

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 27th April 2025, Divine Mercy Sunday

Psalter Week 2 Parish Mass Book Year C Vol 1 page 256;

FIRST READING: Acts 5: 12-6

More than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 118: 2-4. 22-24. 25-27a R. 1

Give praise to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures forever

SECOND READING: Revelation 1: 9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

I died, and behold I am alive for evermore.

GOSPEL: John 20: 1-9

He must rise from the dead.

COLLECT: God of everlasting mercy, who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ [...] **Amen.**

MY LORD AND MY GOD!

The contrast between the Apostles' profound fears and doubts in the upper room and their emboldened faith as the early Church begins to flourish, is shown clearly in our readings. In the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus' close companions perform great 'signs and wonders' in healing the sick. We have a picture of a thriving ministry, people come from far and wide to hear and witness the message of God. Psalm 118 (117) continues the spirit of rejoicing, reminding us God's faithful love endures forever. We have a sense of true resurrection, as in God's love, we triumph over persecution and rejection. St. John humbly identifies himself as a 'brother and partner' in our suffering. He offers us the encouragement Jesus is still very much alive and, with patience and perseverance, we will overcome all suffering. The Gospel replays a powerful encounter between the frightened disciples and the risen Jesus. He brings a message of peace, a call to action for us to continue his ministry. As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee year, we pray, guided by the Holy Spirit, we'll be inspired by the Apostles' courage, humility and solidarity with those who are sick, lonely, fearful and marginalised. How might we bring the peace and encouragement of the Lord into our everyday encounters during this Easter season? *St. Beuno's Prego & Fr. Jimmy*

POPE'S INTENTIONS—April:

For the use of new technologies. Let us pray that the use of new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times. Amen

POPE FRANCIS RIP

A “field hospital”, that is what Pope Francis saw the Church as and what he wanted it to be. A place in which those wounded by poverty, indifference, unkindness, unfairness, inequality and all that is dark about society could come and be healed. He walked the streets of Buenos Aires as a Jesuit priest and as a Bishop to bring the Good News to those who needed it most. He travelled extensively as a Pontiff to places often dangerous or hostile, to open our Church up to everyone.

If John Paul II reminded us WHAT we believe in and Pope Benedict XVI taught us WHY we believe it, Pope Francis showed us HOW to believe.

“Pray for the poor, then get up and feed them.”

“Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is [...] Life is good when you are happy; but it is much better when others are happy because of you.”

The outpouring of love for Pope Francis after his passing is testament to how successful he was in his mission to open up our church and embrace all humankind. He was a direct man, not inclined to pomp and frills. He often went off-script and was known to reach out to people, many times unannounced. He would call people up on the ‘phone, he would stop motorcades or services to bless someone who had caught his eye, he would break protocol and he was not afraid to say uncomfortable truths and call us to be accountable. “Pray with your heart, not with your lips. Mean it, God does not want parrots”.

Pope Francis was a force of nature and a force for nature. He called us all to task to honour the very first job God gave us through the Covenant: looking after The Garden. (If you haven’t watched The Letter, please do.)

When, on 27th March 2020, he stood alone in a deserted, wet and miserable St Peter’s Square, he carried the weight of the world on his shoulders. He limped up the steps and, with a trembling voice, fighting back

tears, he prayed us out of the spiritual desolation we had plummeted in because of Covid with the simplest words, reminding us that “nobody is saved alone”.

We now trust our Church in the safest place, God’s own hands, confiding the Holy Spirit will send the right man to fill the big and well-used shoes Francis has left behind. The *sede* is *vacante* but the Grace of God Pope Francis brought to us every day of his ministry is still with us. Hold it tight.

THE NEW MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY



This Easter, at the Vigil Mass and Monday, our three catechumens and five candidates were received in to full communion with the Catholic Church. With praise and thanksgiving, we welcome Paul, Chamika, Frankie, Pamela, Andreea, Doug, Sofia, and Maria.



If you know anyone who would like to know more about our Faith, please get them to contact our office.

ROSARY FOR PEACE

Every Friday at 10am, after Mass.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

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

HOLY PLACES COLLECTION

On Good Friday, churches have a special collection for the Holy Places. As you can appreciate, with the situation in the Holy Land, these funds are more needed than ever. I am thrilled to report that a staggering £956.70 was raised by our parish. Thank you for your remarkable generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 26th April to Sun 4th May 2025

Saturday 26th April

6pm: Giorgio Forte RIP

Sunday 27th April—Divine Mercy Sunday

9.30am: People of the parish

11.30am: Martha Meynert RIP

Monday 28th April

9.30am: Mary Rostron RIP

Tuesday 29th April

9.30am: Eugene & Ann Neary RIP

Wednesday 30th April

10am: Pope Francis RIP

Thursday 1st May

9.30am: Theresa Dowsett RIP

Friday 2nd May

10am: Bob & Connie Dull RIP

Saturday 3rd May

10am: Holy Souls

6pm: People of the parish

Sunday 4th May—Third Sunday of Easter

9.30am: First Holy Communion Children INT

11.30am: Chan Siew Yew RIP

MASS BOOKINGS

Weekdays Mass bookings are available from May. Weekend masses are available from the end of June. Please consider Gift-aiding. To Gift Aid Mass Intentions, please request a form from the Office.

REPOSITORY

With First Holy Communions and Confirmations coming up, please consider supporting the church by buying cards from our repository. Mass Cards, cards celebrating the sacraments, new babies and other occasions are 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.

ARCHBISHOP-ELECT JOHN SHERINGTON

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop John as the tenth Archbishop of Liverpool in succession to Archbishop Malcolm McMahon. Archbishop-elect John's Installation will be at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool on 27 May 2025. We congratulate Bishop John on his appointment and we thank him for his episcopal ministry in the Diocese of Westminster since his ordination as a Bishop on 14 September 2011. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving for his episcopal ministry among us on Thursday 15 May at 5.30pm in Westminster Cathedral. Parishioners are invited to attend. Our prayers and affection for Archbishop-elect John are assured as he prepares for his Installation and for his ministry in Liverpool.

CELEBRATE Trust have designed short creative activities that families can choose from to enable them to draw close to Jesus, our hope, and share this love with others. To download the resource for free, go to <https://www.celebratetrust.org/celebrate-prayer-resources> and click on 'Jubilee for All.'

FLOWER ARRANGERS WANTED

A beautiful and creative way to serve the Lord. Please get in touch if you wish to join our dedicated team of flower arrangers.

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	

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) Biscuits Tinned Rice Pudding Tinned Custard Tinned Tomatoes Jam UHT Fruit Juice (Orange or Apple) Sponge Puddings Bags for Life

Thank you for your continued support.

Collection Total March: £7,682.47 This is inclusive of standing orders, contactless and collections. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Dates for your Diary:

4th May	9.30am First Holy Communion Mass
5th May	2.30pm (Banner Procession from 2pm): Mass for Migrants - Westminster Cathedral. Celebrant: Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald
10th May	Mass for New Catholics
11th May	9.30am First Holy Communion Mass
17th May	Mass for Matrimony, Westminster Cathedral
24th-31st May	Laudato Si' Week

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.