

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year C TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019

*Welcome to our Parish Community of St Theresa of Lisieux*

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet CM24 8LQ

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**Parish Deacon:** Rvd Des Connors [desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

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## **Gospel: Luke 18:1-8**

*God will see justice done to his chosen who cry to him.*

**Mass book page 146**

**1st Reading:**

*Exodus 17:8-13*

**Psalm 120:**

*Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.*

**2nd Reading:**

*2 Tim 3:14-4:2*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

*Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.  
Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:**  
**(p. 154)**

*Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.*

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## **This Week's Good News**

Dear Friends,

Today's Gospel teaches us about persistence. To illustrate this Jesus uses the parable of the unjust judge and the importunate widow. What does importunate mean?

It means troublemaker, and one who proclaims the word of God faithfully and well is most certainly that. Importunate is a word that became attached in church tradition to the widow Jesus told a parable about. The woman is a troublemaker, not because she wants something unreasonable, but because she insists on what is right. That spells trouble even in our world today.

Did the widow use a carrot as well as a stick to get the judge to consent to her demands? Because the judge is introduced as an unjust man, without fear of God or respect for human beings, chances are the only carrot that would appease him is a bribe, which the widow certainly wasn't about to produce. Her primary weapon in the war of attrition is the word; she irritates him with her refusal to give up and go away quietly, continuing to plead her case until he is prepared to capitulate if only to end the discussion. He is not convinced; he simply raises the white flag. It is the method by which justice often comes into the world.

Jesus assures us that our persistence in prayer will have a greater effect than this, because we bring our claims for justice to One who is on the side of the just to begin with. We should not be afraid to become nuisances for the sake of the Kingdom, storming heaven with our cries for what is right. We cannot pray too many Rosaries or spend too many hours in contemplation. God will not become bored or annoyed with our persistence. If Paul is right, praying unceasingly is praying sufficiently. Anything less is not enough.

**Deacon Des**

## Prayer & Liturgy

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

**Intercessory Prayer Group.** Third Friday of each month. A time to bring our needs and prayers to the Lord. If you would like prayers said but cannot make it, feel free to email Deacon Des with your prayer requests.

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

## 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.

**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

### Shaping Our Future

Parishioners may remember that following consultation with Parishes, the Diocesan document on "Shaping Our Future" asked local Parish Partnerships to submit a report to the Diocese at the beginning of Advent. A DRAFT copy the document being developed for submission is now available on the notice board at the back of the Church. If anyone wants to discuss this document Fr Lee is happy to have a chat with them. A further part of the submission on the subject of Renewal is being prepared. The Diocese will receive the submissions from each Parish Partnership and use these to develop the Diocesan Plan to be communicated in 2020.

### Instagram

The Parish is now on twitter: @StStansted and on Instagram: sttheresastansted do please follow us. #21stCentury #Evangelisation

### Churches Together Harvest Supper

At St John's Hall this Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Tickets are now available from Helen 814865, just £7.50 adult & £5 children. It starts at 6.30pm and includes a fish/ chicken & chip supper & entertainment from each church. Come & join us for a fun evening.

### Lisieux Pilgrimage

For anyone interested in getting copies of photos and a photo slide show, please place your orders on the relevant list in the church porch as soon as possible. Frances.

### Churches Together Food Bank

Due to all the kind harvest donations from the churches & schools we are well stocked at the moment. The only things we are short of are tinned meat & fish. Thank you for your generosity.

**Christmas cards** are now available to buy in the Repository along with other cards and gifts.

**Reconciliation:** Reconciliation takes place half an hour before each Mass. Times are on the last page of the newsletter.

**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.

### **Coffee with Cops**

Our local police officers would like us to host a regular 'Coffee with Cops'. This new initiative gives our part of the village a location and opportunity to meet local police and PCSOs. Why not come along and have a chat? The next two sessions will be in St. Theresa's Parish Centre on Tuesday **29<sup>th</sup> October** and Tuesday **26<sup>th</sup> November**, from 10:00am - 12 noon.

