

# ST HUGH OF LINCOLN RC CHURCH

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

Parish Priest: Fr Jimmy Garvey. Parish Administrator: Emma Dunsire: 01462 510015

Email: [letchworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:letchworth@rcdow.org.uk) Website: <http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth>

Parish Office: Monday 9-2.30pm, Tuesday 9-2pm and Thursday 9am-2.30pm

Mass Times: Sunday (Sat 6pm) 9.30am & 11.30am. Holy Day Mass 9.30am & 7.30pm.

Weekday Mass: Monday to Saturday 9.30am. Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9.10am.

Adoration & Confession Wednesday & Saturday 10.00-10.30am. Confession Saturday 5.15 to 5.45pm & on request.



## **CHRISTMAS, SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER 2022**

**Parish Mass Book Year A Vol 1 p95 (Vigil) p98 (Night) p103 (Day) Psalter Week 1**  
**Please refer to the Mass book for the readings.**

## **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, SUNDAY 1ST JAN 2023**

**Parish Mass Book Year A Vol 1 page 109 Psalter Week 2**

FIRST READING: Numbers 6: 22-27

*They are to call down my name on the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 66: 2-3, 5, 6, 8 response v 2

O God, be gracious and bless us

SECOND READING: Galatians 4: 4-7

*God sent his Son, born of a woman.*

GOSPEL: Luke 2: 16-21

*They found Mary and Joseph and the baby... When the eight day came, they gave him the name Jesus.*

COLLECT: O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.

## **From the Presbytery Window**

### **The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, 24th – 25th December 2022**

After the annual celebration of the Paschal Mystery at Easter, the Church has no more ancient custom than celebrating the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord. We celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation by which the Word of God humbled himself to share in our humanity, in order that he might enable us to become sharers in his divinity. Each year we hear the Christmas Gospel from Luke. We know the story well; during the reign of Caesar Augustus, Jesus is born in Bethlehem and angels bring to shepherds news of great joy. At the prompting of the angels, Glory to God in the highest, the shepherds go to Bethlehem, finding everything as they had been told. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. Although the story is well known, we listen to it again so we might be changed by it. We open our minds and hearts to the Lord and allow him to be born in us. Amongst all the busyness of these days, and the busyness of our lives, we are called to ponder the mystery of the Lord's nativity in our hearts too.

### **POPE'S PRAYER NETWORK, DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTIONS:**

#### **For volunteer not-for-profit organizations**

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation. Amen. (The Pope's video message [For volunteer not-for-profit organizations – The Pope Video 12 – December 2022 - YouTube](#) )

## THANK YOU

Ours is a busy parish. The Church itself is very big and we also have the St Hilda Room, the Presbytery and our beloved Fortescue Hall, wonderful resources that need constant work. Looking after the Parish is a *herculean task* impossible to accomplish without the daily support of dedicated parishioners who have taken the Catholic tenet “Live a life of service” to heart and made it their motto. Some of the very important tasks that make our parish life so special are very obvious: Mass is not the same without music and, for instance, the 9.30am congregation really missed Alan and his Choir in the Summer. But behind the scene, there is a small yet immensely dedicated army of people who work *hours on end* to make the Church what it is. Flower arrangers; ladies who wash the altar linens; Leti who, single-handedly, takes care of ALL the candles; Alex who shows up every single day on his bike to serve Mass; cleaners; welcomers; readers; counters; Eucharistic ministers at Mass and visiting the sick, making people feel a little less lonely; our synod group; the catechists; those who run our parish activities and prayer groups; altar servers, old and newly trained; the Finance committee and Parish Council; the STM school maintaining a strong and active connection to the parish; the Foodbank caring for so many, especially at this critical time. Many parishioners wear many hats: they will be counting the collection on a Monday and bringing Communion to the housebound at the weekend; some arrange the flowers and then go straight into choir practice. The list goes on and on. All of your work is *deeply appreciated* and may God reward you for your service. A special thank you has to go to Ian Hunt, Chief of Finance, who has dedicated his expertise to the parish for years and continues to do so. Phil Clarke has made our church accessible to so many via his livestreaming, thank you. Patsy and Cliff every year donate the Christmas trees and make everyone feel a lot jollier for it. Lastly, Sue and Jacquie: Thank you for everything, literally. From directing the music on Sunday at 11.30am and at every Funeral and Day of Obligation to locking up the church and arranging flowers, there is no job

they do not do or haven't done. To all of our volunteers, a Blessed and very Happy Christmas.

## FUNERALS

The Funeral Mass for John Ferguson RIP will be held on 9th January 2023 at 12.30pm. The Mass will be livestreamed on the Church YouTube channel.

The Funeral Mass for John Harrison RIP will be held on Fri 20th January at 1pm.

## THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW—FREE AUDIO RECORDINGS

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has made available audio recordings of the Matthew's Gospel on which we focus on in Liturgical Cycle A, the current one. This might be of particular interest to parishioners who have difficulty reading for whatever reason. The birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ according to St Matthew. This four-part audio series features the voices of over 20 Catholics living and working in England and Wales. Contributors hail from more than 10 countries – including Poland, Malta, Burma, Spain, USA and the UK – showing the rich diversity of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. It is a wonderful resource that might bring comfort to those who feel isolated or miss coming to church regularly. [The Gospel According to St Matthew - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](https://www.cbcew.org.uk)

## MORNING PRAYERS

Every morning, Mon– Sat, at 9.10am, a group of parishioners meet before the daily Mass to say Morning Prayers. It is a wonderful opportunity to start the day refreshed and uplifted. Everyone is welcome to join.

## MOTHER'S PRAYERS

Mother's Prayers group is held every Monday morning after 9.30am Mass in St Hilda Room. Tea and coffee available. All mothers and grandmothers are welcome.

