

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 23rd July 2023, 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Mass Book Year A Vol 2 page 105 Psalter Week 4

FIRST READING: Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19

After sin you will grant repentance.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 85: 5-6, 9-10, 15-16 response v. 5

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

SECOND READING: Romans 8: 26-27

The spirit expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 24-43

Let them both grow till the harvest.

COLLECT: Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

SUNDAY 23RD JULY 2023

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness

God's mercy and compassion run through our readings. The Book of Wisdom offers a description of God's divine nature. The author emphasizes God's universal care and patience as signs of strength, characteristics at odds with worldly values. In the midst of his troubles, the Psalmist too, reflects on the qualities of the God of mercy and compassion. Paul tells of the consequences of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in Christian prayer. Even when prayer is difficult for us as finite and limited human beings, Paul encourages us to hand over our struggles to the Spirit who prays deeply in our hearts to our Father. Jesus shares three parables about growth, each seen from a different perspective. The first, the wheat and the weeds, challenges us to recognise sometimes we must learn to live with situations we don't like, because the effort to remove or change them would do more harm than good. This is a shrewd picture of the patience and compassion needed to live with the ambiguities and complexities of human life. We can pray this week for a spirit of self-compassion in our frailty and limitations. We ask for the grace of deep humility and freedom to give of our best and to have faith in the God of surprises. *Fr Jimmy*

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY

For a Eucharistic life: Let us pray that Catholics place at the centre of their lives the Eucharistic Celebration, which transforms human relationships profoundly and opens up an encounter with God and their brothers and sisters. Amen.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

I am delighted to announce a coach has been booked for parishioners and friends from neighbouring parishes who wish to join the **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on 23rd September 2023**. The coach will depart from our carpark at 8am. Pilgrims are welcome to use the Fortescue Hall carpark if they need to leave their vehicles. The coach will depart from Walsingham at 4.30pm to get back to St Hugh of Lincoln, Letchworth. Tickets are £18 per person and must be paid at the time of booking to secure a place. Please contact the office to book your place either in person, by email or by telephone. As you will see in the next column, the Office will be closed the second half of August so please don't delay your bookings. *Emma*

FUNERALS

With sadness, we announce the passing of dear **Iris Pompey**, age 105. Iris passed away peacefully on SS Peter & Paul day, surrounded by her loving family. Her Funeral will be held on Thursday 27th July at 11.30am.

The Funeral Service for the repose of the soul of **Frank Phillips** will be held on Tue 25th July at 10.30am. There will be a morning Mass at 9am on the day.

The Funeral Mass for Teresa Maguiness will be on Wed 9th August at 11.30am.

With sadness, we also announce the passing of **Barbara Hobbs**. Details of the funerals to follow.

May they all rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

THE TABERNACLE

After fifty years of being prominently placed in our Church, the Tabernacle has been taken away to be repaired, cleaned and refurbished. This work will take some six weeks and cost in the region of £900. Meanwhile, the same company have loaned us a Tabernacle. We are also refurbishing the Big Six, the candles standing each side of the tabernacle. This work will cost roughly the same amount, £900. VAT and delivery will effect the final total.

LOOP SYSTEM

We are in the process of upgrading our Loop System. A temporary unit is in place so hearing-aid users can change setting on their device and hear more clearly. Other improvements to the sound system will also be carried out, probably in the Autumn.

CREAM TEA FOR KANYIKE

Come and enjoy a Cream Tea on Saturday 12th August from 3-5pm in Fortescue Hall in aid of the Kanyike Project in Uganda. Tickets £6 each or two for £10 - available from the Parish Office or, after weekend masses, from Kanyike Project supporters or ring Sue and Jacquie on 01462 675117.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will be closed on Thu 27th July but open from 9am to 4pm on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th. Please also note, the office will be closed from 17th August till the end of the month. I will be taking some of my Annual Leave and Fr Jimmy will also be on leave at the same time. The office will reopen on Monday 4th September. *Emma*

NO MORNING MASS on Saturday 22nd July, 12th August and 19th August due to weddings in the afternoon. Morning confessions will still be heard. Also, NO Mass on 21st August. Fr Forde will be looking after the parish from 25th to 28th August included.

SIGNIFICANT MASS CHANGES IN NOVEMBER:

No Mass on: 7th, 11th (9.30am), 13th, 18th (9.30am) and 20th November. More changes to be announced in the coming weeks.

AUTUMN BAPTISMS

Due to Fr Jimmy's leave in November, there will be no baptisms after 4th November. Dates are booking fast.

NEW MASS AT OUR LADY'S, HITCHIN

Our neighbours at Our Lady's, Hitchin are reinstating the 5pm Sunday service from 11th June till the end of July. If enough people attend, the service will be permanently reinstated from September.

