



St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic Church
Stansted Mountfitchet



First Sunday of Advent (Year C)
Sunday 2nd December 2018



Today's Readings can be found on page **82** of the Parish Mass book.
The **Communion Antiphon** is on page **84**.

DATE	TIME	INTENTIONS
Saturday 1st December	†6.00pm	Moira Burke RIP (M&T Rhead)
Sunday 2nd Dec	†10.00am	People of the Parish
Monday 3rd Dec	No Mass on Mondays	
Tuesday 4th Dec	†9.30am	Larry Harper RIP (T&A Kemp)
Wednesday 5th Dec	†9.30am	
Wednesday Club	2.30pm	
Thursday 6th Dec	†9.30am	
Friday 7th Dec	†9.30am	Linda Simms RIP (Wednesday Club)
Saturday 8th Dec	†6.00pm	Maria Mastrandrea & Maria Fruci (T Mastrandrea)



Please join us for coffee after Mass on Sunday 2nd December in the parish hall.



Please familiarise yourselves with the location of the fire exits, extinguishers and assembly points at this church.



Shaping Our Future The Diocese will be publishing a new document “Shaping Our Future” this Weekend of the **1st/2nd December**. We will have meetings for all who wish to attend after both Masses this weekend. In addition to having some copies of the document in the Parish it will also be available online on the Diocesan web site together with a video from Bishop Alan.

Encounter meet next Friday **7th December** at St Theresa’s Church. **Advent reflections - Do secular symbols of Christmas obscure the Christian message of the Incarnation of God in Christ? 10.00am** coffee, **10.30am** meeting opens, **12.30pm** shared ‘Advent’ themed lunch: please bring food to share **2.00pm** day ends. All welcome for all or part of the day. Enquiries: 814865

Thank you to all who attended our Taste of Italy event last weekend. A wonderful time was had by all. Thanks for all the raffle prizes – our raffle was also a great success as was our Name the Snowman competition. Thank you to all the organisers. Photos will be uploaded onto our website.



Christmas card box There is now a box for Christmas cards in the porch. If you have any cards for other parishioners, please place them in the A-Z index box in the church porch



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The season of Advent begins this Sunday. “Stay awake,” says the gospel, a little reminder for if our minds start to wander to earthly matters during Mass. In the hymn, “O Jesus Christ remember” which we are singing at Communion, the tables are turned. We pray that our Saviour, when He comes again, will remember: “that here I bowed before Thee upon my blended knee; that here I owned Thy presence and did not Thee deny, and glorified Thy greatness though hid from human eye.” A hopeful and uplifting prayer for a hopeful and uplifting season. Frances.

Children’s Christmas Service and Party Please put this date into your diaries. This is a really special time of year for the children of the parish. The children’s service is when the children of our parish set up the nativity scene in our church and share in the Christmas story. This is then followed by the Christmas party - an opportunity to make new friends and to meet Father Christmas himself. Please let us know if you can make it. We would like as many children as possible to attend.

Food Bank We have had many food requests in the last few weeks and are especially short of tinned potatoes & peas, long-life milk & toilet rolls. There will be a box in the porch for donations. Many thanks.



Since many of us are busily buying gifts online at the moment, I think it would be sad to miss out on generating free donations for our parish. If you are unsure about how this works, how to sign up or even how to use it on your device, please feel free to bring in any device and speak to me, Anna Watkins. I will be more than happy to help. You can raise funds for your other chosen charities at the same time and it’s all free.

Make your voice heard We need to grow our existing group of Readers, so young or old or somewhere in the middle, if you have a good clear voice and would like to be involved with ‘The Liturgy of the Word’, please contact Tony Rhead, Des Connors or Anna Watkins or by email at stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org with cc to aksrhead@msn.com to register your interest.

St. Francis Leprosy Guild Thank you all who have contributed to the money in the bottle, in aid of St Francis Leprosy Mission, over the last few months. A cheque for £80 has just been sent to the mission. Brian Quinn



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Service of Light: Inauguration of Advent in Brentwood Cathedral at 4.00 pm on Sunday **2nd December**. This beautiful service includes the solemn lighting of the Advent wreath, profound readings and music led by the Cathedral choir. It is a special way to prepare for the real meaning of Christmas and all are welcome. Main celebrant: Bishop Alan Williams sm.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society will be hosting their very popular Ladies' Christmas Luncheon on Friday **7th December** 12 for 12.30pm at the Rayleigh Golf Club, Hullbridge. Ladies will be treated to a delicious two course lunch with tea & coffee in the luxurious surroundings of a private room over-looking the golf course at this exclusive club. Tickets cost £25.00 per person. To reserve your place, please call Libby on 01268 784544 / lphillips@bccs.org.uk.

Catholic History Walks in London at Christmas and the New Year Sunday **16th December** & Wednesday **2nd January** 2019, both at 3pm. Join us for seasonal walks through Westminster and Victoria, taking in Christmas trees and crib-scenes. Meet at Westminster Cathedral. Nearest Tube: Victoria.

Celebration Ball We are now taking deposits for the Ball, please contact the school if you would like to secure your tickets. St Thomas More Primary School is 50 years old in September 2020. We are arranging a Celebration Ball on 26th September 2020, at Parklands in Quendon. We would like to invite all present and past parents, pupils (over 18's), friends, governors, and staff of the school. Although this is 2 years away we would like to know how many interested people there are out there. Please secure your place and register your interest with us at Ball50@stmsw.co.uk. We would be grateful if you could spread the word to those who have moved from the area or may not read this letter. Those who have registered an interest should receive an email this weekend and have been offered tickets first! Many thanks for your interest and support.

Parish Priest: **Father John Garrett**

Tel: 01279 814349, E-mail: Stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

www.sttheresastansted.org



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