Jimmy**

### BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

On 28th November, the Parish will run a preparation course for parents of children that have recently been baptised or whose Baptism is upcoming. Please contact the Parish Office to confirm attendance via email: [letchworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:letchworth@rcdow.org.uk)

**PRAYING WITH THE POPE:** "Be part of the Pope's global network of prayer at [www.praywiththepope.net](http://www.praywiththepope.net), to pray with him from our hearts and united in the heart of Christ, to grow as missionary disciples. The Pope's Prayer Intention for November: People who suffer from depression. "We pray that people who suffer from depression, stress or burnout will find support and a light that opens them up to life". To watch/listen/read Pope Francis talking through this month's intention, visit: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-11/pope-francis-november-2021-prayer-intention-depression-sufferers.html>



### CHURCH SERVICES TIMES

**Sunday Mass** Sat 6pm (Vigil), Sun 9.30am & 11.30am  
Mass in Polish at 1pm

**Weekday Mass** 9.30am  
**Holy Day of Obligation Mass** 9.30am & 7.30pm

**Adoration & Benediction** Sat 10am

**Confession** By appointment, Sat - during Adoration 5.15 - 5.45pm and by appointment



**Sunday 9.30 am Mass link**  
[St Hugh of Lincoln RC Church, Letchworth.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

### PARISH FINANCES

Thank you for your continued generosity.

April 2021	£6,320.91
May 2021	£6824.33
June 2021	£7819.23
July 2021	£6751.20
Aug 2021	£6556.16
Sept 2021	£6701.31
Oct 2021	£7289.05

- **Easy Giving** - Contactless Machine is available in the Church porch
- **Give through the parish website:**
- <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth/donate/>
- **Standing Order** - Please contact the parish office to find out more about setting this up.
- **Planned Giving** - If part of this, please collect your envelopes from the Church.

**Our Catholic Schools:** St Thomas More RCJMI School, Highfield, Letchworth. SG63QB Tel: 01462 620670 [www.strcjni.herts.sch.uk](http://www.strcjni.herts.sch.uk)

The Saint John Henry Newman RC Secondary School, Hitchin Road, Stevenage. SG14AE Tel: 01438 314643 [www.jhn.herts.sch.uk](http://www.jhn.herts.sch.uk)

**Safeguarding Officer:** Rebecca Clarke Tel: 01462 646636 Email: [letchworthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:letchworthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Lister Hospital RC Team:** Tel: 01438285138 (24/7) For urgent need: 01438 314333 Via text message: 07884 187463 Email: [chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net](mailto:chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net)

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

### LETCWORTH FOODBANK

Visit the parish website or Letchworth Foodbank website to read the latest newsletter, list of urgently needed items and the Christmas Food Appeal.



**SVP—VINNIE PACKS** Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.70 to cover the cost of one Vinne Pack containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code **60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237** . Thank you so much for your support."

### **FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION. SETTING OUT ON THE SYNODAL PATH TOGETHER**

Pope Francis has invited all of us, the People of God, inside and outside the Church, to enter on a journey together, to walk side by side; to listen to one another with a conviction every voice is valued and needs to be heard. As God's children, when we walk together, the Spirit gives us the words to encourage one another and the hands to extend ourselves into the world. We, the faith community of St. Hugh of Lincoln Parish, are asked to join in a process beginning with listening to one another in our daily lives, listening to the Holy Spirit. A digest of our words, our concerns, will be communicated to the diocese of Westminster, to the bishops of England and Wales, to be heard by the Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in Rome in October 2023.

A series of listening events is scheduled for December as we respond to this invitation to journey together. These will consist of three gatherings which will form small listening groups, meeting in the St. Hilda Room. You are invited to attend any or all of the three. The listening will begin with questions: what has been your experience of "journeying together" during these past eighteen months of the pandemic? How has this brought joy? When has it brought pain or sadness? What do you value about how the Church community journeys together and shows love to the world? In what ways does the Church community fail to journey together and show love? Our three Parish Synodal Listening Events will be held in the Saint Hilda Room

**TUESDAY 7TH DEC - 10AM- 12NOON**

**SUNDAY 12TH DEC - AFTER THE 9.30 MASS FOLLOWED BY COFFEE/TEA**

**TUESDAY 14TH DEC 7.30-9PM**

Where is this Synod on Synodality leading?

What might be accomplished?

