

# 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](mailto: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 7TH December 2025,  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
PSALTER WEEK 2; PARISH MASS BOOK YEAR A VOL 1 PAGE 85  
WEEKDAY MASSES ARE HELD IN ST HILDA**

## ***‘PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.’***

Our readings focus on preparing for Christ’s coming. They’re full of hope, inviting us to reflect on our relationship with God. Isaiah foretells a future leader from the house of Jesse, pointing to Jesus, filled with the gifts of the Spirit, he will judge with righteousness. Isaiah uses beautiful, natural imagery expressing the peace and knowledge of the Lord which this king will bring to the world. The Psalmist echoes these themes of peace and justice, portraying a king who brings peace and protection to all nations, especially the poor and needy. Paul prays Scripture will give encouragement and hope to Christ’s followers. He urges us to live in harmony and unity with God and one another, so all people might glorify God. John the Baptist preaches repentance in anticipation of the coming of Christ, ‘he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.’ John calls the people to leave their sinful lives behind and turn towards God, as he baptises them with water. He speaks of the need to bear fruit, real faith showing in our actions. As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee year, we continue to pray for those treated unjustly and all who live in areas where there’s no peace. Prego & Fr. Jimmy

## **POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER INTENTIONS**

### **December 2025: For Christians in areas of conflict.**

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope. *Amen*

These intentions were set by our late Pontiff on 31st December 2023, originally in Spanish. Pope Leo left the intentions as they were, as a mark of respect and also because it is customary for the newly elected Pontiff to finish the work started by his predecessor. The same goes for Apostolic Exhortations and any other work the dying (or retiring, in the case of Benedict) Pope isn’t able to finish. It is finished by the new Pope. Leo’s intentions, set in Italian on 1st July 2025, will run from January 2026 onwards. *Emma*

**CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE.** Please speak to Fr Jimmy after Mass.

**WALK WITH ME:** Advent booklets are available. Suggested donation £1.50, this can be placed in the “Papers” section of the box in the porch. Thank you.

## **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 a 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 Francesco 'Frank' Menga. The Funeral will take place on Wednesday 17th December at 10.30am. Please keep the family in your prayers at this difficult time. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES LEAFLET**

Now available at the back of church. Parents of children (up to Year 2 included) who would like to take part in the Christmas procession on Christmas Eve, please get in touch with the office or let the Children's liturgy Team know.

## **ADVENT CRIB APPEAL**

Each year many parishes very kindly donate their Crib Offering to support the work of the Catholic Children's Society. This enables us to provide vital support for disadvantaged children and families. We would be extremely grateful for any donation you are able to make and will ensure this goes directly towards supporting local families in need. Thank you for helping disadvantaged children and families this Christmas. Donations can be made directly using this link: [Donate - Catholic Childrens Society](#) or you can use one of the envelopes available in our church.

## **CARITAS ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR**

Advent is a special season in the Church's year when we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ. However, with the cost of living crisis, many in our communities are facing difficulties. Each day in Advent, find the corresponding snowman on the calendar, which will tell you what you need to buy to add to your collection. You could team up with others too, and share the collecting between you. The caritas Advent Giving Calendars are available at the back of church. Collected items can be put in the Foodbank bins in the porch. Thank you for your generosity.

## **CHRISTMAS POSTERS**

KEEP CHRIST INTO CHRISTMAS posters are

available at the back of church. Please take one and display it in your window. It is HIS birthday!

## **GARDEN HOUSE HOSPICE**

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th December a second collection in aid of our local hospice will be taken at the end of Mass. Please consider supporting this worthy cause.

## **CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS URGENTLY NEEDED**

Please help the parish by joining Jon in the running of our Confirmation programme. Sessions are due to start in January. Contact the office to know more about the role.

## **STM CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

The Parents Association at our primary school have organised a Christmas raffle. There are some truly impressive prizes: Woburn Safari Park family Ticket; Laser tag vouchers; Willows Activity Park Tickets; Family Photography Package; The Grapevine voucher; Cultivo lounge voucher; Cut&Blow Dry at Dead Swanky and many other prizes. Please visit: <https://go.rallyup.com/christmas-2025/Campaign/Details> A QR code is available on the poster in the porch.

