

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 14th January 2024, Peace Sunday

Parish Mass Book Year B Vol 1 page 127 Vigil Psalter Week 2

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 39: 2, 4, 7-10 response vv. 8, 9

Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20

Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ.

GOSPEL: John 1: 35-42

They saw where he loved, and stayed with him.

COLLECT: Almighty ever-living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times. 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.**

‘COME AND SEE’

Today’s readings conclude the feast of Christmas and begin the new season of Ordinary Time. In the **First Reading** we hear the Lord’s dramatic call of Samuel, and how Samuel fails to hear and discern it properly at first.

The young Samuel might well have grown up praying with words like those in today’s **Psalms**. We can easily imagine him, in the Temple, offering a prayer of commitment to follow the Lord’s will.

In the **Second Reading**, St Paul, writing to the Church at Corinth, reminds the people that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. All they have and all they are is a gift, a gift purchased at great price.

The **Gospel** continues the story of Jesus’s Baptism. John the Baptist, having recognised Jesus as the Lamb of God, points two of his own followers to Jesus.

The scripture texts of today’s liturgy depict stories of call and response. During the coming week, let’s ponder God’s call in our own lives, and reflect both on the level of our attentiveness and on the depth of our response.

POPE’S JANUARY INTENTIONS

Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church. *Amen*

NO MORNING MASS on Saturday until Lent and on Monday 15th January.

YEAR OF PRAYER – 2024

The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is “Pilgrims of Hope”, and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis.

After the year devoted to reflecting on the documents and studying the fruits of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Francis has proposed that 2024 should be marked as a year dedicated to prayer. In preparation for the Jubilee, dioceses are invited to promote initiatives to remind people of the centrality of both individual prayer and community prayer. One idea might be for “pilgrimages of prayer” to be organised at a diocesan level – these would be effectively courses or ‘schools of prayer’ with monthly or weekly meetings, presided over by the local bishops, but open to the entire People of God. In addition, to help mark this year more fruitfully, the Dicastery for Evangelisation will publish a series of “Prayer Notebooks”, with material taken from the many forms of prayer to be found in the rich Catholic tradition.

1. PRAYER TODAY: A CHALLENGE TO OVERCOME by Angelo Comastri prefaced by Pope Francis; 2. PRAYING WITH THE PSALMS by Gianfranco Ravasi; 3. THE PRAYER OF JESUS by Juan Lopez Vergara; 4. PRAYING WITH SAINTS AND SINNERS by Paul Brendan Murray; 5. PARABLES ON PRAYER by Antonio Pitta; 6. THE CHURCH IN PRAYER By *a monk*; 7. THE PRAYER OF MARY AND THE SAINTS by Catherine Aubin; 8. THE PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US: THE "OUR FATHER" by Ugo Vanni.

These resources are intended for any faithful who wishes to prepare for the Jubilee. If you want to join one of the existing prayer groups or are interested in forming a new one, please get in touch with the parish office so we can make one of parish rooms available for meetings. The *Pontifical Bull of Indiction* is expected to be published, as per tradition, on Ascension the year before the Jubilee. For the 2025 Jubilee, publication is expected on 9th

May 2024. For more information about the Jubilee 2025 please head to the website [The Year of Jubilee 2025 - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](https://www.cbcew.org.uk)

JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Franciscus

ANNUAL LEAVE

Fr Jimmy will be on annual Leave from Monday 8th January to Thursday 18th January inclusive. Please contact the parish office or see Fr Stephen after Mass for any queries.

RCIA SESSIONS are held on Wednesday at 7.30pm in the St Hilda Room.

BAPTISM SESSION

The next Baptism session is on Sunday 11th February. If you wish your child to be Baptised, please attend the session before the Baptism itself.

SASH—LEADER REQUIRED

Sash is a greatly valued resource for our parish. This lovely group has been organised for years by Patsy. It is now time to pass the baton. Please contact the office if you wish to take on this fantastic role. Meetings will resume once the position is filled.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN SOCIETY

Founded in 1859 the Catholic Children's Society is one of the oldest charities supporting disadvantaged children and families of all faiths and none in the UK. We are still collecting money for CCS. Please support the work of this wonderful charity if you can. Donation boxes will be by the Crib in the Baptistry.

MASS INTENTIONS -

Sat 13th to Sun 21st January 2024

Saturday 13th January

6pm: Leonardo & Ines Antonaci and Ross Nittolo RIP

Sunday 14th January- Peace Sunday

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Monica & Anastasia Dep RIP

Monday 15th January

9.30am: No Mass

Tuesday 16th January

9.30am: Paddy O'Donnell RIP

Wednesday 17th January

9am: Jim Fitzgerald RIP

Thursday 18th January

9.30am: Monica & Anastasia Dep RIP

Friday 19th January

9.30am: Mary Lawlor RIP

Saturday 20th January

9.30am: No Mass

6pm: Catherine Leslie RIP

Sunday 21st January - Ordinary Time

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Bill O'Donovan RIP

MASS BOOKINGS are available from late February (weekday). When booking a Mass, please let the office know if you are able to Gift Aid.

ROSARY for Peace Every Friday at 10am.

MOTHER'S PRAYERS

This lovely 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 of a Funeral Monday, the group will be held on the Tuesday.

CATHOLIC MEDITATION GROUP

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

cussion. All welcome.

GIFT AID If you haven't already, please consider filling in a Gift Aid Declaration to make your donations go further. Forms are available in the porch. Thank you.

LENTEN RESOURCE "*We Dare To Say* is a five-week course. It takes us on a journey through the Lord's Prayer, and has been specially prepared for the Year of Prayer, the penultimate year of preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025, *Pilgrims of Hope*. *We Dare To Say* has been a collaborative endeavour between Martin Foster from the Catholic Bishops' Conference, Dr Mark Nash from the Archdiocese of Southwark, and myself. We hope it will lead to a deeper understanding of those words which the Lord gave us as the pattern of all prayer, a sure foundation to our praise and petitions." *Fr Chris Vipers*, Director of the Agency for Evangelisation.

WOMENS SELF DEFENCE CLASSES, now being held at Fortescue Hall, every Tuesday night. It's a chance to meet new friends, get fit and learn to protect yourself and your loved ones. All ladies welcome, First class is free, call or text Mel for more information. 07802 283 542.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Please let the office know if you require donation envelopes for the next financial year. We are trying to cut down on admin expenses. You can set up a regular donation via your bank instead. If you wish to carry on with the envelopes, please email the office or drop a note through the letterbox with your name and the number on your box.

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (20s & 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life
16-18 February 2024, Liverpool.

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

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
Harper Draper	Hannah Draper

Easy Giving: We are in the process of fixing the Contactless Machine in the Church porch. In the meantime, you may give via our parish website; www.pariah.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth . If you are in a position to Gift Aid your donations, please email the office to complete a declaration. Gift Aid allows us to claim some money back at no extra cost to you. 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.

Collection Total December: £8,180.05 inclusive of standing orders and collections. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Candle Donations: the new poor boxes have been installed.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 28th Jan	Confirmation Enrolment Mass, 9.30am
Sun 11th Feb	Baptism Preparation Session, St Hilda Room after 9.30am Mass
Wed 14th Feb	Ash Wednesday, services at 9.30am and 7.30pm
Sat 17th Feb	First Reconciliation for First Holy Communion Programme, 11.30am
Fri 23rd Feb	CAFOD Family Fast Day

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 - to be appointed 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.