

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 30th April 2023, 4th Sunday of Easter—Good Shepherd Sunday Parish Mass Book Year A Vol 1 page 262 Psalter Week 4

FIRST READING: Acts 2: 14, 36-41

God has made him both Lord and Christ.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 22 response v.1

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2: 20-25

You have come back to the shepherd of your souls.

GOSPEL: John 10: 1-10

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

COLLECT: Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. **Amen.**

Sunday 30th April 2023 Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A

I am the gate

On Good Shepherd Sunday the Gospel for each yearly cycle, is always from John chapter 10, where Jesus speaks of himself as a Good Shepherd. In today's Gospel, Jesus compares and contrasts himself with religious leaders who lack any real commitment or sense of responsibility for those in their care. The sheep don't recognise such leaders but they know and are ready to follow, the Good Shepherd, who alone enters by the gate. Jesus warns his listeners to be discerning about those they listen to and those they follow. Psalm 22, the beautiful, 'The Lord is my Shepherd', reminds us God always cares for us as a shepherd cares for the sheep. In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter calls all people to conversion, while in his letter, he reminds us, when we do stray, we can always return to the Lord. Today is also Vocations Sunday, so perhaps this week we could ponder; on what am I spending my energies? Who do I listen to and follow? How am I giving witness to my faith? What contribution do I make to building up truth, love, justice and tolerance? How, and from where, do I hear the Good Shepherd in my daily life? We pray for the grace to trust the gift of the Holy Spirit, given to us, so we might have faith in the One who has called and calling us continually. **Fr Jimmy**

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS

On 19th April, the architectural drawings for our original church Fr Fortescue commissioned Charles Spooner to produce, came up for auction in Edinburgh. On my instruction and having taken both independent and internal advice, our parish acquired these drawings for £2000, the total cost after fees being £2,719 (now inclusive of transport and VAT). While I appreciate people and families are struggling financially, even with in-work poverty, this, I believe, isn't a frivolous expense. The Church asks a parish priest to have a care for the patrimony of the parish. Several parishioners have expressed a desire to contribute

to this purchase. If anyone would like join them and contribute to the cost, please contact the Parish House. Similarly, if any parishioner has an interest in the history of our parish and would like to help investigate what happened to the drawings between leaving Letchworth and their return, again, please make contact. All of us can pray for those people and priests who have lived in and served our parish for the past 116 years, as we look to the future with faith and confidence.

Fr Jimmy

CORONATION MASS

There will be a Sung Mass on Friday 5th May at 9.30am (livestreamed) with refreshments in the St Hilda Room afterwards. The Coronation will be marked at all weekend Masses. Prayer cards are available at the back of church.

MO MASS on Monday 1st May, Sat 6th May at 9.30am and Monday 8th May. Fr Jimmy will be on Annual Leave from 1st to 8th May.

THE LETTER SCREENING -

Thank you

Thank you to all who came to watch this fantastic documentary. The general feedback was wonderful and, as word is spreading fast, we might have enough interest for a second viewing, possibly a Friday evening with a dinner at Fortescue Hall. Please do get in touch if you are interested as volunteers will be needed to organise and run the event. If you are intrigued but not sure yet, let me level with you. The Letter is NOT a one hour long sermon by the Pope. It isn't a harangue designed to make you feel bad if you eat bacon or do not have an electric car. It isn't a preachy step-by-step guide to "What to Do To Save the Planet". The Letter is a wonderful documentary with fantastic cinematography and a great pace. It gives voice to those at the peripheries of the world who are most affected by climate change: the poor, the indigenous people, the young and wildlife. It is a look at the state of our world. It is moving, thought-provoking and really worth anybody's time.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: YOUR HELP NEEDED!