World Youth Day Summer Picnic:

2nd September

Join Westminster Youth Ministry on 2nd September for a taste of Lisbon at their Summer Picnic. This event is aimed at any young person (12-35) in the Diocese who wasn't able to make it to World Youth Day. It will explore the theme for World Youth Day, 'Mary arose and went with haste', with workshops activities, testimonies and Mass with Bishop Paul McAleenan. Sign up at <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/world-youth-day-summer-picnic/>

Please note, for Safeguarding reasons any young person 12-16 year old will need to be accompanied

either by a parent or by a group leader of a parish/school group. For 16-18 year olds additional sign up requirements are in place.

MOTHER'S PRAYERS 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.

ROSARY Every Friday at 10.30am in the Our Lady Chapel.

CATECHISTS WANTED

If you enjoy working with children and young people, please consider joining the Parish Catechetical Team. 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

MASS INTENTIONS -

Sat 22nd to Sun 30th July 2023

Saturday 22nd July

6pm: Deceased members of the Pyne Family

Sunday 23rd July- 15th Ordinary time

9.30am: Luigina & Enrico Puosi

11.30am: People of the Parish

Monday 24th July

9.30am: Stephen Akambi INT

Tuesday 25th July

9am : For CAFOD

10.30am: Funeral Service for Frank Phillips

Wednesday 26th July

9.30am: Jane Tabor RIP

Thursday 27th July

11.30am: Funeral Mass for Iris Pompey

Friday 28th July

9.30am: For the Church

Saturday 29th July

2pm: Solomon Kulatunge RIP

6pm: Betty Wheelan RIP

Sunday 23rd July- 16th Ordinary time

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: For CAFOD

MASS BOOKINGS are available from 25th August.

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. Thanks.

FORTESCUE HALL

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. Contact the Parish Office if you would like to make a booking.

ACTIVITIES AT FORTESCUE HALL:

Line Dancing: Monday 10.15am—12.15pm

Tai Chi: Tuesday 9.30—11.30am

Women only self defence: Tuesday 8.30 - 9.30pm.

Baby & Toddler Group: Thursday 9.30 - 11.30

Scouts: Tuesday 6.30 -8pm; Wednesday 6.15 -7.30pm; Thursday 7 -9pm

Yoga (in St Hilda): Thursday 6.15 -8-15pm

PRO-LIFE PILGRIMAGE TO WAL-SINGHAM

Led by Most Rev. Kevin Mc Donald Archbishop Emeritus of Southwark. Sat 5th August 2023 Coach departs from Harpenden at 7.30 am and St Bartholomew's 7.50am, St Hugh of Lincoln, Letchworth at 8.30am. Places: Adults £25, Child/Student £10. For more information visit www.pro-lifepilgrimage.org and to book contact Geraldine 07971028415

CATHOLIC MEDITATION GROUP

Our parish meditation group meets on Tuesdays at 5pm for an hour in St Hilda's room. Our meetings consist of a short reading, followed by meditation and conclude with a time of reflection and discussion. All welcome.

The **TODDLER GROUP** will resume in September lead by Shailey. We thank Cecilia for her commitment to this important ministry for years.

Rail ticket office closures

This is a social justice issue. A lot of people affected by disability or age cannot use ticket vending machines. The three week public consultation on the Rail Delivery Group's proposed plans ends on Wednesday 26th July, in a few days' time. Before then, concerned parishioners are invited to email their thoughts and concerns about the proposals to close virtually all ticket offices across the country
to: ticketoffice.GTR@transportfocus.org.uk

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

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| Nora Ivers | Pat Davies |
| Richard Parker | Anne Hudson |
| Stephen Prohaska | Angela Horne |
| Aron Haughton | Anthony Horne |
| George Marston | Philomena Johnson |
| Joe Fernandes | Elizabeth McKenna |
| Margaret Haywood | Debbie Giacobelli |
| Willie Hudson | Brenda Feeney |
| Mary Wallace | Rosie Child |
| Rosina Denton | Claire Feeney |

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 June: 6,633.64 inclusive of standing orders, planned giving and collections Thank you for your continued generosity.

Candle Donations: the new poor boxes have been installed.

Dates for your Diary:

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| Sat 5th Aug | Pro-Life Pilgrimage to Walsingham - pickup from Letchworth at 8.30am |
| Sat 12th Aug | Cream Tea for Kanyike, Fortescue Hall 3pm-5pm |
| Tue 15th Aug | Solemnity of Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary - Mass at 9.30am and 7.30pm |
| Fri 8th Sept | Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary |
| Sun 17th Sept | Baptism Preparation Course |
| Sat 23rd Sept | Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham—departure 8am from St Hugh of Lincoln Church carpark |
| Sat 4th Nov | Last date for Baptisms before Christmas |

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.