

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

Parish Office: Monday 9.00-2.30pm, Tuesday 9.00 -2pm and Thursday 9.00-2.30pm

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.



SUNDAY 26th February 2023 First Sunday of Lent

Parish Mass Book Year A Vol 1 page 151 Psalter Week 1

FIRST READING: Genesis 2: 7-9, 3:1-7

The creation and sin of our first parents.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 50: 3-6, 12-14, 17 response cf v 3

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

SECOND READING: Romans 5: 12-19

However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4: 1-11

Jesus fasts for forty days and is tempted.

COLLECT: Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects. **Amen.**

26th February 2023 First Sunday of Lent Year A: A pure heart create for me, O God

Having begun our annual observance of Lent we may want to consider, how am I to celebrate this season. Lent means spring-time or the lengthening of days. It's a time for renewal, of coming back to life in nature and looking forward. We are invited in Lent to renew our life with and for God. Lent is a time for us to recognise the love of God made visible in creation; a time to notice the ways in which we fall short of God's desires for us and for our world. We pray for the grace to live more fully according to God's way. We are familiar with giving up for Lent, perhaps this year our giving up may be the things in our life which get in the way of valuing all God has given us and allowing God to deepen God's life in us. It may help to take time to notice and speak with our Lord about what this means for me. Our readings speak of our choice to listen to God's voice or be tempted by evil. Adam and Eve succumb to the tempting voice, but Jesus is steadfast in his rejection of temptation. Psalm 50 is a prayer of one who knows their own sinfulness, but who also knows God's love and mercy are more powerful than their weakness. Paul celebrates the freedom from sin Jesus brings us, his gift of love overcomes our sin and brings us to life. In Lent, we ask for the grace to become more aware of God's compassion and love for us, ready to journey with Jesus to his death on the cross and celebrate his resurrection.

POPE'S PRAYER NETWORK, FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTIONS:

For Parishes: In February, we pray with Pope Francis that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

'The parish is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach.'

– *Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel, 28*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Wednesday at 7.30pm and Friday after morning Mass. No Stations of the Cross on Wednesday 29th March, due to our Parish Reconciliation service, and on Friday 17th March, when a sung Mass for St Patrick's Day will be celebrated. The Mass for the Feast of St Joseph will take place on Monday 20th March.

LIVESTREAMING for FUNERALS

The Parish is now in the position of offering free live streaming for Funerals so that household and overseas family and friends can take part. Please request this service via Fr Jimmy or the Office.

ACTIVITIES AT FORTESCUE HALL

You will be pleased to know that lots of local groups are now based in our Hall. We are delighted to welcome the 12th Letchworth Scouts Group, who meet three evenings a week (Tue, Wed and Thu from after Easter). Contact gsl@12thlethworth.com for info.

A new line dancing class will start on Monday 6th March morning from 10.15 to 12.15. This is what the instructor, Nigel, has to say: "Line dancing is an excellent way of meeting new people, socialising, exercise and excellent for mental wellbeing. You can sign up for the month or individual lessons at https://www.footstepsschoolofdancing.co.uk/adult_Line.html"

Tuesday mornings, Dave runs two Tai Chi classes from 9.30-10.30am and 10.30-11.30am. Email dave@guanyu.co.uk for info. Thursday mornings are dedicated to our Toddler Group which is proving very popular and providing a wonderful service for the wider community. The group runs from 9.30am to 11.30am.

Thursday evening, Kim Davis teaches yoga from 7-8pm. Email: kimdavis_12@hotmail.com for info.

Plenty to do, in addition to all our lovely parish groups.

LENTEN TAIZÉ PRAYERS in Notre Dame de France (French Church, 5 Leicester Place WC2H 7BX) at 19:30 on **25th February and 25th March 2023**. A time of prayer with Taizé chants, scripture and silence in the heart of London. All are welcome!

ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY

"I am delighted to be able to invite married couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating particular anniversaries during the course of 2023 to join me in the Cathedral once again for a Thanksgiving Mass for Matrimony. This year it will take place on Saturday 13th May at 2:30pm (please note the earlier start time). This occasion is one where joy, gratitude and also the deep emotions of a shared journey are celebrated." Cardinal Vincent Nichols

If you are celebrating a significant anniversary and would like to take part, please get in touch with the office.

SASH (Seniors at St. Hugh)

If you have recently retired or moved to our Parish, or used to attend the group before Covid, or for any other reason, then why not give us a try? The SASH group meets each Thursday at 2.30pm in the St Hilda Room. Sash Spring Programme 2023: 23rd February Seated Softball Championship; 9th March Big Word Game; 23rd March St. Paul - a remarkable Saint; 13th April My favourite recipe - with a sample; 27th April My memories of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation.