Last Saturday we were extremely well attended for the first of our meetings to discuss our vision for our PASTORAL Parish Council. Groups already existing were represented,

like our Mother's Prayer Group and Meditation Group. Parishioners also shared ideas for new groups such as a Charismatic group, a men's group and a theology book group amongst many other inspiring ideas. The vast majority of participants voiced the need for more hands-on community outreach and for parish events. We would like to warmly invite and encourage everyone in the parish to come along to the second of these meetings. This Saturday (29th April) at 10.45am in the St Hilda room to the left of Church. There is no obligation to speak. The meeting is an informal encounter to allow everyone to share what they would like our *Pastoral Parish Council* to be and perhaps if there is anything they feel is missing. It was also fed back last Saturday that the timing may be prohibitive for some people, especially those with young families, so please do accept our apology for this. We are looking at ways to rectify this so watch this space! *Hedy*

PRIEST TRAINING FUND

This Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday and our second collection will support the Priest Training Fund. There are currently 48 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 14 of whom are from our own Diocese, as well as two men studying in Rome and two in Valladolid. Last year five men were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests.

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. In case a Funeral Mass is held on the Monday, the group will be held on the Tuesday.

RETRouvaille: A PROGRAMME FOR COUPLES STRUGGLING IN THEIR MARRIAGES

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together.

There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

CATECHISTS WANTED

If you enjoy working with children and young people, please consider joining the Parish Catechetical Team. We urgently need volunteers to take on the roles of lead Catechists for our First Holy Communion and Confirmation Programmes. Please get in touch with our office if you are interested in taking up this very important and very rewarding ministry. Letchworth@rcdow.org.uk

FLOWER CROWNS WORKSHOP

On Thursday 4th May at 7pm come to STM School and join our PA in a guided, step by step workshop on how to make beautiful fresh flower crowns. All equipment and seasonal flowers will be provided together with a glass of Prosecco or soft drink on arrival. Tickets are £20 each and booking is essential in order to ensure enough material is acquired. You can book online at <https://st-thomas-more-pa.sumupstore.com/product/flower-crown-workshop-Thursday-4th-may>

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 every other Thursday at 2.30pm in the St Hilda Room.

Sash Summer Programme 2023:

May 11 Beetle Drive

May 25 Scrabble

June 8 My dream holiday

June 22 `Big Word Game

July 6 My favourite place to visit

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. £1 donation per child to cover snacks and resources is much appreciated.

ROSARY

Every Friday at 10.30am in the Our Lady Chapel.

MASS INTENTIONS -

Sat 29th April to Sun 7th May 2023

Saturday 29th April

6pm: Mick McGrinder RIP

Sunday 30th April

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Frankie Campbell RIP

Monday 1st May

No Mass

Tuesday 2nd May

9.30am : Bob and Connie Dull RIP

Wednesday 3rd May

9am: Martin-Thomas Flannery RIP

Thursday 4th May

9.30am: Paolo Puosi RIP

Friday 5th May

9.30am: Coronation Mass

Saturday 6th May

9.30am: No Mass

6pm: Kris Pullenayagam RIP

Sunday 7th May

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Violet and Bernard Albon RIP

MASS BOOKINGS are available from June, 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.

REPOSITORY

Mass Cards, Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation as well as Birthday cards are now available to purchase from our repository. Boxes with our card selection are in the St Hilda Room. Prices are on the card boxes. Thank you.

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.

LOVE LETCHWORTH CORONATION FESTIVITIES

On Sunday 6th and Monday 7th May, Love Letchworth has organised an amazing array of activities to celebrate the Coronation in our town. From Teddy Bears picnics to the Big Lunch, music, crafts and lots of entertainment. Visit [Events - Love Letchworth](#) for more info.

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
Willie Hudson	Sean O’Gorman

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 March: £ 6,967.56 . 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:

Sat 29th Apr	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 10.45am
Fri 5th May	Sung Mass for the Coronation of King Charles 9.30am
Sun 14th May	First Holy Communion Mass 9.30am
Thu 18th May	The Ascension of the Lord — Parish and STM Mass
Sun 21st May	First Holy Communion Mass 9.30am
Sun 28th May	Pentecost Confirmation Mass—Celebrant Bishop Paul 9.30am
Sun 11th Jun	Corpus Christi - Thanksgiving Mass for First Holy Communion Children
Sun 2nd Jul	Baptism Preparation Course
Sun 9th Jul	STM Summer Fete at St Thomas More school pm-4pm, all parishioners welcome

Our Catholic Schools

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

Tel: 01462 620670 www.strejmi.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.