

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 30th March 2025, Laetare Sunday

Psalter Week 4 Parish Mass Book Year C Vol 1 page 168;

FIRST READING: Joshua 5: 9a-12

The people of God entered the promised land and there kept the Passover

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 34: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7 R. 9a

Taste and see that the Lord is good

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

God who through Christ reconciled us to himself

GOSPEL: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

Your brother was dead, and is alive.

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.**

REJOICE! IN CHRIST WE ARE A NEW CREATION

On this Laetare or Rejoice Sunday at the mid-point of Lent, our liturgy centres on the boundless forgiveness of our loving God. We may choose to turn away from God's love but God forever turns towards us, longing to embrace us with compassion, rejoicing when we come back to him. God tells Joshua he has taken away the shame of the people of Israel. Their years in exile, eating manna in the desert are over. From now on, they eat from the bounty of the land. The generosity of God's goodness and forgiveness is proclaimed throughout Psalm 34. God comes to us in our need and distress, desiring we put aside our shame and be radiant with his transforming love. Paul's letter to the Corinthians continues this feast of forgiveness. We are reconciled to God through Christ and in him we are a new creation, liberated from our sins. The beautiful parable Jesus shares sums up the whole message of the Good News and the promise of reconciliation. This reconciliation is made complete through the events of Holy Week and Easter we will soon celebrate. In this Jubilee Year, we pray as Pilgrims of Hope, made new in Christ. We pray for all who are unable to secure enough food to eat from their land as a result of a changing climate. May we be moved with compassion to take whatever practical steps we can to alleviate their food poverty. *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

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

To all the mothers, grandmothers, mother figures in our parish: have a wonderful weekend! *"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother."* St. Thérèse of Lisieux:

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. We are due to receive eight new people into the faith at our Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

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.

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.

St HUGH SIMPLE LUNCH

Come and celebrate Palm Sunday with your fellow parishioners with a lunch of soup &

bread rolls, tea/coffee and squash for the little ones. Lunch starts at 1pm at Fortescue Hall and it is free entry. Donations are voluntary. Any money raised on the day will go to CAFOD. If you would like to go a step further and help out, please get in touch with the office.

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.

QUIZ NIGHT

Quiz Night

Friday 6th June
7.00 - 10.00pm

at The Icknield Centre
(LGCC) Icknield Way
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 1EF

Price includes a Ploughman's Supper 7 - 7.30pm
BYO drinks and snacks
Tea and coffee provided

RAFFLE

on behalf of
CIS
Christian Initiative to Schools

Tickets £10 per person
Teams of up to 6

To book your place contact
from Martin Money:
Tel: 07934 410425 or
treasureratcis@gmail.com

YOUTH SUMMIT

We are **THRILLED** to invite you to our Big Hertfordshire Summit in Stevenage, celebrating our young people in parishes across the region.

The Summit will be an afternoon of games, workshops, socialising, and ENCOUNTER with the Lord through prayer, confession and Adoration. The event is for young people aged 14-17, so bring along your youth group and invite your friends!

For more information check out the website <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/big-hertfordshire-summit/>

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 29th March to Sun 6th April 2025

Saturday 29th March

6pm: Cosimino Rizzo RIP

Sunday 30th March—Laetare Sunday

9.30am: Giorgio Camisa RIP

11.30am: People of the Parish

Monday 31st March

9.30am: Elizabeth McKenna RIP

Tuesday 1st April

9.30am: Irene Nova RIP

Wednesday 2nd April

9.30am: Private Intention

Thursday 3rd April

9.30am: Vincent & Emily Traylor RIP

Friday 4th April

9.30am: Mary Quinn RIP

Saturday 5th April

9.30am: Kushlani Dep INT

6pm: Marius Walsh RIP

Sunday 6th April—Fifth Lent

9.30am: Lucia Camisa RIP

11.30am: People of the Parish

MASS BOOKINGS

Weekdays Mass bookings are available from May. 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.parish.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:

30th March	Laetare Sunday—Mothering Sunday
5th April	Mass for bereaved parents, 2pm Westminster Cathedral
13th April	Palm Sunday —Holy Week begins
13th April	Simple Lunch Parish event , Fortescue Hall 1pm all welcome

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.