

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 10th March 2024, Laetare Sunday

Parish Mass Book Year B Vol 1 page 162 Vigil Psalter Week 4

FIRST READING: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23

The wrath and mercy of God are revealed in the exile and in the release of his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 136 response v 6

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2: 4-10

You who were dead through your sins have been saved through grace.

GOSPEL: John 3: 14-21

God sent his son that through him the world might be saved.

COLLECT: O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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.**

WE ARE CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS TO LIVE THE GOOD LIFE

On this Laetare, or Rejoice Sunday, our readings suggest many reasons for rejoicing. Chronicles describes the destruction of Jerusalem and the days of Israel's exile. But God, working through the Persian king, Cyrus, not only brings the Jewish people home to where they belong but helps them rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem. Paul says God, whose nature is Universal Love, brought us back to life with Christ Jesus through the gift of his infinite grace. Our good works, our lives, lived in all their fullness are a grateful and authentic response to all we have received from God. The Gospel tells us the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus, who was lifted up and exalted on the cross, brings salvation to all who believe in him. Christ's Passion, for all its injustice and brutality, is a glorious revelation of God's love for humanity. His Passion is the source of our healing. Jesus calls us to live by his truth, so we can dwell in God's life and love. Our Psalm of longing lament recalls the bitter days of Israel's exile in Babylon. For us, Babylon is a symbol of everything threatening the fullness of human life; selfishness, greed, and pride take us away from wholeness of life into exile. We pray for the faith and humility to be open to God's infinite grace, so all humanity might be open to God's life-giving love. *Fr Jimmy*

POPE'S MARCH INTENTIONS

For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences. Amen.

WEEKDAY MORNING MASS : St Hilda Room.

FUNERAL NOTICE

With sadness, we announce the passing of Frank Budd and Dave Wickham. The Funeral service for Frank Budd will be held on Monday 11th March at 11am. The Funeral Mass for Dave Wickham will be held on Fri 22nd March at 11am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm and every Friday morning after Mass.

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION IN

LENT. There will be extra opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation next weekend, 16th-17th March. Saturday 16th, 10.00am-11.00am; 5.00pm-5.45pm. Sunday 17th, 10.30am-11.30am.

Reconciliation is also available on Wednesdays during Adoration which follows 9.30am Mass and on request.

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 for peace Every Friday at 10am.

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL, NURSERY

A message for all parents of children born between September 2020 – August 2021: St Thomas More RC Primary School is currently accepting applications for Nursery places for the next academic year. The school welcomes applications from all families: Catholics, Christian, other faiths or no faith. The application process for Nursery places closes on Friday 8th March 2024.

Applications should be made directly to the school. For a nursery application pack, please follow the link: <https://www.strejmi.herts.sch.uk/assets/Uploads/Nursery-Application-Pack-Website-2024-2026.pdf> Please ensure that all associated documents are contained within the completed submission. If you need any further help or have any queries about the above, please contact the School Office by phone on 01462 620670 or by email: admin@stmlethworth.co.uk. Thank you.

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.

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.

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: 9th June 2024.

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 household parishioners.

ST JOHN'S PASSION CONCERT

As part of our Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's St John Passion on Thursday 14th March 2024 at 7.30pm at Westminster Cathedral. We are delighted to invite you to join us for this devotional performance by our world-famous Choir directed by Master of Music, Simon Johnson, accompanied by a period Baroque Orchestra and joined by outstanding soloists: James Gilchrist and William Thomas. As a way of encouraging as many as possible from our parishes across

the diocese to benefit from this spiritual preparation to the Holy Week, we would like to offer you and your parish team an opportunity to buy your tickets at a discount of **30%**.

<https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F00602BD7A81B4F?did=sjp30>

Password: **SJP30**

MASS INTENTIONS -

Sat 2nd to Sun 10th March 2024

Saturday 9th March

6pm: Ross Nittolo, Leonardo & Ines Antonaci RIP

Sunday 10 March - Laetare Sunday

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Monica & Anastasia Dep RIP

Monday 11th March

9.30am: Stephen Akambi INT

Tuesday 12th March

9.30am: Karen Koenen INT

Wednesday 13th March

9.30am: Harry & Maureen McCann RIP

Thursday 14th March

9.30am: Maureen & John Hogbourne RIP

Friday 15th March

9.30am: Deceased members of the Palmers & Ryan families

Saturday 16th March – St Patrick's Day

9.30am: Daphne Thoyer RIP

6pm: Tonina Rizzo RIP

Sunday 17th March - 5th Sunday of Lent

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Peter Ellmers RIP

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 on 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.

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 wish to take part, 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). Deadline for submission is 15th April. 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.

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Monday, 8th April (in the Easter hols). Cost £23 for adults, free for children. Coach will depart from **Letchworth 8.30am**. 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.

RETREAT

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday Retreat at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Saturday 6th April 2024 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

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	Margaret Haywood
Debbie Giacobelli	Brenda Feeney
Mary Wallace	Rosie Child
Willie Hudson	Harper Draper
Hannah Draper	Andrea Boncristiani

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.parish.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 February: £ 7,478.06 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:

Sat 16th Mar	St Patrick's Day Mass 9.30am
Tue 19th Mar	Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun 24th Mar	Palm Sunday, please refer to the Easter services leaflet for details
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
Mon 8th Apr	Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (transferred from 25th March because of Holy week)

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