

# St. Theresa of Lisieux

High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex, CM24 8LQ

Parish Priest: Father John Garrett

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For all parish information, please go to our website:

[www.sttheresastansted.org](http://www.sttheresastansted.org)

**Sunday**  
**13<sup>th</sup>**  
**December**  
**2015**



**Third**  
**Sunday of**  
**Advent**  
**Year C**

***He will baptise you with  
the Holy Spirit and with  
Fire***

## Liturgy of the week

<b>Sat 12<sup>th</sup></b> December	10.00 – 11.00am 6.00pm	Confessions <b>Maria &amp; Anna Maria</b> (T. Mastrandrea)
<b>Sun 13<sup>th</sup></b> December	10.00am	<b>Rowena Bull RIP</b> (Gemma)
<b>Mon 14<sup>th</sup></b> December		
<b>Tues 15<sup>th</sup></b> December	9.30am	
<b>Wed 16<sup>th</sup></b> December (No morning Mass)	1.30pm 2.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rosary Group</li><li>• Wednesday Club</li></ul>
<b>Thurs 17<sup>th</sup></b> December	9.30am	
<b>Fri 28<sup>th</sup></b> December	9.30am	
<b>Sat 19<sup>th</sup></b> December	6.00pm	<b>James McCreanor</b> (S. Wood)

# Year of Mercy

8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015 – 20<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016

*Let the Church always be a place  
of mercy and hope,  
where everyone is welcomed,  
loved and forgiven.*

**Pope Francis**

## Christmas at St. Theresa's

### Christmas Masses

Please note there will only be one Mass on Christmas Eve.

**This Mass will be held at 7pm.** Mass on Christmas day will be at 10am.

### Penitential Service

There will be no Penitential service at St. Theresa's Church this Christmas but there will be confessions heard on Saturday **19<sup>th</sup> December** between 10am – 11am.

### Village Celebration of Christmas

Our parish is pleased to host the traditional Stansted Village Celebration of Christmas event this year on Saturday **19<sup>th</sup> December** at 3pm in the church.

Please put this date and time in your diaries and come along to join in this community celebration of Christmas carols and readings. There will be refreshments in the Parish Centre afterwards and the collection will be for the Red Cross Refugee Fund. Please come along and enjoy this lovely festive occasion.

### Children's Service and Christmas Party

The Children's Service will be on Sunday **20<sup>th</sup> December** at 2pm and will be followed by the Christmas party in the Parish Centre.

Please let us know if your child / children wish to come along so that we cater for everyone. Please email us at [helenhall5@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helenhall5@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 01842 879766 with your child's name and age as soon as possible. A voluntary donation of £3 can be given on the day of party.



*Father John Garrett wishes all parishioners a peaceful  
and joyful Christmas!*

## Parish news

### **Thank you!**

Fr. John would like to thank all those who attended the St. John's Ambulance Carol Concert at St. Theresa's. This was very much enjoyed by all those who came and we have received emails and letters of thanks to the parish including one from the Vicar of Bardfield.

### **Children's Service and Christmas party**

Don't forget the Children's service on Sunday **20<sup>th</sup> December** followed by the Christmas party. Please pick up a flyer from the foyer and remember to book your child's place for the party.

### **Collections for 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks.**

The collection amount for last week was £509.42 (Gift Aid 303.00).



### **Christmas Flower Collection**

Next weekend **19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> December**, there will be a collection for the Christmas flowers. Please remember to donate to this so that our church looks beautiful and festive over the Christmas period.

### **Christmas offering**

At Christmas, the collection money raised is our personal gift to our priest for his services to the parish. Please remember to give generously at this time of year.

## Local News & Events

### **Angels and Christmas tree festival**

The Friends of St. Mary's Church Angels and Christmas Tree festival will take place on Saturday **12<sup>th</sup> December** and Sunday **13<sup>th</sup> December** from 10am – 5pm.

- Carols for all at 3.30pm on Saturday **12<sup>th</sup> December**.
- St. Clare Light up a Life at 10am on Sunday **13<sup>th</sup> December**.

Refreshments will be available. Free entry. All welcome.

### **The Place Christmas Event**

The Place on the Hill have their Christmas Event on Wednesday **16<sup>th</sup> December** from 10am – 11.30 at the Stansted Free Church.

### **Village Carol Singing**

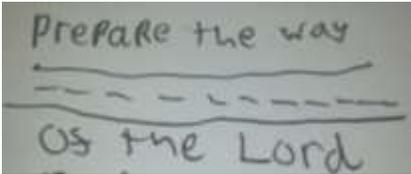
You are warmly invited to join us with the Village Carol Singing on Tuesday **22<sup>nd</sup> December** at 6.30pm. Meet Benfield Green, finish Rainsford Road and on Wednesday **23<sup>rd</sup> December** at 6.30pm. Meet Newell Road / Felstead Crescent, Finish Newell Road. Both

will be followed by refreshments.



☆ Children's ☆  
☆ Corner ☆

Thank you to all the children who produced pictures for advent and Christmas. There were some very, very good ones. Keep your eyes open to see if they appear in the newsletters. Here are some of the Advent pictures I received:



Rafael, aged 7



Jeremy, aged 7



Grace, aged 7

**The four weeks of Advent**

Can you see the Advent candles on the altar? Do you know what they mean? See which colour candle is lit this week and find out what it means below.



*Colour this picture of the Advent candles wreath in the correct colours.*

During the first two weeks of Advent we light the first two purple candles. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for the birth of Jesus on Christmas day is almost over. Rose is a liturgical colour that is used to signify joy, so we light the single pink candle on the third Sunday of Advent. Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the birth of the King of Kings.

*To place a notice in this newsletter, please contact Anna on [Stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:Stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org)*