## OFFICE CLOSURE

Please be advised the office will close at 12noon on 19th Dec and will be closed from Fri 23rd December till Thu 5th January.

## ST Hugh's TODDLERS' GROUP

Our Baby & Toddler Playgroup is on Thursday

(term-time) 9.30-11.30am at Fortescue Hall.

## **MASS INTENTIONS -**

*Sat 24th December 2022 to Sun 1st January 2023*

Saturday 24th December

5.30pm: Families and Children of the Parish

10.45pm: People of the Parish

***Sunday 25th December CHRISTMAS***

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Julian Brotherton RIP

Monday 26th December - St Stephen

10am: Altar Servers and their families INT

Tuesday 27th December

10am : Bob and Connie Dull RIP

Wednesday 28th December

10am: Mike Dwyer RIP

Thursday 29th December

10am: Allen Family INT

Friday 30th December—Holy Family

10am : Ratnavali Dep RIP

Saturday 31st December

10am: Helen and Billy Flaherty RIP

6pm: Barney and Peg Palmer RIP

***Sunday 1st January—Mary, Holy Mother of God***

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Hugh Doran RIP

Monday 2nd January

10am: Geraldine Prendergast INT & Liam Prendergast RIP

Tuesday 3rd January

10am : Ross Nittolo & Leonardo Antonaci RIP

Wednesday 4th January

9.30am: Frances Cleary RIP

Thursday 5th January

9.30am: Tess Crowe INT

**Friday 6th January—EPIPHANY**

9.30am : STM School INT

7.30pm People of the Parish

Saturday 7th January

9.30am: Maria Calcasola RIP

5.30pm: Maureen Hogbourne RIP

**Sunday 8th January \_ Baptism of The Lord**

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Cathy & Ken Lowthian RIP

**MASS BOOKINGS** are available from the very end of February. Please note that weekend Masses are available from the end of March. If you are filling in one of the little envelopes for Mass Intentions, please make sure to leave a contact number and to specify

who the Mass is offered for. We have received a number of envelopes that only have the name of the donor on them. These have been put down as Private Intentions.

## **WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOKS**

The Diocesan Year Book is now available from the Office. It has parish, clergy and school directories, contact details for the Curia (divided by department), the Liturgical Calendar for the Year and much more. The Year book costs £5.

## **UKRAINIAN REFUGEES SUPPORT**

*Reset's* resources and tool kits for people wishing to host Ukrainian refugees: <https://resetuk.org/toolkits/homes-for-ukraine/useful-links> *Caritas Westminster Refugee Response*, : <https://www.caritasvs.org.uk/refugee-response.php>  
Ukrainian Eparchy's financial appeal:

<https://www.ucc-gb.com/post/helpukraine-emergency-appeal> CAFOD:<https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Ukraine-Humanitarian-Appeal>

## **SASH (Seniors at St. Hugh)**

If you have recently retired, or moved to this Parish or used to attend the group before the dreaded Covid, or for any other reason, then why not give us a try? The SASH group meets on Thu at 2.30pm in the St Hilda's Room.

## **MASS TIME CHANGE**

On Saturday 24th December, morning Mass will start at 9am.

## **PARISH MEETING**

We look forward to seeing you at the next Parish Meeting on 31st January 2023 at 8pm.

## **FORTESCUE HALL**

Our hall is now available to be hired. Our new rates are: Mon- Fri Parishioner: £17; Organisation:£20. Saturday/Sunday daytime only: Parishioner: £20; Organisation: £25

## **CATHOLIC ENVIRONMENT NETWORK**

9th January 2023, 12.45-2.00pm: Joint Meeting of the Southern Dioceses Environment Network & Northern Dioceses Environment Group. Open to all Catholics and our friends. Register with Eventbrite [Southern Dioceses Environment Network & Northern Dioceses Environment Group Tickets](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/southern-dioceses-environment-network-northern-dioceses-environment-group-tickets-41888888888), Mon 9 Jan 2023 at 12:45 | Eventbrite

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

Nora Ivers	Pat Davies
Richard Parker	Barry Brown
Stephen Prohaska	Angela Horne
Aron Haughton	Anthony Horne
Anna Harte	George Marston
Joe Fernandes	Elizabeth McKenna
Margaret Haywood	Debbie Giacobelli
Toby Hughes	Brenda Feeney
Mary Wallace	Philomena Johnson
Reg Rolph	Mick McGrinder
Rosie Child	Andrew Browne
Anne Hudson	Willie Hudson
Sarah Moore	

**Easy Giving:** To make giving to your parish easier there is a Contactless Machine in the Church porch or via our parish website;

[www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth](http://www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth)

Thank you.

**Standing Order:** Making your offering to the Church by Standing Order is simple and enables the Finance Committee with Fr Jimmy to plan the parish finances accurately. Please contact the Parish House if you would like information about giving by Standing Order.

**Planned Giving:** Parishioners who are part of our Planned Giving Scheme can collect their box of envelopes from the Church

**Collection November 2022:** the total collection for the month of November is £6971.7, including standing orders and in church donations. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

**Dates for your diary:**

Sat 31st Dec	Mass at 10am and Vigil Mass at 6pm
Fri 6th Jan	Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. Holy Day of obligation. Mass at 9.30am, 6.15pm (in Polish) and 7.30pm
Sun 8th Jan	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. 9.30am Mass: Enrolment Mass for First Holy Communion Children
Tue 31st Jan	Parish Meeting 8pm, St Hilda Room — all welcome

**Our Catholic Schools**

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

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.

Tel: 01438 314643 [www.jhn.herts.sch.uk](http://www.jhn.herts.sch.uk)

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