

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 25th February 2024, Second Sunday of Lent

Parish Mass Book Year B Vol 1 page 151 Vigil Psalter Week 2

FIRST READING: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 115: 10, 15-19 response Psalm 114:9

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living

SECOND READING: Romans 8: 31-34

God did not spare his own son.

GOSPEL: Mark 9: 2-10

This is my Son, the beloved.

COLLECT: O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. 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.**

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B

Today's readings make us think of God's revelation of Jesus Christ as his beloved son and also how God loves us. The first reading tells of how Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac, but God stopped him. The gospel tells of the Transfiguration, where the voice from the heavens revealed Jesus as God's beloved son to Peter, James, and John.

Several profound themes intertwine to offer a rich tapestry of faith, sacrifice, divine revelation, and salvation. Here are some of the central ones:

Faith and Obedience: The first reading from Genesis highlights Abraham's unwavering faith and obedience to God, even when asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. This narrative underscores the depth of faith and trust in God's plan, despite not understanding it fully.

Divine Provision and Intervention: The provision of the ram as a substitute for Isaac in the Genesis account symbolizes God's intervention and provision. It prefigures God's ultimate provision of His Son as a sacrifice for humanity's sins.

Covenant and Promise: God's covenant with Abraham, promising countless descendants and blessings for all nations due to Abraham's obedience, emphasizes the theme of divine promise and the unfolding of salvation history.

The Suffering and Glory of Christ: The Gospel from Mark describes the Transfiguration of Jesus, revealing His divine glory. This event foreshadows the Paschal Mystery—His suffering, death, and resurrection. It also affirms Jesus as the beloved Son and the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets, represented by Moses and Elijah.

Divine Sonship and Mission: The divine voice during the Transfiguration, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him," highlights Jesus' divine sonship and His mission. It calls for heed to Jesus' teachings and understanding of His role in salvation history.

Victory Over Suffering: The second reading from Romans emphasizes that with God on our side, we can face any opposition. It highlights the victory over condemnation through Christ's intercession, reflecting on the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus for our salvation.

Reflection and Anticipation: The readings collectively invite believers to reflect on their journey of faith, anticipating the ultimate fulfilment of God's promises through the resurrection of Jesus. They encourage a deep trust in God's plan, even amidst trials and sufferings.

These themes for the 2nd Sunday in Lent Year B are interconnected, offering a message of hope, renewal, and deepened faith as believers journey through Lent, reflecting on God's salvific plan and the transformative power of faith and obedience.

POPE'S FEBRUARY INTENTIONS

For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment. Amen.

WEEKDAY MORNING MASS IS SAID IN THE ST HILDA ROOM DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.

FUNERAL NOTICE

With sadness, we announce the passing of Rita Jones. The Funeral will be held on Thursday 28th February at 11am. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2024

If you can, please show your support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of our services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code on the posters to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

ROSARY Every Friday at 10am.

WE DARE TO SAY PRAYER GROUP

Lenten reflection which follows the Diocesan Resource. Tuesday 12-2pm or Thursday after morning Mass. Contact Jacquie Maddison or Brenda Dwyer for info.

FAMILY FAST DAY

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk. To find out about volunteering opportunities with CAFOD visit Volunteer (cafod.org.uk)

EASTER SERVICES LEAFLET

All the information about the services leading up to and on Holy Week are now available on the leaflet on our website, the noticeboard and at the back of church.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

Our Church has been asked to host the service this year. Please come and join us on Friday 1st March at 2pm. Refreshments afterwards.

OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note the Office will be closed during Half Term, Mon 19th February– 24th February.

FORTESCUE HALL CLOSURE

Please be advised that Fortescue Hall will be unavailable for bookings from 16th February to 26th February due to refurbishments being carried out to the floor.

OFFICE 'PHONE

Please be aware we are still having problems with our telephone. The system needs upgrading and this is a costly and lengthy process. We have one working handset left in the whole Presbytery and 'phone messages do not work. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

BAPTISM SESSION

The next Baptism session is on 9th June 2024.

MASS INTENTIONS -

Sat 24th February to Sun 3rd March 2024

Saturday 24th February

6pm: Ines Antonaci RIP

Sunday 25th February - Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am: The Leenane Family INT

11.30am: People of the Parish

Monday 26th February

9.30am: Bernardette Wrynn RIP

Tuesday 27th February

9.30am: Monica & Anastasia Dep RIP

Wednesday 28th February

11am: Funeral Mass Rita Jones RIP

Thursday 29th February

9.30am: Anne & Eugene Neary RIP

Friday 1st March

9.30am: Iride Villa RIP

Saturday 2nd March

9.30am: Martha Meynert RIP

6pm: Rex Phillips RIP

Sunday 3rd March - Third Sunday of Lent

9.30am: Giorgio Camisa RIP

11.30am: People of the Parish

MASS BOOKINGS are available from mid-March. Weekend Masses are available to book from mid-May. When booking a Mass, please let the office know if you are able to Gift Aid.

REPOSITORY

St Patrick's Day and Easter cards are now available in the boxes in the St Hilda room. Cards are also available for Weddings, Anniversaries, Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmations, Sympathy, Get Well wishes and the traditional Mass Cards (RIP and Intentions). Prices vary, please check the boxes. Thank you.

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 the St Hilda room. Meetings consist of a short reading, followed by meditation and conclude with a time of reflection and discussion. 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.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Please let the office know if you require donation envelopes for the next financial year.

St PATRICK'S DAY MASS

This year, 17th March falls on a Sunday. Therefore, St Patrick's Day will be celebrated on **Saturday 16th March at 9.30am**. This Mass will be livestreamed for our house-bound parishioners.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). Many thanks.

SASH—LEADER REQUIRED

We are still looking for a volunteer to run this most valued group. Please contact the office if you wish to take on this fantastic role. Meetings will resume we have a new Lead.

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Come and celebrate the joyful Feast of the Annunciation at England's Nazareth with a Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Monday, 8th April (in the Easter hols). Holy Mass will be at the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham at 12 noon and we will walk (or go by coach) along the Holy Mile to visit the original site of the Holy House. Cost £23 for adults, free for children. Coach will depart from St Bart's St Albans at 8am and **Letchworth 8.30am**. To book please contact Rosemary Roscoe by phone 07723 546642 or email rosemary.roscoe@gmail.com If you need assistance booking, let the office know.

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

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/lethworth . 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 January: £7,025.44 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:

Fri 23rd Feb	CAFOD Family Fast Day
Fri 1st Mar	World day of Prayer ecumenical service at St Hugh of Lincoln 2pm, refreshment afterwards
Sat 16th Mar	St Patrick's Day Mass 9.30am
Thu 28th Mar	Sacred Triduum Starts: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm
Fri 29th Mar	Good Friday: Children's stations of the Cross 10am; Passion of the Lord liturgy 3pm
Sat 30th Mar	Easter Vigil 7.30pm

Our Catholic Schools

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

Tel: 01462 620670 www.strcjni.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 (retiring), Kate Hewitson (in training) lethworthsg@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