

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 Wednesday 10.00-10.45am; Benediction Thursday 10.45. Confession Saturday 5.15 to 5.45pm & on request.

**SUNDAY 16th November 2025,
SOLEMNITY OF ST HUGH OF LINCOLN
PSALTER WEEK 1; PARISH MASS BOOK YEAR C VOL 2 PAGE 164 (Vigil Mass)
WEEKDAY MASSES ARE HELD IN ST HILDA**

ST HUGH OF LINCOLN

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of our parish patron, **St Hugh of Lincoln**. Hugh was born in Avalon near Grenoble, France, in 1140. At fifteen, he entered the Canons Regular of St Augustine as a novice. Ordained a deacon in 1159, he was sent to a small parish to assist an elderly priest who could barely conduct services and needed help with everything else. Though Hugh enjoyed serving the community, he longed for a more contemplative life.

In 1163, he left the Canons Regular to become a Carthusian monk at the Grande Chartreuse. He spent his twenties in prayer and contemplation and was later ordained a priest. In his early thirties, Hugh became procurator, managing the monastery's temporal affairs. His reputation for efficiency and holiness soon reached **Henry II of England**.

After the death of Thomas Becket in 1170, Henry supported several monastic houses as penance, including the Carthusian Charterhouse at Witham in Somerset. This struggling monastery had been founded by monks from the Grande Chartreuse, including Hugh. Hugh revitalized the community and served as prior until 1186, though he viewed the role as a distraction from prayer.

Henry frequently visited Witham and later summoned a council to address vacant bishoprics, including Lincoln. On 25 May 1186, Hugh was elected Bishop of Lincoln and consecrated at Westminster Abbey on 21 September. Lincoln was England's largest diocese, covering nine counties.

As bishop, Hugh was exemplary—visiting his diocese regularly and showing great charity. He worked to end violence against Lincoln's large Jewish community during times of persecution. After an earthquake damaged Lincoln Cathedral in 1185, Hugh began rebuilding and enlarging it, though he did not live to see it completed.

Hugh also served as a diplomat to France for three kings—Henry, Richard, and John. A mission for King John in 1199 ruined his health. While attending a national council in London, Hugh fell ill and died on 16 November 1200. He was buried in Lincoln Cathedral and canonised by Pope Honorius III on 17 February 1220.

Fr. Jimmy

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS November 2025: For the prevention of suicide.

Let us pray that those who are tempted to commit suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life. *Amen*

WELCOME

If you are new to our parish, please pop along to a coffee morning after Sunday Mass and meet some fellow parishioners. We are friendly bunch and are always glad to see new faces. New parishioner's forms are available at the back of church.

FUNERAL NOTICE

With sadness, we announce the passing of *Catherine Cullinane*. The Funeral will be held here at St Hugh on 20th November at 11am. Please pray for the family at this difficult time. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

GARDEN HOUSE HOSPICE

Many parishioners will have had cause to use the services offered by our local Garden House Hospice and many others will be aware, with them, of what a wonderful service they provide for our community. Hospices nationwide receive little or no funding from central Government. Currently, Garden House Hospice, having made the savings it can reasonably achieve, has had to limit bed space as they face a £750,000 gap in their funding. This is very worrying. Thank you to parishioners who have been engaged in supporting our Hospice voluntarily and financially over the years. The Hospice was provided by the Letchworth Garden City community in the past. It's our task now to see that, with our support, it continues into the future. Please watch the Hospice's Fundraising Appeal on YouTube by following the link below. Thank you.

<https://youtu.be/ALaQ75ONVmY?si=k2ZxkAfjNygug7vj&sfnsr=scwspwa>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

A polite reminder that these sessions are for children aged 4-7 years, to discuss and listen to the weekly gospel. Younger children are welcome, if they are not a distraction from hearing God's Word. Parents are invited to

remain in Mass, unless your child is under 4 or needs your additional support. If you are interested in signing up as a volunteer on our rota, please have a chat with any of our catechists or email LJ at ljross@rcdow.org.uk

ROSARY FOR PEACE:

Every Friday at 10am, after Mass

TODDLER PLAYGROUP: Every Thursday, term-time from 10am. We thank Hannah and the team for making a donation towards supplies for the FHC programme from the group's proceeds and toward the Sick & Retired priests collection.

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION

Next weekend is the annual collection for sick and retired priests in the Diocese of Westminster. Last year, the Diocese of Westminster provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1,270,000. The number of our priests over the age of 65 is steadily increasing. The priests in our Diocese, although retired, continue to serve long into their late seventies and eighties. They continue to work in our parishes and schools, visit our sick or elderly in hospices, and hospitals, and make themselves available, at our time of crisis and need. We continue to depend on them, in times of grief and sorrow, but also at times of joy, such as baptisms and weddings. They, however, are also dependent on us, and our generosity, for their care, and for essentials like housing, rent or any health needs.

