



# ST HUGH OF LINCOLN RC CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr Jimmy Garvey Tel: 01462 510015 Email: [letchworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:letchworth@rcdow.org.uk)  
84 Pixmore Way, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire. SG63TP [www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth](http://www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth)

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

SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—GAUDETE SUNDAY

## The Word of God

### READINGS

**First Reading:** Zephaniah 3:14-18  
*The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Isaiah 12:2-6  
*Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel*

**Second Reading:** St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7 *The Lord is very near.*

**Gospel:** Luke 3:10-18 *What must we do?*

**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>

### 9.30AM MASS TODAY

We welcome Mgr Philip Whitmore who will celebrate this Mass. Fr Philip is a friend of Fr Jimmy's and has completed his time as Rector of the English College, Rome.

### DIARY DATES

Wed 15th Dec, 7.30pm: Parish Advent Reconciliation Service  
Sun 26th December, The Feast of the Holy Family.

### FROM THE PRESBYTERY WINDOW

#### Joy to the World

*Oh God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.*

The Word of God opens our eyes to the way we link our human and heavenly aspirations. When we hear Zephaniah's call to shout for joy, we are hear the ancient spirit of human celebration, the voice of people who have been crushed, but are now brought back to life. In a wonderful, gracious moment of history the exiles of Assyria and Babylon return to Jerusalem to make a new beginning and recognise the saving action of God. This experience of one people and the shared experience of humanity, underpins the call to rejoice running through our readings. Salvation is rescued from enemies and people are allowed to live in peace and rejoicing, in the freedom to be themselves before the God who made them. How is it we too can rejoice even in the midst of human and personal suffering? We are privileged to glimpse something helping us to see the world aright and find our true place in it; an uncommon wisdom. We celebrate this, contemplating the advent of the God-man into our world, not to destroy or abandon it but to make it new. We are invited to see once more the world around us with new eyes and a new heart. What do we see? **Fr Jimmy**

### PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service is this Wednesday, 15th December, at 7.30pm in Church. Please do come along and make this part of your Christmas preparation.

**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS LETCHWORTH FOODBANK** Today is the last day 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. Pope Francis invites us to pray for Evangelization in December; *"We pray for catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity, in the power of the Holy Spirit."*



### 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
Nov 2021	£6687.16

**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.



**THE PARISH NEWSLETTER** Our Newsletter provides details of our liturgical life and other parish activities in one handy format. We have received requests for printed copies and these will be provided shortly. To reduce costs and help our parish to become a Cafod Live-Simply parish, please request a digital copy of the Newsletter by emailing Emma at the Parish Office. Please share this information with anyone you know who would like to receive the Newsletter in this format.

**SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND** Thank you for your generous gifts to care for more than 80 sick and retired priests in our Diocese. Your generosity has raised £1,000! Please remember them in your prayers.

**REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS** The French Jesuit, Fr Philippe Demeestre, recently finished his month-long hunger strike in Calais pressing for immediate, practical and humanitarian treatment of migrants so they can eat, drink and sleep without harassment. From 12.30-1.30pm on Monday 13th December, there is a Prayer Vigil outside the Home Office hosted by the London Catholic Worker Community and Westminster Justice and Peace. The Vigil has run for several years with the names of those who have died trying to reach sanctuary in the UK read out, including, those who died in the Channel recently. The Prayer Vigil is held on the third Monday of each month at the Home Office from 12.30pm. For further information, email; [barbarakentish@talktalk.net](mailto:barbarakentish@talktalk.net).

**THE NATIONAL ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)** invites you to, Give the Gift of Kindness, this Christmas as it launches its Christmas Kindness Appeal. The appeal runs for December raising money for the SVP's work in communities across England and Wales, including in Letchworth. Thanks to the generosity of major donors, all donations received by the Christmas Kindness Appeal will be match funded to £45,000. The Christmas Kindness Appeal will support anyone in need through food parcels, hot meals, befriending, the provision of furniture and advice with benefits. Please visit; [fundraising.svp.org.uk/page/93401/donate/1](http://fundraising.svp.org.uk/page/93401/donate/1) or call 07953 384429

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

As part of Pope Francis' invitation to all the people of God, the faith community of St. Hugh of Lincoln Parish, is 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

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

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**

**THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT**

Saturday 11th to Sunday 19th December 2021

Saturday 11th <b>Advent Feria</b>	9.30am 6.00pm	Seamus Duignan RIP People of the Parish
Sunday 12th <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	9.30am 11.30am	Neva Pucci & Gino Trasatti RIP
Monday 13th <b>Memorial of St Lucy,</b>	9.30am	Marian Reade RIP
Tuesday 14th <b>Memorial of St John of the Cross, Priest &amp; Doctor</b>	9.30am	Bob & Connie Dull RIP
Wednesday 15th <b>Advent Feria</b>	9.30am	Michael Madden RIP
Thursday 16th	9.30am	John McCarthy RIP
Friday 17th <b>Advent Feria</b>	9.30am	Gerardina Lione RIP
Saturday 18th <b>Advent Feria Vigil Mass</b>	9.30am 6.00pm	Mary & Tom Lawlor RIP Giorgio Forte
Sunday 19th <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	9.30am 11.30am	Hugh O'Connor INT People of the Parish

**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.

**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.*