

# 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](mailto: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 28th April 2024, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

### **Parish Mass Book Year B Vol 1 page 264 Psalter week 1**

FIRST READING: Acts 9: 26-31

Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his journey.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 21: 26-31 response v 26

You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3: 18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe in his Son and that we love one another.

GOSPEL: John 15: 1-8

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit aplenty.

COLLECT: Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of eternal life. Through our Lord, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

### **I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES.**

We are deeply rooted in the love of Christ. The risen Christ is the source of all we need to grow closer to God. In the first reading, we hear how shortly after his conversion, Paul was treated with fear and disdain by those he had been persecuting. His zeal for the Lord was grounded in a very personal encounter with Christ. Knowing he was loved completely, despite all he had done before, gave him the encouragement to spread the Good News. As a faithful worshipping Jew, Paul would have been familiar with praying today's Psalm, an encouraging song of praise. It foretells how generations yet to come will be filled with the love of the Lord. In the second reading, the writer counsels, even if we feel we have failed or fallen short in our response to God's love for us, his love is so immense and all-forgiving, we need not be afraid. Knowing this, we are free to live out the great commandment to love one another. The beautiful image of a vine carefully tended by the Father is used by Jesus to describe his and our relationship to God. We are all sustained in an intimate co-existence with the Holy Trinity. Jesus invites us to remain close to him. Without him, our life is nothing, with him, we discover our true identity and purpose. This week, we can try to be aware we are branches of one vine, rooted in God's love. Although we may have our shortcomings and differences, we are loved completely by a God of compassion, love and forgiveness. We pray, like Paul, we will have the grace to live out this amazing Good News. *Fr. Jimmy*

**POPE'S APRIL INTENTIONS—For the role of women:** We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world. Amen.

## **COFFEE MORNING**

Sunday 28th April in St Hilda Room hosted by the First Holy Communion Parents.

**WEEKDAY MORNING MASS** : St Hilda Room.

**ROSARY for peace** Every Friday at 10am.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION:**  
9th June 2024.

## **NO SAT MORNING MASS**

from 25th May till Advent. Confessions will still be heard.

## **FUNERAL NOTICE**

The Funeral Mass for Bianca Mariconda will be held on Tue 7th May at 10.30am. The Mass will be livestreamed on our parish YouTube channel for friends and family overseas. Please keep Bianca's loved ones in your prayers at this difficult time. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

## **YOUTH MINISTRY INSTAGRAM**

You can follow the work of the Westminster Youth Ministry @dowym

## **YOUTH GROUP**

Before Covid, our Parish used to run a fantastic Youth Group. We are looking to revive this so we can offer the young people of our parish a resource after their First Holy Communion. Are you able to help or do you know someone who could? We are looking for Group Leaders to organise activities and run the sessions. Fortescue Hall is a phenomenal space and we already have plenty of equipment to entertain youngsters and we could get more. If you fancy the challenge, please contact the parish office and have a chat with Fr Jimmy.

## **PARISH QUIZ NIGHT**

Please save the date for a fun night on 8th June at Fortescue Hall in aid of the CAFOD Sudan Appeal. More details to follow.

## **CONGRATULATIONS, MICHAEL!**

You may have spotted our parishioner, Michael Lockwood in The Comet last week. He did 3605 push-up this month to raise money for Cancer Research. He even did some push-ups in our church, witnessed by Andy Perry. Amazing achievement, Michael! And well done Luna the pup for always being by his side.

## **CONCERT**

Maddy McConnell Smith has been a parishioner at St Hugh's all her life, regularly singing at parish celebrations. Please join her on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm for an afternoon concert of classical songs, with postgraduate musicians from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. 'Passion for Performance: A Musician's Odyssey' takes you through the musical journey of an aspiring professional classical singer. From the early stages of learning how to sing whilst at the Saint John Henry Newman School, to preparing to graduate with a master's in music, this concert is a compendium of songs that have featured on this journey.

## **CRAFT CLEAR OUT EVENT!**

Over 20 local sellers clearing out their crafty items including: fabric, patterns, yarn and other sewing equipment. Come and grab a bargain and stock up for a future project. Free entry with tea and coffee available. Fortescue Hall Saturday 1st June 12 to 3pm.

## **DANCE FITNESS CLASSES FOR**

**SENIORS:** Fortescue Hall on Friday 10.45am after morning Mass. Come and have fun with upbeat music routines. This class can be taken standing or sitting down. It's a chance to keep fit and catch up with friends. £5 per session on the day, no need to subscribe or pay in advance.

## **DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WAL-SINGHAM**

The annual diocesan pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham will take place this year on Saturday, 21st September. Fr Philip from Royston will be accompanying us. We have booked a bigger coach, 54 seats so please spread the word!