You may wish to read Pope Francis' homily for the Opening of the Synodal Pathway in Rome on October 10th; <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2021/documents/20211010-omelia-sinodalescovi.html>

### **SYNOD PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.*

*With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;*

*Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.*

*We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.*

*Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.*

*Let us find in You our unity*

*so that we may journey together to eternal life*

*and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.*

*All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen*

**Please contact the Parish Office if you would like a Mass to be offered for someone in your family or amongst your friends.**

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### **Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time**

Saturday 20th Sunday 28th November 2021

Saturday 20th <b>Vigil Mass</b>	6.00pm	Luigi Rizzo RIP
Sunday 21st <b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</b>	9.30am 11.30am	Confirmation Candidates & Families People of the Parish
Monday 22nd <b>Memorial of St Cecilia, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b>	9.30am	Kevin Morgan RIP
Tuesday 23rd <b>Memorial of St Columban, Abbot</b>	9.30am	Sylvia Hills RIP
Wednesday 24th <b>Memorial of St Andrew</b>	12 Noon	Funeral Mass Rob McNamara RIP
Thursday 25th <b>Feria 33rd Week Year 1</b>	9.30am	Quirico Giancola RIP
Friday 26th <b>Votive Mass of the Most Precious Blood</b>	9.30am	Maria Calcasola & Family RIP
Saturday 27th <b>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass</b>	9.30am 6.00pm	Sheila Gill RIP Tonina Rizzo RIP
Sunday 28th <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	9.30am 11.30am	People of the Parish Harry & Maureen McCann RIP

### **We pray for those who are sick and suffering including:**

Lucia Camisa	Mary Wallace
Elizabeth McKenna	Philomena Johnson
Stephen Prohaska	Mick McGrinder
Angela Horne	Anna Harte
Christopher Gillham	George Marston
Della Stockwell	Joe Fernandes
Margaret Haywood	Aron Haughton
Debbie Giacobelli	Reg Rolph
Ken Freeman	Tony Burns
Toby Hughes	Fr Desmond Baker

**Please pray** for all who have died recently, their families and all who grieve.

The Funeral Mass for Rob McNamara is at 12 noon this Wednesday, 24th November.

The Funeral Mass for Nora Comiskey is at 10.30am on Tuesday 30th November.

### **THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH**

#### **A JOURNEY WITH ST JOSEPH NOVENA PRAYER**

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;*

*with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.*

*Obtain for us grace,  
mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.*

*Amen.*



**HONOURING SUNDAY** The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have issued a statement emphasising the importance of Sunday as The Day of the Lord and the celebration of Mass gathered as the Body of Christ on that day. It also speaks of the difficulty some will have in fulfilling the Sunday Obligation at this time. It invites us to reflect on the practice of Sunday Worship. It is reproduced below and is available on our parish website.

## CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES



### *Honouring Sunday*

*As the Synodal Pathway of listening and discerning unfolds, we the bishops of England and Wales, are paying particular attention to the hopes and fears, the joys and anxieties of all who are sharing their thoughts and feelings with us.*

*Longing for our Lord—We are attentive to the experience of the last year or so, when we have lived our faith through the limitations of the pandemic. We have heard of the longing which some express as a “homesickness.” We want to be in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We yearn to celebrate the sacraments together, especially the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We desire to be nourished by our Lord in Holy Communion. The live streaming of the Mass and the remarkable response of our Catholic communities to those in need, have provided comfort, sustenance and resilience.*

*The Eucharist, source and summit—The Eucharist is the source and summit of our spiritual and pastoral life. Many people have said to us that they have appreciated the noble simplicity of the Mass at this time, which has allowed the mystery and majesty of our Lord’s sacrificial love to shine through.*

*The central appeal of the Mass, its beauty and its transcendence, raises our minds and hearts to God in an unambiguous and compelling manner. Our Lord Jesus invites us to receive anew the gift of Sunday as the preeminent day, the day of the Resurrection, when the Church gathers to celebrate the Eucharist. Here we stand together before our heavenly Father, offering our thanksgiving and prayer, through our Saviour in the Holy Spirit. Here we receive Christ in his Word. Here we are nourished by Christ in his precious Body and Blood. This is our primary joy, for which there is no substitute, and from which we draw our strength.*

*The Gift of the Sunday Eucharist—The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God’s holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ’s love.*

*At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.*

*Responding to the Gift—We now encourage all Catholics to look again at the patterns which they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays. This would include consideration and reflection about what we might do on Sundays, such as sports or shopping, or other leisure and social activities. This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to every Catholic and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the Mass.*

*The Sunday Mass is the very heartbeat of the Church and of our personal life of faith. We gather on the “first day of the week,” and devote ourselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2:42). The Eucharist sustains us and spurs us on, renewing our gratitude and our hope. When we say “Amen” to Christ in receiving his Body and Blood, we express the love of God which is deep within us, and at the end of Mass, when we are sent forth, we express our love for our neighbour, especially those in need. These two dimensions reveal the full meaning of our faith. We are gathered together and sent out, we pray and are fed, we worship and we adore; these are intrinsic to our lives as those baptised into Christ.*

**Approved at the Plenary Assembly of Bishops in Leeds Thursday 18th November 2021**

### **DIARY DATES**

Sunday 28th November, The First Sunday of Advent.

Wednesday 8th December, The Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sunday 26th December, The Feast of the Holy Family.