

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 July 2023, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Mass Book Year A Vol 2 page 108 Psalter Week 1

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12

You have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 118: 57, 72, 76-77, 127-130 response v. 97

Lord, I love your law!

SECOND READING: Romans 8: 28-30

God intended us to become true images of his Son.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

COLLECT: O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundations, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. 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.**

30TH JULY 2023 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.

Our readings weave around themes of wisdom, treasure and joy. When asked in a dream what he desires from God, Solomon chooses ‘a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil.’ God is pleased Solomon does not seek riches or a long life, so gives him the gift of wisdom. Psalm 118 asks the Lord for his consoling love. God’s law means more to the Psalmist than precious metals. Paul explains the plan now unfolding has been there from the beginning. God chose and called us all to become ‘true images of his Son’. God wants all who love him and follow his teaching to share in his glory. Jesus offers three images for God’s kingdom; a treasure we find unexpectedly, a pearl for which we search diligently and a net gathering us in. They illustrate the priceless value and importance of the kingdom to which all are invited. Jesus also reminds us to hold on to treasures both old and new as we seek God’s kingdom. Pondering God’s gift of wisdom, we pray it will guide us to the treasure, the delight of knowing and loving Jesus and the riches this brings. We ask God’s help to share this with all those we encounter. *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. A quick stop at Royston has been added as we had a good number of pilgrims joining from that parish. The coach will depart from Walsingham at 4.30pm to get back to St Hugh of Lincoln, Letchworth, again stopping at Royston on the way back. 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

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 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 Jacque on 01462 675117.

OFFICE CLOSURE

Please 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 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. Fr Forde will be looking after our parish from Fri 24th to Tue 28th November included.

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

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

FREE STREETDANCE WORKSHOPS

The Heritage Foundation is subsidising dance workshops with Street Dance Productions, a renowned dance school in Stevenage. Workshops will run at Fortescue Hall on Tuesday afternoon during August and move to a Friday afternoon from September to November. Go to [Letchworth Summer Street Dance - Street Dance Productions](#) for info and to book.

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 29th July to Sun 6th August 2023

Saturday 29th July

6pm: Betty Wheelan RIP

Sunday 30th July- 17th Ordinary time

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: For CAFOD

Monday 31st July

9.30am: Stephen Akambi INT

Tuesday 1st August

9am: Iris Pompey RIP

Wednesday 2nd August

1pm: Wedding Mass Tim & Aimee INT

Thursday 3rd August

9.30am: Patricia Handscombe INT

Friday 4th August

9.30am: Catherine & Kenneth Lowthian RIP

Saturday 5th August

2pm: Ross Nittolo & Leonardo Antonaci RIP

6pm: For African Missions

Sunday 6th August- 18th Ordinary time

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Maria Calcasola RIP

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:

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:

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.