

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 Opening Hours: 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 23rd March 2025, 3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

Psalter Week 3 Parish Mass Book Year C Vol 1 page 160;

FIRST READING: Exodus 3: 1-8a, 13-15

“I Am” has sent me to you.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 103: 1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11. R. 8a

The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12

This way of life of the people with Moses in the desert was written down for our instruction.

GOSPEL: Luke 13: 1-9

Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

COLLECT: O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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.**

‘LET IT ALONE THIS YEAR ALSO, UNTIL I DIG ROUND IT ...’

Our readings encourage us to repent. Reflecting on what happened to the people of God in the Old Testament can help us to avoid making the same errors. As St Paul tells us many Israelites fell away from their belief in spite of God’s goodness. In Exodus, Moses is drawn towards a burning bush where God reveals himself as the creator of all things and indicates his name, ‘I am who I am’. St Paul reminds the Corinthians of how their forebears failed to please God in the desert. This should be a warning to them, they must be on their guard at all times. Baptism is no guarantee against falling into temptation. Psalm 103 expresses our gratitude to God for being loving, patient and compassionate.

This same compassion is exemplified in the Gospel. After a call to repentance, the parable of the fig tree illustrates how patient God is, even when, like the tree, his people do not bear fruit over a long period of time. As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee year, we pray to be granted greater compassion and forgiveness towards those who repent of their trespasses against us. Perhaps we can also look more closely at our own lives. What might we change this Lent to bear more fruit? *St Beuno’s Prego & Fr Jimmy*

POPE’S INTENTIONS—March

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

WELCOME

To the STM pupils who will be visiting church for morning Mass and Stations of the cross throughout Lent.

CATECHUMENS

Please pray for our Catechumens preparing to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist and Candidates preparing for Confirmation and Eucharist, becoming full members of the Body of Christ, the Church, at the Easter Vigil.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesday evenings at 7pm and Friday mornings after 9.30am Mass.

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Please note the office will be closed on 25th March due to a Diocesan meeting.

ROSARY FOR PEACE

Every Friday at 10am, after Mass.

RCIA MEETINGS

On Wednesday at 7pm in St Hilda Room. All welcome.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next session will be on Sunday 8th June after 9.30am Mass. Location: St Hilda Room, adjacent to church.

SCONES SALE SUNDAY 23rd MARCH

Maisie is Year 10 at Saint John Henry Newman School, and is raising money as part of her involvement in the World Challenge Programme. This involves her raising money for an expedition to Malaysia which she is doing this July. So far, she has raised over £2500, and has around another £700 to go. The trip will involve her doing various environmental work and exploration of the local communities. Including conservation of the environment of the coastline crucial for turtle survival. Maisie will be selling scones between the two Sunday morning Masses. Please stop by and support this bake sale if you can. Thank you in advance.

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2025

This Holy Year invites us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Please consider supporting work being done in the Diocese of Westminster to bring hope into many lives. Your contributions will help fund vital projects across our Diocese, including Youth & Evangelisation,

Social Action, Marriage & Family Life, and Catholic Education Initiatives. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, extends his heartfelt thanks to all who give what they can to this meaningful cause. Donation envelopes are available today, and you can also contribute online using the QR code. Thank you for your kindness and support.

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL by Canon CRONIN

Canon Danny from Knebworth parish has compiled a perfect companion and resource for this Jubilee year. *Hope Springs Eternal* comprises some 30 contributions from various authors on the theme of hope that Pope Francis has chosen for this Holy Year of 2025. They are quite short reflections that can easily be dipped into. Cardinal Vincent has written the Foreword and recommended the book for this special year. It costs £9.99. The book is available from the Stpauls.org website or you can let our office know if you wish to order a copy.

CHRISTIAN ART: WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL'S GREAT CROSS

A perfect reflection for Lent, Father Patrick van der Vorst visits Westminster Cathedral to explore one of London's hidden gems: the Great Rood Cross. Suspended 30 feet above the sanctuary, this monumental cross frames the centre of the Cathedral, the mother church of England and Wales and the seat of the Archbishop of Westminster.

