

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 4th AUGUST 2019

Welcome to our Parish Community of St Theresa of Lisieux

Priest in Charge: Fr Lee Bennett.

Parish Deacon: Rvd Des Connors desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

This hoard of yours, whose will it be?

Page 117 in the Mass book.

1st Reading: *Ecclesiastes 1:2;2:21-23*

Psalm 89: *O'Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.*

2nd Reading: *Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia!*

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

The Gospel this Sunday reminds us of the need to detach ourselves from worldly goods. The human heart tends to become attached to the things of this world, and to search for wealth and success as the main goal in life.

In today's Gospel, Jesus takes advantage of a question about inheritances to teach us about the true worth of things in the light of eternity. To illustrate this point, he brings up the subject of death.

The rich man builds up his wealth, and focuses his life on enjoyment and the good things in life. However, neither happiness or authentic living is obtained from worldly goods. The rich man makes no reference to God, or sees the need to share his good fortune with those in need.

To maintain this lifestyle, *he stores up his possessions, but in the end, it is all for nought. God himself interrupts the man in his plans... 'Fool, this very night the demand will be made for your soul, and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?'*

The Lord will come when we least expect him, *'like a thief in the night', 'like lightning flashing across the sky.'*

We all want to safeguard our futures and those who depend on us. However, we must remember that we are pilgrims, and we are seeking the heavenly kingdom as our final destination. Life on earth is short and limited, and we need to make positive and concrete acts of detachment with regard to what we own and what we use. How much time and wealth do we contribute to apostolic works, or share our goods with the needy?

Deacon Des.

Prayer & Liturgy

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction. This will take place at 8pm every second Thursday starting on Thursday 1st August.

Intercessory Prayer Group. 3rd Friday of each month. **Next meeting Friday 16th August 7.30-8.30pm.** A time to bring our needs and prayers to the Lord. If you would like prayers said but cannot make it, feel free to e mail Deacon Des with your prayer requests.

Admission to Hospital: Catholics in hospital are unlikely to receive an automatic visit from the Catholic Chaplain. If someone is sick in hospital, please let Fr Lee and/or Deacon Des know so that your loved one can be visited and receive Holy Communion and any other sacraments from the Chaplain.

Christian Meditation: Every Wednesday evening in St John's Church, 7-745pm.

Our Parish Prayers this week:

James Braekman RIP, Brother of Frances, died recently. Our sympathies and prayers go out to his family.

May he rest in peace.

Father John: has had to be admitted to Harlow Hospital due to an infection. Please keep him in your prayers.

Sacramental Preparation

Confirmation 2020: An initial meeting will be arranged and announced shortly. I have been spoken to by a couple of people wishing to be confirmed next year. Can I request please that anyone wishing to be put forward as a candidate for confirmation, e mail myself (Deacon Des), with name, age, (must be in Year 10 for the academic year 2019-2020) school attending, and date of Holy Communion and where it took place.

RCIA: 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults', is the programme for preparation for adults wishing to become Catholics, or be prepared for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Communion). **Course begins in September.** If anyone is considering becoming Catholic (or is an adult Catholic wishing to be confirmed), please contact Deacon Des soon.

Baptism Course: Please note that before a baptism can be arranged, the baptism course must be completed. The next baptism course will be held on **Wednesday 4th and Friday 12th September 7.30-8.30pm.** **To enrol on the course please e-mail Deacon Des.**

Sacrament of Marriage: Catholics must approach the Parish Priest / Deacon, at least 6 months prior to their intended wedding, and before setting a wedding date.

Additional Support

Home Visits for the Sick and Housebound: Please let us know if anyone is housebound (even if it is TEMPORARILY) so they can be visited and have the opportunity to receive Holy Communion at home.

Housebound parishioners may like to know that Mass is regularly broadcasted on the internet from the Catholic Church in Bishops Stortford:

<http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford>

Other House Visits: If anyone would like a visit or a house blessing please contact Deacon Des.

Social News and Events

Help Givers

Calais Light: We run weekend convoys from Brentwood to volunteer with refugee charities there. 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me'. If you would like to get involved and volunteer, you can sign up at www.calaislight.com , **Next trips:** 13-15th September, 22-24th Nov & 31 Jan- Feb2.

Help Required

Volunteers Required: There is a very committed team of parishioners who work extremely hard doing many tasks around the Church. If anyone would like to get involved, perhaps as an usher, or involved in assisting in setting up the hall for social events, putting out tables and chairs etc, or the tea and coffee rota, cleaning rota, please get in touch.

In particular we are looking for 2 volunteers to clean the Church over the summer period between 26th August & 10th September. If you are able to help at all, please contact Anna at stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Miscellaneous

Parish Website: The website <https://www.sttheresastansted.org> is undergoing some housekeeping and modifications aimed at providing a better experience and insight into our parish.

This weekend see's the launch of a new format of newsletter. St Theresa of course was known as the 'Little Flower', and the newsletter is the message from the parish, hence 'The Little Flower Messenger'. If you have any contributions for the newsletter please ensure that you have submitted them to Anna by no later than Tuesday in order for it to be included in that weekends Messenger.

Miraculous Invocation to St. Thérèse



O Glorious St. Thérèse,
whom Almighty God has raised up to aid
and inspire the human family,
I implore your Miraculous Intercession.

You are so powerful in obtaining every need
of body and spirit from the Heart of God.
Holy Mother Church proclaims you "Prodigy of Miracles...
the greatest saint of Modern Times."

Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition
(mention in silence here)
and to carry out your promises of
sending heaven doing good on earth...
of letting fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses.

Little Flower, give me your childlike faith,
to see the Face of God
in the people and experiences of my life,
and to love God with full confidence.

St. Thérèse, my Carmelite Sister,
I will fulfill your plea "to be made known everywhere"
and I will continue to lead others to Jesus through you.

Amen.

Liturgical Calender

Tuesday 6th August: Transfiguration of the Lord (c) Feast.

Thursday 8th August: St. Dominic

Friday 9th August: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, V.M.

Saturday 10th August: St Lawrence, Deacon, M.

Sunday 11th August: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C).

St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic Church

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted

Tel.No. 01279 814349 E-mail stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

<https://www.sttheresastansted.org/>