FLAME 2023, 4th March at OVO Arena

Flame is the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. 10,000 young people will fill OVO Arena Wembley, for an inspiring day of prayer, adoration, catechesis, reflection, celebration and praise. The theme of Flame 2023 takes the WYD Scripture "Mary arose and went with haste" and crystallises it into the theme, "Rise Up!" Rise up after the pandemic, Rise up as young Catholics, Rise up – as Mary did – for the surprising and beautiful adventure that is our Catholic faith. Please visit [FLAME-CYMFed](#) for more info or to book a ticket.

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Come and celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation on **Saturday 25th March in Walsingham** to pray for the sanctity of life. Coach fare £30. with special rates for families. Please contact rosemary.roscoe@gmail.com or mobile 07723 546642 or Margaret Leahy on 01727 763832 or margleahy@gmail.com.

MASS INTENTIONS -

Sat 25th Feb to Sun 5th March 2023

Saturday 25th February

6pm: Mary Brophy INT

Sunday 26th February

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Willie John Cunningham RIP

Monday 27th February

9.30am: Peter and Jess McQuillan RIP

Tuesday 28th February

9.30am : Mick McGrinder RIP

Wednesday 1st March

9.30am: Evelyn Brennan RIP

Thursday 2nd March

9.30am Private Intention

Friday 3rd March

9.30am : Dermot and Theresa Doyle INT

Saturday 4th March

9.30am: Ross Nittolo and Leonardo Antonaci RIP

6pm: People of the Parish

Sunday 5th March:

9.30am: Maria and Pietro Pallini RIP

11.30am: Kathleen Cunningham INT

MASS BOOKINGS are available from the third week of April, weekend Masses from mid-June. If you are filling in a Mass Intention envelope please make sure to leave a contact number and to specify for whom the Mass is offered.

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>

GRANTS FOR ENERGY DEBTS

People who are in debt to their energy supplier might be able to get a grant from a charitable trust to help pay it off. More details on this link – plus links to several advice providers <https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>

FORTESCUE HALL

Hall hire fees: Monday - Friday: parishioner £17 per hour; external organisations £20 per hour. Saturday or Sunday daytime only: parishioner, £20 per hour; external organisations £25 per hour. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to make a booking.

MORNING PRAYER

Every morning at 9.10am, Monday – Saturday, parishioners meet before Mass for Morning Prayer. It is a wonderful opportunity to start the day refreshed and uplifted. Everyone is welcome to join.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

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

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

ST HUGH OF LINCOLN TODDLER

GROUP takes place on Thursdays from 9.30 -11.30am, term-time only, in Fortescue Hall. All parents/grand-parents/carers are welcome.

THE LENT 2023 FAITH-SHARING RE-

SOURCE is, 'Enlarging the Space of our Tent', written by Fr Dominic Robinson SJ and Colette Joyce from the Westminster Justice and Peace Commission. The resource will consist of five 60-90 minute sessions, each focusing on a theme covered by Justice and Peace, including poverty and homelessness, racial justice, care of creation, migrants and refugees, and peace. Each session will explore the theme in the light of a piece of Scripture from the coming Sunday prayer, a reflection on experience from a local example here in our diocese, and questions to aid group sharing. Please contact the office if you wish to receive a copy. Please be aware these are printed in our office and not the usual booklets.

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

Nora Ivers	Pat Davies
Richard Parker	Anne Hudson
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	Rosie Child
Philomena Johnson	Sarah Moore
Andrew Browne	Willie Hudson

Easy Giving: To make giving to your parish easier there is a Contactless Machine in the Church porch or you may give via our parish website; www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth
Thank you for your generosity.

Standing Order: Making your offering to the Church by Standing Order is simple and enables the Finance Committee with Fr Jimmy to plan parish finances accurately. Please contact the Parish Office 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 Total January: £8,885.11.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Candle Donations For candle donations: please use the Holy Souls box in the Church Porch for the time being.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 26th Feb	Confirmation Group Mass
Sat 4th Mar	FLAME, Rise Up! At OVO Arena
Mon 20th Mar	Solemnity of St Joseph
Sat 25th Mar	Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord
Wed 29th March	Parish Reconciliation Service at 7.30pm
2nd April	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Holy Week	A separate leaflet with details of all Holy Week services will be available shortly.

Our Catholic Schools

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

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

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

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

Safeguarding Officer - Rebecca Clarke 01462 646636 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

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.