

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 and 11.30am; 1pm Mass in Polish. Holy Day

Mass 9.30am & 7pm. Weekday Mass: Monday to Friday 9.30am. Morning Prayer: Monday to Friday

9.10am. Adoration & Confession Thursday 10.00-10.45am; Benediction Thursday 10.45.

Confession Saturday 5.15 to 5.45pm & on request.



SUNDAY 1st December 2024, First Sunday of Advent

Vigil Mass: Parish Mass Book Year C Vol 1 page 82 Psalter week 1

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 25 (24): 4-5b. 8-9.10, 14. R1b

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4:2

May the Lord establish your hearts for the coming of Christ.

GOSPEL: Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

Your redemption is drawing near.

COLLECT: grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe, grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.

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.**

'Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near'

From today onwards in the Roman Catholic Church in England, Wales and Scotland, our readings are taken from the English Standard Version (ESV) Catholic Edition, of the Bible. The Psalms are the Grail translation we are used to, updated by the use of the Abbey Psalter (CTS, 2024). These replace the Jerusalem Bible and the Grail Psalter used in the Lectionary since 1969 and updated in 1981.

As we begin the holy season of Advent, a word which means 'the coming', we recall the three Advents of the life of Jesus: his Nativity at Bethlehem; his Advent as Lord in glory at the end of all time, and the Advent of Christ's Spirit into our hearts and lives in each moment of our life. God's Word invites us to perceive our place in the present world as his beloved daughters and sons, opening ourselves to others, especially those most in need. Our readings call us to live according to the perspective of the new world to come. The great prophet Jeremiah offers hope in the promise of the first coming of the Lord in time.

Through the springing up of the 'righteous branch of David' the people will dwell securely. Our response? We may like to imagine lifting our soul up to the Lord, as in Psalm 24. St Paul, writing to the Christians at Thessalonica, reminds them, and us, to be ready for the second coming of the Lord in glory. The early Christians believed the Lord's coming would happen very soon; being ready for it meant abounding in loving service. Jesus' heart is full of consolation for his disciples and all people. When the signs of his coming in glory are to be seen, we are called to stand tall, eager for the gift of redemption, because what awaits us is nothing less than the fulness of Christ's Spirit, already alive and active in our hearts. We pray this week, we may find and take every opportunity to live as though Christ died yesterday, rose from the dead today, and is coming in glory tomorrow. *St Beuno's Prego & Fr Jimmy*

POPE'S INTENTIONS—December

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Amen

His Holiness new Encyclical Letter, *Dilexit Nos* (trans. *He Loved Us*), is available to read on the Vatican website www.vatican.va

FUNERALS †

We are saddened to announce the passing of three parishioners, **Caroline Randall, Anthony Burrows and Mary Sutton**. Caroline's Funeral will be held on Wed 4th December at 11.30am. Mary Sutton's Funeral will be held on Tue 10th December at 10am. Anthony Burrows Funeral will be held on Wed 11th December at 11am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Please keep the families in your prayers at this most difficult time.

WEEKDAY MASS IN ST HILDA ROOM

Weekend, Feast and school masses will be held in Church as normal.

LECTIONARIES – A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in England and Wales on the First Sunday of Advent 2024. It is a big moment of change as we move away from the now familiar Jerusalem Bible translation to the new English Standard Version – Catholic Edition translation. The new lectionary will use better biblical scholarship and more up-to-date translations to make the Bible more faithful to its original languages To learn more visit www.newlectionary.org

PARISH MASS BOOKS

As for the Lectionaries, the parish Mass books need to be replaced with the updated translation. Each cycle of books will cost the parish over £1000, the first new cycle, Year C volume 1, starting with Advent. With a donation of £5, you can sponsor a book in memory of a loved one. An inscription will be put in the book "In loving memory of ...". Your help and support is very gratefully received and appreciated.

ROSARY FOR PEACE Every Friday at

10am, after Mass.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR KANYIKE

Sat 7th December at 2pm, Fortescue Hall. Tickets are now available at a cost £10 each. Christmas refreshments available on the day. From Sue &

Jacque or the parish office. Please support this initiative if you can.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

A bill has been introduced to Parliament by Kim Leadbeater MP to legalise assisted suicide. This will be voted on by MPs on 29th November. We know that assisted suicide laws in other jurisdictions have had devastating consequences for the poor, disabled and marginalised. This is the biggest threat to the vulnerable in a decade, and we need a huge effort to lobby MPs to vote against the bill. Please urgently contact your MP and ask him /her to vote against the bill. You can contact your MP by visiting www.livesworthliving.org.uk or write at: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

SJHN COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

We are delighted to extend an invitation to our senior community members, to join the students of St John Henry Newman School for a Community Christmas Morning on Friday 13th of December 10-11.30am. RSVP Tel: 01438 314 643 or email events@jhn.herts.sch.uk

STM CHRISTMAS MARKET

A huge thank you from the STM PA to all those who came and those who helped at the market. An amazing £1342.11. The PA are currently raising funds to rejuvenate the Early Years playground and outdoor areas and this amount will go a fair way towards the works.