## **SJHN VACANCY**

We have a vacancy for a **Lay Chaplain** to join our Chaplaincy team. Experience working in school is an advantage but not essential. There will be opportunities for training and career development in the school. You will be an integral part of a friendly and committed team of staff. You must also be able to work on your own initiative as well as in a team. This could be a good opportunity for someone considering a career in education.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 27th April to Sun 5th May 2024

Saturday 27th April

6pm: Monica & Anastasia Dep RIP

Sunday 28th April - Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.30am: Denis Marrinan RIP

11.30am: People of the Parish

Monday 29th April

9.30am: Mary Rostron RIP

Tuesday 30th April

9.30am: Fr John Warnaby RIP

Wednesday 1st May

9.30am: Petite Family INT

Thursday 2nd May

9.30am: Bob & Connie Dull RIP

Friday 3rd May

9.30am: Brenda Feeney RIP

Saturday 4th May

9.30am: Canon Anthony Dolan RIP

6pm: Ines & Leonardo Antonaci, Ross Nittolo RIP

Sunday 5th May—Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.30am: FHC Children and Families

11.30am: People of the Parish

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

## REPOSITORY

Cards for various occasions. The boxes are located in the St Hilda Room. Prices vary, please check the dividers and leave money in the honesty box. Thank you.

## 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.

## MOTHER'S PRAYERS

This lovely group for mothers of all ages is held every Monday morning after 9.30am Mass in St Hilda Room. It isn't a playgroup, but a chance to socialise and pray together for mothers and grandmothers. Tea and coffee available. In case of a Funeral on Monday, the group will be held on the Tuesday.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 19TH- 26TH JULY 2024** – Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vin-

cent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.

## A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER

With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. *A Year of Encounter* is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. For more info [cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more.

**CONTACTLESS DONATIONS:** our contactless reader is in the porch. **Please do not move it, unplug it or switch it off.** Your consideration is much appreciated as the machine is expensive and every time it needs servicing there is also a fee. Thank you.

**OFFICE TELEPHONE:** 'phone messages do not work. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

## WORLD DAY FOR CHILDREN

Pope Francis, has established an annual World Day for Children which will be kept over the weekend of 25th and 26th May. In support of this the Holy Father has also published his first message for children, available on our website. Please share this with children and with those involved in working in schools, youth services and catechesis.

**MEMORY CAFE** every Thursday at the Ernest Garden centre in Letchworth 10-12noon. Organised by Garden House Hospice, this is for people, families or carers who are suffering with any form of dementia. There is no need to book, it's a drop in, health professionals are present, you get a cup of tea and socialise.

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

Nora Ivers	Pat Davies
Richard Parker	Anne Hudson
Stephen Prohaszka	Angela Horne
Aron Haughton	Anthony Horne
George Marston	Philomena Johnson
Joe Fernandes	Margaret Haywood
Debbie Giacobelli	Willie Hudson
Mary Wallace	Rosie Child
Harper Draper	Hannah Draper
Andrea Boncristiani	Charles McCann
Kay McKenna	

**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](http://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 March:** £ 7,693.22 inclusive of standing orders, contactless and collections. Thank you for your continued generosity.

**UNIVERSAL CATHOLIC WEEKLY:** copies of this Catholic newspaper are now on sale in the porch, £3.50 per copy. Thank you.

**Dates for your Diary:**

Sun 5th May	First Holy Communion Mass (Group 1), 9.30am
Sun 5th May	Classical Concert - Maddy McConnel-Smith, in aid of Bakhita House
<b>Thu 9th May</b>	<b>The Ascension of the Lord, Mass 9.30am and 7.30pm</b>
Sun 12th May	First Holy Communion Mass, (Group 2), 9.30am
<b>Sun 19th May</b>	<b>Pentecost. Presentation of Guild of St Stephen Silver Medals at 11.30am Mass</b>
Sat 1st Jun	Craft Clear Out Fayre, Fortescue Hall, 12 - 3pm
Sat 8th Jun	Parish Quiz night, Fortescue Hall, in aid of CAFOD Sudan Appeal
Sun 9th Jun	Baptism Preparation session, after 9.30am Mass in the St Hilda Room
Sat 21st Sep	Pilgrimage to Walsingham—departure from St Hugh of Lincoln carpark 8am. One stop only at Royston.

**Our Catholic Schools**

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

Tel: 01462 620670    [www.strcjmi.herts.sch.uk](http://www.strcjmi.herts.sch.uk)

**The Saint John Henry Newman RC Secondary School**, Hitchin Road, Stevenage.

Tel: 01438 314643    [www.jhn.herts.sch.uk](http://www.jhn.herts.sch.uk)

**Safeguarding Officer** - Rebecca Clarke (retiring), Kate Hewitson (in training) [lethworthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.