If you can, please take a donation envelope, and return it next weekend. Alternatively, you can scan the QR code on the envelopes church and give online. Finally, if you feel you would like to give to the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund on a more regular basis, please do consider completing section 4 of the envelope form. Thank you so much and please continue to pray for all our clergy: active, retired or ill.

HOLY SOULS

November is the month when we pray for those who have gone to the Lord. If you'd like your loved ones remembered at all Masses during November, please take a sheet, write their names on it and return it to the Parish House. You may include an offering in the envelope provided, if you wish.

THANK YOU

To all who supported the cake appeal for the Garden House hospice. These sweet treats are sure to bring a smile to patients, visitors and staff at our hospice.

Thank you to Trish for organising this lovely fundraising activity year after year.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

23rd November after 9.30am Mass in St Hilda Room. You are welcome to bring your baby. The session lasts approx. 2h.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 15th to Sun 23rd November 2025

Saturday 15th November

6pm: Ines & Leonardo Antonaci RIP

Sunday 16th November— ST HUGH OF

LINCOLN

10.30am: People of the parish

Monday 17th November

9.30am: Lynne Parker INT

Tuesday 18th November

9.30am: Anna Kearny INT

Wednesday 19th November

9.30am: Holy Souls

Thursday 20th November

9.30am: Michael Grennan RIP

11am: Funeral Service for Catherine Cullinane RIP

Friday 21st November

9.30am: Joseph Walsh RIP

Saturday 22nd November

6pm: Tonina Rizzo RIP

Sunday 23rd November— Christ King

9.30am: People of the parish

11.30am: Iris Pompey RIP

MASS BOOKINGS

All remaining Masses for 2025 have now been booked. Thank you for your understanding.

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. Next meeting on 27th November 2025 at 2pm 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.

CHRISTIAN 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.

CALLING ALL 14-17 YEAR OLDS! Come & join us at the Hertfordshire Youth Summit at Our Lady Queen of Apostles in Welwyn Garden City, on 22nd November, for a celebration of young people in our parishes. The Summit will be an afternoon of games, talks, workshops, socialising, and encounter with the Lord. We will be taking inspiration from the newly canonised St Carlo Acutis, so this is a day you won't want to miss! If you're interested, please sign up by contacting LJ at ljross@rcdow.or.uk

THE LETCHWORTH FOODBANK

Small and Large tins Ham; Small & Large tins Salmon; Tinned Custard; Christmas Biscuits; Small & Medium Christmas Puddings; Selection Boxes; Boxes of Chocolates; Small & Medium Christmas Cakes; Crackers for Cheese; Cranberry Sauce; Pickles; Bags for Life. No expired items please.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR KANYIKE

Come and get a bit of festive cheer while raising much needed funds for the Kanyike Project. The concert starts at 2pm at church, Refreshments in St Hilda. Tickets are £10 each. Please contact Sue and Jacquie for info.

LIGHTS OF LIFE SERVICE

Come and visit the illuminated Garden House Hospice gardens, attends the Lights of Life Service on 30th November, 5pm and dedicate a light in memory of your loved one. For more information, to book your place and dedicate a light, please visit ghospicecare.org.uk/lights

RETREAT FOR MEN

The next session lead by Fr Bernard is on Monday 15th December. Refreshments in St Hilda Room from 6.30, retreat in the Lady's Chapel afterwards.

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

Nora Ivers	Andrea Boncristiani
Richard Parker	Dolores Connolly
Angela Horne	Rita Fletcher
Aron Haughton	Anthony Horne
George Marston	Philomena Johnson
Joe Fernandes	Margaret Haywood
Willie Hudson	Lynne Parker
Mary Wallace	Charles McCann
Phil Garvey-McGovern	Bob Pitman
Eric Bunson	Kristina Ullrich
Pauline Doran	Anne Moran
Battista	Maureen Breslin
Cathy McKenna	Mary O'Connor
Audrey Donnelly	Carol O'Brien
Gina Trasatti	Sienna
Liz McCaul	

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.

Collection Total October: £8,819.65 This is inclusive of standing orders, contactless and collections. The total for October will be available next week. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Dates for your Diary:

16th November	Solemnity of St Hugh of Lincoln and enrolment of FHC children. Mass at 10.30am, refreshments in Fortescue Hall afterwards.
4th December	Letchworth Arcadians Carols Concert, St Hugh of Lincoln Church with refreshments in St Hilda (paid event) 7.30pm
5th December	Letchworth Arcadians Carols Concert, St Hugh of Lincoln Church with refreshments in St Hilda (paid event) 7.30pm
13th December	Concert For Kanyike 2pm at church
14th December	STM Christmas Market 10am to 3pm Fortescue Hall
15th December	Retreat for Men, St Hilda Room from 6.30pm

Our Catholic Schools

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

Tel: 01462 620670 www.strcjni.herts.sch.uk

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

Tel: 01438 314643 www.jhn.herts.sch.uk

Safeguarding Officer

Kate Hewitson: 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.