

The Little Flower Messenger

Year C TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 1st September 2019

Welcome to our Parish Community of St Theresa of Lisieux

Priest in Charge: Fr Lee Bennett.

Nf Parish Deacon: Rvd Des Connors desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.

Mass book page 130

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29

Psalm 67: *In your goodness O God, you prepared a home for the poor.*

2nd Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: *How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.*
(p. 132)

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

The Gospel today invites us to reflect on how we think and act in relationship to others. When we are in the company of others, do we put ourselves forward or do we stay in the background unless we are called forward? Perhaps even more importantly, how do we think of ourselves in relationship to others?

Jesus invites us to think of ourselves as always, the last and the least. This is a difficult spiritual teaching, particularly today in a world which values achievement, status and possessions as the true mark of a person.

Both today's Gospel and the first reading in Sirach, advocate humility. This is perhaps one of the most misunderstood of all the virtues. Humility requires great strength. How often have we been keen to ensure that we are recognised for our efforts and achievements? And disappointed when we fail to obtain that recognition, or become envious when others receive it?

Humility is being prepared to be the one who serves, rather than be served. To never seek the limelight, even if we have achieved something incredible. This has nothing to do with timidity or low self-esteem. Rather, it calls to us to not seek out the best places at the table but wait until everyone else is seated before we take our own in the lowliest position.

The Pharisees who are the object of this discourse, fail to understand what the reign of God is really about. Throughout the Gospels, there are many instances of conflict between them and Jesus, such as forgiveness of sins, eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners, fasting, plucking grain on the sabbath and healing on the sabbath.

They expected the best places at table and saw it as a right bestowed upon them by their social status. Humility was not high on their list of priorities.

Let us pray that we can joyfully accept the 'lowest place' in the service of others, rather than become bogged down in concerns over status and with how we are viewed by today's Pharisees.

Deacon Des.

Prayer & Liturgy

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction. Every Thursday at 8pm.

Intercessory Prayer Group. Third Friday of each month. Next meeting Friday **20th September** 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.

Christian Meditation. Every Wednesday evening in St John's Church, 7pm -7.45pm.

Extraordinary Ministers Holy Communion & Safeguarding.

Simon Moules, the Diocesan safeguarding co-ordinator will be coming to the parish hopefully on either the 1st week or 2nd week in September. This is to complete the safeguarding paperwork and DBS checks for those ministers who visit the sick and distribute communion outside of Mass.

There are currently no ministers who have a current DBS check and this precludes any visits outside of Mass until the DBS have been completed.

Jane will be confirming with Simon which date exactly and will then contact those ministers who visit the sick/housebound. Once this has been complete, I will discuss with Father Lee a suitable date to formally commission all EMHC at Mass, and provide everyone with their faculties which last for 5 years.

In addition, DBS checks will have to be completed on all members of the parish who are involved in any aspects of parish work who deal with children and/or vulnerable adults. This will include for example, Alter Servers & Children's liturgy.

St. Theresa of Lisieux Stansted is fully committed to ensuring strict adherence to all aspects of safeguarding. Thank You.

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'. The course will begin on **Sunday 15th September at 12 noon** and will consist of 25 weekly sessions lasting 1 hour. If you are thinking of becoming a Catholic please contact Deacon Des.

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 13th 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.

Social News and Events

Thank you!

I would like to express huge thanks for the warm welcome which Helen and myself have received since arriving in the parish. Thank you to all those involved in the work to get the presbytery ready for our arrival and also to the priests who covered the Masses prior to our arrival. Fr. Lee.

Encounter

New programme of meetings for September 2019 - May 2020 is now available. All welcome either to attend on a regular basis or to drop in to one or two meetings. More information on the programme. Enquiries: 01279 652060.

Parish Social – Feast of St. Theresa of Lisieux

The Parish Social Committee will meet after Sunday Mass on Sunday 8th September. This is to discuss and make preparations for the Feast of St. Theresa celebrations on Sunday 6th October. Please join us if you would like to be involved or have any ideas you would like to put forward.



Brentwood Diocese – Café Formation Day – Let it be

When? Saturday 23rd November from 10 am – 3 pm.

Location: The Blessed Sacrament, 116 Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford, CM1 2DU.

Sign up: Eventbrite ID 66323010911 or email adeleangel@dioceseofbrentwood.org

An engaging and inspirational day for Deacons, Catechists, Evangelisation and Ongoing Formation Teams, and those who want to grow in faith. Experience the series message of evangelisation with the CaFE team to answer questions. Day input by DAVID PAYNE, Director of Catholic Faith Exploration. Each booked attendee receives a free course book! Places are limited. Event is free, a donation will be taken to cover expenses.

Beginning Experience Weekend

A healing weekend for men and women who are separated, divorced or widowed will be held from 18th - 20th October 2019 at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex.

For more details please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Reconciliation will now take place for a half an hour period before each Mass. The times are shown on the back page.

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. Mass is regularly broadcasted on the internet from the Catholic Church in Bishops Stortford: <http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford>

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.

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

Sait Aidan (- 651)

Feast 31st August

Aidan, was born in Connaught, Ireland and died on August 31st 651, Bamburgh, Northumberland. Monastic founder, bishop, and miracle worker known for his kindness to animals. Known as Edan, Modoc, and Maedoc in some records.

Aidan went to St. David monastery in Wales. He remained there for several years, studying Scriptures, and his presence saved St. David from disaster. Saxon war parties attacked the monastery during Aidan's stay, and he supposedly repelled them miraculously.

When the Christian King Oswald returned from exile on Iona to his kingdom of Northumbria, he invited the monks of Iona to provide missionaries to instruct his people in Christianity. After initial difficulties, Aidan was consecrated bishop and sent with a group of Irish monks to begin this task.

He established a monastery on the island of Lindisfarne which became the centre of a major missionary effort in the North of England. The monastery also became a valuable centre of learning and an important training ground for the education of English boys who would continue the work of evangelisation.

From Lindisfarne Aidan journeyed throughout Northumberland, usually on foot, and working closely with King Oswald who found him to be a wise adviser and a good personal friend. After Oswald's death in 642, Aidan continued this work under his successor, Oswin, but when Oswin himself was killed nine years later, Aidan did not long survive him and died two weeks later in 651.

Mass Times

Saturday 31 st August	Confessions: 5.15 – 5.45pm Mass: 6pm	People of the Parish
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C		
Sunday 1 st September	Confessions: 9.15-9.45am Mass: 10am	Soul of Hugh Collins RIP & his family (Brittains)
Monday 2 nd September	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	
Tuesday 3 rd September St. Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	
Wednesday 4 th September St. Cuthbert, Bishop	Confessions: 12pm Mass: 12.30pm	
Thursday 5 th September	Confessions: 7pm Mass: 7.30pm Exposition & Benediction: 8pm	
Friday 6 th September	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	
Saturday 7 th September	Confessions: 5.15 – 5.45pm Mass: 6pm	People of the Parish
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C		
Sunday 8 th September	Confessions: 9.15-9.45am Mass: 10am	

St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic Church

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