## **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. Contact Sue and Jacquie for info.

## **CALLING ALL SENIORS!**

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School would like to invite seniors and older parishioners to join in the school's Christmas celebrations by coming to watch our Nativity Play performed by Year 1 and Year 2 pupils. It will be held on Monday 15th December in the school hall (Highfield, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3QB). Mince pies and hot drinks will be served at 1pm followed by the performance at 1.30pm - 2pm. Please do come and join in the Christmas fun and help our children prepare for Christmas! To note, this is the dress rehearsal of the play so families of the pupils involved will be invited by school to a separate performance.

## **VINNIE PACKS**

The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie

Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, thermal hat, two pairs of socks, flannel, toothbrush, toothpaste, information sheet and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.10 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. Thank you so much for your support.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

*Sat 6th December to Sun 14th December 2025*

Saturday 6th December

6pm: Michael & Breege Kerrane RIP

Sunday 7th December—Advent 2

9.30am: People of the parish

11.30am: Peter Ellmers RIP

Monday 8th December

9.30am: People of the parish

Tuesday 9th December

9.30am: Ines & Leonardo Antonaci RIP

Wednesday 10th December

9am: Margaret Fitzgerald RIP

Thursday 11th December

9.30am: Anthony Cocallis RIP

Friday 12th December

9.30am: Michael Madden RIP

Saturday 13th December

9.30am: Margaret Robinson RIP

6pm: Vincenzo & Immacolata Forte RIP

Sunday 14th December—Gaudete Sunday

9.30am: People of the parish

11.30am: Bob & Connie Dull 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.

### **ROSARY FOR PEACE:**

Every Friday at 10am, after Mass

### **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.

**TODDLER PLAYGROUP:** Every Thursday, term-time from 9.45am till 11am.

### **SASH GROUP**

A friendly group for seniors to chat and spend time in company. Next meeting on 10th December 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.

### **ECUMENICAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM**

Christians of different denominations hoping for unity in Christ meet every two years for four days of spiritual ecumenism. We learn from one another's Liturgies. To mark the 1700th anniversary of the great Council of Nicaea, the Ecumenical Marian Pilgrimage Trust are holding a four day retreat in Walsingham, from 10-14 March 2026. The full cost is £345 (incl. £60 accommodation deposit), or £60 for non-residents. A coach transfer from Kings Lynn and return is an additional £40. Further details of speakers, events and booking:

[www.ecumenicalmarianpilgrimage.org.uk](http://www.ecumenicalmarianpilgrimage.org.uk)

### **A MESSAGE FOR ALL PARENTS OF CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2022 – AUGUST 2023**

St Thomas More RC Primary School is currently accepting applications for Nursery places for the next academic year. The school welcomes applications from all families: Catholics, Christian, other faiths or no faith. The application process for Nursery places closes on Friday 6th March 2026. Applications should be made directly to the school. Nursery application packs can be downloaded from the school website at:

[www.stmlethworth.co.uk](http://www.stmlethworth.co.uk) Please ensure that all associated documents are contained within the completed submission. If you need any further help or have any queries about the above, please contact the School Office on 01462 620670 or email [admin@stmlethworth.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmlethworth.co.uk). Thank you.

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

Nora Ivers	Liz McCaul
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
Harper Draper	

**Easy Giving:** Via the Contactless machine in the porch or via our parish website: [www.pariah.rcdow.org.uk/letchworth](http://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.

**THE LETCHWORTH FOODBANK :** Tins of Ham; Tins of Salmon; Christmas Cakes, all sorts; Selection Boxes; Boxes of Chocolates; Small & Medium Christmas Cakes; Crackers for Cheese; Crisps; Nuts; Mince Pies; Bags for Life. No expired items please.

**Dates for your Diary:**

13th December	Concert For Kanyike 2pm at church
14th December	STM Christmas Market 10am to 2pm Fortescue Hall
15th December	Opus Dei 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.strcjmi.herts.sch.uk](http://www.strcjmi.herts.sch.uk)

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

Tel: 01438 314643    [www.jhn.herts.sch.uk](http://www.jhn.herts.sch.uk)

**Safeguarding Officer**

Kate Hewitson: [letchworthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.