STM KS2 CAROL CONCERT

The Key Stage 2 children at STM will be bringing lots of festive cheer on Monday 16th December at 6pm with carols and readings.

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION IN WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Christmas concerts which celebrate the mystery of Christ's Incarnation in carols and readings

performed by the world-famous Westminster Cathedral Choir, orchestra, and celebrity readers, on 18 and 19 December at 7.30pm. We encourage everybody to purchase tickets quickly before these popular events are sold out. Tickets can be purchased from the Cathedral Gift Shop or directly from Ticketmaster; go to www.ticketmaster.co.uk and type in Westminster Cathedral when prompted.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Forms to enrol your child into the FHC Programme are available from Fr Jimmy or Fr Stephen only. They must be completed and returned by Sunday 8th December for Enrolment on 15th December at 9.30am Mass.

MASS BOOKINGS

All 2024 Masses have been booked. You are welcome to enquire about 2025 dates. Please consider Gift-aiding

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 30th November to Sun 8th December 2024

Saturday 30th November

9.30am: Caroline Randall RIP

6pm: Harry & Maureen McCann RIP

Sunday 1st December - First Sunday of Advent

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Chinwe Okoro RIP

Monday 2nd December

9.30am: Fr Christopher Hogan RIP

Tuesday 3rd December

9.30am: Sara INT

Wednesday 4th December

11.30am: Funeral Mass Caroline Randall RIP

Thursday 5th December

9.30am: Marian Reade RIP

Friday 6th December

9.30am: Pitman Family INT

Saturday 7th December

9.30am: Ines & Leonardo Antonaci RIP

6pm: Michael Madden RIP

Sunday 8th December - Second Sunday of Advent

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Giovanni Negri RIP

REPOSITORY

Cards for various occasions- located in the St Hilda Room. Prices vary, please check the dividers and leave money in the honesty box.

SASH GROUP

A friendly group for seniors to chat and

spend time in company. Please come and join us every other Thursday at 2pm in St Hilda Room. Refreshments available. The next meeting is on 4th December.

RCIA MEETINGS on Wed at 7pm in St Hilda Room.

MOTHER'S PRAYERS

This lovely prayer 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.

CATHOLIC MEDITATION GROUP

On Tuesday 5-6pm, St Hilda room. Meetings consist of a short reading, followed by meditation and conclude with a time of reflection and discussion. All welcome.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC SCHOOL- SPACES AVAILABLE

Nursery spaces are available in the current year and Reception spaces are available for the September 2025 intake. Prospective parent have the opportunity to tour the school and see it in action. Call 01462 620670 to book your place. Dates are as follows: Tues 3rd Dec 9:30am, Wed 8th Jan 2025 9:30am.

A DAY WITH MARY is taking place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on Saturday 14 December (10.15am to 5.15pm). Mass will be celebrated by the Archbishop of Southwark Diocese, John Wilson. Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

YOUNG ADULTS ADVENT RETREAT DAY

with the Assumption Sisters on Saturday 7th December 2024 10am – 6pm. Venue: Milleret House, 20 Kensington Square, London, W8 5HH (closest tube station: High Street Kensington). Programme: talks, prayer, adoration and confessions, faith sharing, mass and social time. Donations only. Register by emailing to: rebecca@assumpta-eu.org

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS

Now available at the back of church for £1 each booklet.

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

Nora Ivers	Andrea Boncristiani
Richard Parker	Anne Hudson
Stephen Prohaszka	Angela Horne
Aron Haughton	Anthony Horne
George Marston	Philomena Johnson
Joe Fernandes	Margaret Haywood
Willie Hudson	Kay McKenna
Mary Wallace	Rosie Child
Harper Draper	Hannah Draper
Charles McCann	Phil Garvey-McGovern
Bob Pitman	Eric Bunson
Kristina Ullrich	James & Josie McElroy
Pauline Doran	Anne Moran
Elena Trasatti	

Easy Giving: Via the Contactless machine in the porch or 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.

FOODBANK DONATIONS LIST:

Small, medium and large packets of Festive Biscuits
 Individual size Christmas Puddings;
 Large Christmas Cakes;
 Pringles;
 UHT fruit juice
 Tea bags 40/80's
 Tinned fruit
 Thank you for your continued support.

Collection Total October: £ 7245.89. These are inclusive of standing orders, contactless and collections. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Dates for your Diary:

Sun 1st Dec	First Sunday of Advent—Junior Readers
Sat 7th Dec	Christmas Concert for Kanyike, Fortescue Hall, 2pm
Sun 15th Dec	FHC Enrolment Mass 9.30am
Tue 24 Dec	Morning Mass 9.30am; Christmas Vigil Mass 5.30pm; Mass During the Night 8.30pm
Wed 25th Dec	Christmas Mass During the Day 10.30am
Thu 26th Dec	Mass for Altar Servers 10am

Our Catholic Schools

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

Tel: 01462 620670 www.strejmi.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) 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.