Westminster Cathedral stands apart from England's medieval Gothic cathedrals with its striking neo-Byzantine design. Its architect, John Francis Bentley (1839–1902), was inspired by the great basilicas of the East, aiming to create a vast, awe-inspiring space where light, mosaics, and sacred art would elevate the worshipper's experience. Though he did not live to see its completion, Bentley's vision endures in the Cathedral's distinctive red-brick façade, soaring domes, and, most notably, the Great Rood Cross—a monumental symbol of faith at the heart of this architectural masterpiece.

With the doors closed for the evening and the Cathedral plunged into darkness except for a single spotlight on the cross, Fr Patrick explores its history and the hidden symbolism

behind its many features. [Westminster Cathedral's Great Cross: Two Sides, One Story - YouTube](#)

REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE

Retrouvaille offers you the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10s of 1000s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work. The next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 20th - 22nd June 2025 Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 23rd to Sun 30th March 2025

Saturday 22nd March

6pm: Ines & Leonardo Antonaci RIP

Sunday 23rd March—3rd Lent

9.30am: People of the Parish

11.30am: Mary Deegan RIP

Monday 24th March

9.30am: Peter Ellmers RIP

Tuesday 25th March—ANNUNCIATION

9.30am: Jack Johnstone RIP

Wednesday 26th March

9.30am: Bernard Cordeiro RIP

Thursday 27th March

9.30am: Holy Souls

Friday 28th March

9.30am: Matthew Harrison RIP

Saturday 29th March

9.30am: Holy Souls

6pm: Cosimino Rizzo RIP

Sunday 30th March—Laetare Sunday

9.30am: Giorgio Camisa RIP

11.30am: People of the Parish

MASS BOOKINGS

Weekdays Mass bookings are available from April. Weekend masses are available from mid-May. Please consider Gift-aiding. To Gift Aid Mass Intentions, please request a form from the Office. Previous declarations only cover for planned giving.

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.

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.

MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS

At Westminster Cathedral on 5th April at 2pm. Presided by Bishop Paul McAleenan.

MASS FOR MATRIMONY

The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 17th May at 2.30pm for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries such as 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to attend.

YOUNG ADULTS LENT RETREAT DAY

With the Assumption Sisters on Saturday 5th April 2025 10 am – 5.30 pm. Venue: Milleret House, 20 Kensington Square, London, W8 5HH (closest tube station: High Street Kensington). Programme includes: talks • prayer, adoration and confessions • faith sharing • mass and social time. Donations only. Email: rebecca@assumpta-eu.org

WINTERSHALL PASSION OF JESUS

Trafalgar Square 18th April at 12 noon and 3:15 pm. No tickets or booking are required, the 90-minute performances are completely free of charge. For those who cannot make it to the Square the performances will be livestreamed on our Facebook Page.

The production is open air with visibility maximised using a large screen. There is a realistic interpretation of the crucifixion so parental guidance is advised. British sign language interpretation is provided.

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

Nora Ivers	Andrea Boncristiani
Richard Parker	Anne Hudson
Angela Horne	Fr Kevin Fox SJ
Aron Haughton	Anthony Horne
George Marston	Philomena Johnson
Joe Fernandes	Margaret Haywood
Willie Hudson	Kay McKenna
Mary Wallace	Harper Draper
Hannah Draper	Charles McCann
Phil Garvey-McGovern	Bob Pitman
Eric Bunson	Kristina Ullrich
James & Josie McElroy	Pauline Doran
Anne Moran	Battista
Maureen Breslin	Justine Downey
Cathy McKenna	Elena Trasatti
Mary O'Connor	Audrey Donnelly
Caden Kingston	Jane Snelling

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:

Cereals (not Porridge); Tinned Fish Tinned ;
Fruit Jam ; Sponge Puddings
Tinned Rice Pudding; Tinned Custard;
Tinned Tomatoes; Bags for Life
Thank you for your continued support.

Collection Total February: £7,210.33
This is inclusive of standing orders, contactless and collections. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Dates for your Diary:

25th March	Solemnity of the Annunciation
30th March	Laetare Sunday—Mothering Sunday
5th April	Mass for bereaved parents, 2pm Westminster Cathedral
13th April	Palm Sunday —Holy Week begins

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

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.