



# ST HUGH OF LINCOLN RC CHURCH

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

SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## The Word of God

### READINGS

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 33:14-16;  
*I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 24; *To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; *May the Lord confirm your hearts in holiness when Christ comes.*

**Gospel:** Luke 21:25-28. 34-36;  
*Your liberation is near at hand.*

**ADVENT** The Walk with Me daily meditation books, a Journey of Prayer for Advent, priced £1 and free Children's Advent and Christmas Calendars, which continue for the Christmas Season, are available in the Porch.

### CAFOD ADVENT REFLECTIONS

These reflections offer an opportunity to pause, pray and take action in preparation for Christmas. Visit [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) to access the Interactive Online Advent Calendar. There are free Advent Children's Liturgy resources parents and children will find helpful at home. Further examples of CAFOD's work can be found in their World Gift Catalogue, available free in the Porch, or visit; <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk>

### DIARY DATES

Sunday 28th Nov First Sunday of Advent.  
Wed 8th Dec: Immaculate Conception of the BVM.  
Wed 15th Dec, 7.30pm: Parish Advent Reconciliation Service  
Sun 26th December, The Feast of the Holy Family.

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY WINDOW

**Stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.**

*Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.*

We come to the First Sunday of Advent with a head, and heart, full of quite particular concerns. Jeremiah helps us by pointing us toward a day of fulfilment, a day which is imminent. Because of one life, Judah will be safe, Jerusalem will dwell secure. The days Jeremiah foresees are replete with hope and promise. The message here is, 'Hope'; hope because of the One who is coming. The days Jesus sees coming are full of dismay, fear and dread. Who is this terrifying Son of Man whose day 'will assault everyone', causing people to die of fright? Contemplating these words, we discover they are not a threat but an exhortation, an exhortation to, 'Be ready'. The Gospel bids us lift our heads and 'stay awake', just as Psalm 24 bids us lift our souls. Friendship with the Lord is not always easy to cultivate in our busy lives. But ahead of us is the God of kindness, offering us friendship. Children are better at approaching the coming days with a belief anything might happen; children relish our Advent waiting, not just the presents at Christmas. They keep a kind of Advent vigilance, waiting for Emmanuel, for the life which is possible, for all that can be, for Jesus to come back, for the kingdom of heaven, not just then, but now. **Fr Jimmy**

**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS LETCHWORTH FOODBANK** There are 2 weeks left to help our Foodbank make Christmas Hampers available for local families and vulnerable people. Please visit our parish or Foodbank websites for items needed.

**WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK** The 2022 Year Book, with full details of our Diocese, - parishes, priests and the 2022 Liturgical Calendar - is available in the Church Porch, priced £4.50.

**CARITAS WESTMINSTER** Caritas Westminster Advent Giving Calendars are available, free, in the Porch. Please take one, use it while shopping during Advent and return the items to our Foodbank box. Many thanks.

**PRAYING WITH THE POPE:** With our Holy Father's global prayer network, we pray from our hearts with Pope Francis, united in the heart of Christ, to grow as missionary disciples. You can join this network by praying these monthly intentions with the pope and by making a daily offering prayer. In November, Pope Francis invites us to pray for people who suffer from depression. "We pray people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light which opens them up to life."



### 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 ongoing 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.strcjmi.herts.sch.uk](http://www.strcjmi.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 consider sponsoring packs (suggested donation of £3.70) 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.

**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-sinodo-vescovi.html>

A series of 3 listening events is scheduled for December as we respond to this invitation to journey together, forming small listening groups. 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 St Hilda Room

- **Tuesday 7th Dec - 0am- 12noon**
- **Sunday 12th Dec - after the 9.30 Mass followed by coffee/tea**
- **Tuesday 14th Dec - 7.30-9pm**

### **THE HERTFORDSHIRE AREA SYNODAL LISTENING EVENT**

As part of the Westminster Synodal Pathway we are invited to join **Bishop Paul McAleenan at the Hertfordshire Area Synodal Listening Event on Monday 29th November from 7pm—9pm at Garston Parish, Crown Rose, Garston, Watford, WD25 0NE.**

All are welcome. To book your place, email [catadmin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catadmin@rcdow.org.uk).



### **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**

#### **First week of Advent**

Saturday 27th Sunday 5th December 2021

Saturday 27th Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Tonina Rizzo RIP
Sunday 28th First Sunday of Advent	9.30am 11.30am	People of the Parish Harry & Maureen McCann
Monday 29th Advent Feria	9.30am	Vittorio Calcasola & Family RIP
Tuesday 30th November Feast of St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland	10.30am	Funeral Mass of Nora Comiskey RIP
Wed 1st December Memorial of St Edmund Campion, Priest & Martyr	9.30am	Theobald Dep RIP
Thursday 2nd Advent Feria	9.30am	Leonardo Antonaci RIP
Friday 3rd Memorial of St Francis Xavier, Priest	9.30am	Deacon Peter Hurrell RIP
Saturday 4th Memorial of St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor Vigil Mass	9.30am 6.00pm	Oliver Pykerman RIP Rose Mary Agius RIP
Sunday 5th Second Sunday of Advent	9.30am 11.30am	People of the Parish Deceased Members of the Knights of St Columba

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

Lucia Camisa  
Elizabeth McKenna  
Stephen Prohaska  
Angela Horne  
Christopher Gillham  
Della Stockwell  
Margaret Haywood  
Debbie Giacobelli  
Ken Freeman  
Toby Hughes  
Fr Desmond Baker

Mary Wallace  
Philomena Johnson  
Mick McGrinder  
Anna Harte  
George Marston  
Joe Fernandes  
Aron Haughton  
Reg Rolph  
Tony Burns

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

The Funeral Mass for Nora Comiskey is at 10.30am on Tuesday 30th November. May she rest in peace.

### **SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND**

Please return your envelope for the annual collection for our Sick and Retired Priests' Fund. Envelopes are available in the Porch, please take one and return it in the collection or to the Parish House. We have more than 80 retired priests in our Diocese, a figure set to double by 2025. Please keep our sick and retired priests in your prayers. Thank you for your generosity to this collection in the past, if you can please be generous this year. You can give on-line on our Diocesan website or scan the QR Code on the Fund's poster.