

St. Theresa of Lisieux

High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex, CM24 8LQ

Parish Priest: **Father John Garrett**

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Sunday
1st January
2017



*Mary Mother
of God*

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|---|----------------------------|--|
| Sat 31 st December | 10.00 – 11.00am †6.00pm | Confessions Deceased members of the Cassidy family |
| Sun 1 st January Mary Mother of God | †10.00am | Paul Close RIP (Finlay family) |
| Mon 2 nd January | †9.30am | Georgina O’Neill RIP (E Rosair) |
| Tues 3 rd January | †9.30am | |
| Wed 4 th January No morning Mass | | |
| Thurs 5 th January | †9.30am | |
| Fri 6 th January | †9.30am | |
| Sat 7 th January | 10.00 – 11.00am †6.00pm | Confessions Intentions of Carmel & Pat Kelly |

† Masses

Sunday 1st January

There will be tea and coffee in the Parish Centre after Mass on Sunday. Please join us.



To place a notice in this newsletter, please contact Anna on Stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org



And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Luke 2:20

Parish News & Events

Wishing you all a very happy New Year!

Christmas offering

Father John would like to thank parishioners for all of their Christmas wishes, gifts, cards and donations over the Christmas period.

Celebration of Christmas

Thank you to everyone who attended this year's Celebration of Christmas carol concert and especially to those who took part or helped to organise and set up the event. We raised £630 held for Christian Aid Light the Way Appeal, helping those who are fleeing violence.

Christmas party

Thank you so much to Helen and Mark Hall who came all the way from Leicester again this Christmas to run the Children's Christmas party. It was, as always, a lovely and festive event for the children of the Parish and we were happy to have a visit from Santa too! Although we would have liked to have had more children attend, it was lovely to greet some of our younger parishioners at this year's party.

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Second Collection this weekend

A second collection will be held this weekend.

Diocesan Second collections

At recent Finance Committee meetings concern has been expressed at the number of mandatory Diocesan collections we are now asked to have.

In most months we are asked to hold two such second collections and in some months three. The Finance Committee felt this was placing an unreasonable burden on parishioners and asked the Diocesan Board of Finance to limit the number of second collections to one a month or the occasional two in one month. The Diocesan Board replied that although the matter had been raised at their meetings their hands were tied as these collections were agreed at national level at the Bishop's conference.

In addition to the Diocesan collections the parish is frequently approached by other parties such as SPUC, various missionaries etc. to hold collections for their particular cause, currently we are declining such requests in view of the number and frequency of the Diocesan collections. All the various beneficiaries are worthy causes and trying to differentiate is very difficult and the parish finance committee has decided that we would reintroduce the monthly second collection on the first Sunday of the month commencing January 2017 – no specific collections will be held for the Diocesan second collections except for: Lent Fast Day – CAFOD, Sick Clergy and Harvest Fast Day. In line with this, the first monthly collection to cover all diocesan collections will take place next Sunday - 1st January 2017. No other second collections will be taken during January.

Gift aid contributors

Please use the "Monthly Parish Project" envelopes for regular monthly collection on the first Sunday of the month. For specific contributions to any of the other causes supported please use the appropriate Gift Aid envelope and the amount will be added to the donation the parish will make to each of the various beneficiaries.

Mass Intentions

Please complete the envelopes at the back of the church sealing any donations inside and post into the Parish post box in the church foyer.

Please ensure that they are submitted in plenty of time. The preferred date given may not always be possible as it could already have been taken.

Christmas cards

Please do not forget to check the Christmas cards box in the church porch for any cards addressed to you from other parishioners.

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The Giving Machine update

Although Christmas shopping has come to an end, we can still continue to raise funds for our church by continuing to use The Giving Machine when shopping online. There are reminder cards in the porch, please take one.

Gadening Fund



Please get in touch if you have had any ideas on how to raise money for the Gardening Fund. Ideas can be posted into the post box in the foyer. Any ideas will be considered. So far we have raised £119.86

Diocesan news and events

CAFOD appeal for the crisis in Yemen

CAFOD is a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee which has launched an appeal for the humanitarian crisis in the Yemen. More than 7 million people there do not know where their next meal is coming from. A donation to alleviate their suffering can be made on line, but please remember them in your prayers.

'God of Peace, challenge the weapons of war and banish hatred and division, so that all your children may sleep secure, God of Peace, may your Kingdom come.'

Brentwood Diocesan Historical Society

The next meeting of the Essex Recusant Society (Brentwood Diocesan Historical Society) will be at 2.30pm on Saturday **21st January**, 2017 at The Grange, 93 Queens Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4EY. The speaker will be Rev. Dr. Ken Carleton, Church Historian and Permanent Deacon at St Alban, Elm Park, who will be speaking on the Bishops of London during the Tudor Reformation.

Pilgrimage to Fatima & Santiago de Compostela

Sunday 28th May – Saturday 3rd June 2017 led by Fr Francis Coveney: £829 per person– based on a group of 40 pilgrims. 4 nights' half board + 2 night's full board. Full services of a Tangney Tours courier.

Further details including booking form can be obtained from the back of the Church or from Tangney Tours. Please send completed booking forms to Gill Didino, Tangney Tours, Pilgrim House, Station Court, Borough Green, Kent, TN15 8AF. Telephone 01732 88 66 66.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2017

Bishop Alan will lead our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 23 - 28 July. The cost per person - full board and flights - is £695. Booking information will appear very soon.

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