## 13th November 2016 St. Gregory's Newsletter 33rd Sunday pg.164



The Parish Office is staffed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.00am to 13.00pm.

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## Saint of the Week

St. Hugh of Lincoln (Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> Nov.)

Patron of sick children, shoemakes and swans, protector of the oppressed.

St. Hugh was born in Burgundy about 1135 and became a Carthusian monk and prior of the Charterhouse at Witham, taking up the appointment only after those evicted from their homes had been compensated. Later, appointed Bishop of Lincoln, he was very active and lively and proved an able and kind shepherd. Injustice quickly aroused his anger, as when he stood alone against a rioting mob incensed against the Jews, or when he bluntly refused the king who demanded benefits for his courtiers.

According to legend the swan of Stow had a deep

friendship with the saint and was feeding from his hand and protecting him from anybody who would come near him, guarding him even in his sleep.



## **Reflection on Remembrance Day**

Today we gather to honour those who have fought in wars, to remember the war dead, to promise to help their families and to welcome members of the armed forces into church. Yet we hear readings like these: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God' (Mathew 5:9) and 'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore' (Micah 4:3). God wants to bring us peace. Listening to His Word we hope for a better world, we long for peace and an end to the killing of innocents, suffering and destruction. Christians have a foot in both camps - preaching peace, but honouring those who fight. The precarious peace we enjoy was bought at the expense of those who laid down their lives in wartime, so even as we strive for peace, we must remember those who offer their service to maintain it - until the day that war becomes unthinkable. As humans we are weak, but as St. Paul in his

weakness affirmes: 'I can do all things through him who strengthens me' (Phil.4:13)

His words can give us great strength to face not only our own personal trials, but also those of the world at large. But it demands of us a heroic faith in the love of God for us, his children, and also working in a partnership of love with him, our Father.

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## **Children's Corner**



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