### **Talks series: How to defend your faith without raising your voice**

Most of us have been challenged at some point to speak about or defend our faith. This could have been whilst in the pub, on a chat with our friends or even with other people who go to church. At times, it can be difficult to find the correct words or courage to speak out. To help with this, we will be hosting a series of talks taking place over five Wednesdays during Advent 20-Nov to 18-Dec at 7pm. Cost: free. To register and for full details please visit: <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/events>

### **Month of Holy Souls**

November is the month of prayer for Holy Souls, when we pray for all the faithful departed, those known and dear to us, and those too, who have no one to pray for them. There are Envelopes and sheets for us to write the names of departed loved ones to be given to Fr Lee or Deacon Des. The names on the sheets will be kept by the altar for the month of November and will be remembered at the Masses during November. A Mass stipend can also be placed in this envelope. This year we also offer a 24hour candle will be lit on the feast day of Holy Souls, 2<sup>nd</sup> November with the name of your departed loved one on it. This will be lit in the sanctuary during the Masses of that day. The cost of each candle is £3.00 and can be ordered by filling in the sheet for Holy Souls candles. Please see Fr Lee or Deacon Des about these.

### **All Saints**

All Saints 1<sup>st</sup> November is a Holy Day of Obligation meaning that every Catholic is obliged to be at Mass on that day. Masses for All Saints at St Theresa's will be as follows. 7.30pm Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October - Vigil Mass of All Saints (This Mass fulfils our Obligation) and Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 9.30am. Do please make every effort to attend one of these Masses.

### **All Souls Day**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November Mass will be offered for the Souls of Departed loved ones at 10.00am

### **Christmas Boxes**

Many of you have been most generous in donating wool to the Wednesday Club so that some of them can knit woolly toys/hats and scarves for the children. Please come over to coffee after Mass on Sunday and you will see the lovely things that they have managed to knit. If anybody else is able to knit and would like some wool to transform into a scarf or hat for a deprived child, please let us know. TICKETS are now on sale - only £5 for a fun night out. join us for a Quiz in the Parish Centre on 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7pm for 7.30pm. A big Thank You to all those who have also already donated items for the boxes. We are in dire need of felt pens/biros/pencils and notebooks/toothbrushes. Please join us for packing on 6<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm plus lots of tea and cake! Eileen Quinn 812109.

### **Parish Administrator**

The Parish Finance committee has identified the need for an expanded role and applications are invited for the position of Parish Administrator. The role will be contracted for 12 hours a week at a rate of £10-20p per hour. Initially the hours will be worked from 10:00 – 14:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Parish Priest will regularly review these according to the ongoing needs and requirements of the Parish. Interested persons should apply by sending a CV and Covering Letter explaining their suitability and qualification for the role via e-mail to Leigh Buckley at the Diocese of Brentwood. Her e-mail address is [leighbuckley@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:leighbuckley@dioceseofbrentwood.org). Diocese of Brentwood is an Equal opportunities employer. Closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Parish**

Tony Aldridge will be holding a meeting after Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November in the Parish Centre to discuss arrangements for the Golden Jubilee of our parish next year.

## Thank you

I would like to thank everyone in the parish for their gifts, blessings and kind words to me on leaving the post of Parish Secretary. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you all and hope to continue doing so in different ways in the future. Thank you for supporting me over these last 5 years. A special thank you to a Fr. Lee, Deacon Des and Bernadette for arranging my special gifts and thinking of me whilst away on pilgrimage. Anna Watkins.

## CAFOD

The amount raised for the CAFOD family Fast day this month was £747 – thank you for your generosity.

## Saint John Paul II (1920-2005)



Karol Józef Wojtyła was born in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. After his ordination to the priesthood and theological studies in Rome, he returned to his homeland and resumed various pastoral and academic tasks. He became first auxiliary bishop and, in 1964, Archbishop of Kraków and took part in the Second Vatican Council. On 16 October 1978 he was elected pope and took the name John Paul II. His exceptional apostolic zeal, particularly for families, young people and the sick, led him to numerous pastoral visits throughout the world. Among the many fruits which he has left as a heritage to the Church are above all his rich Magisterium and the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church as well as the Code of Canon Law for the Latin Church and for the Eastern Churches. In Rome on 2 April 2005, the eve of the Second Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy), he departed peacefully in the Lord. He was canonized by Pope Francis on 27 April, the Second Sunday of Easter 2014.

## Mass Times

Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Ss John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and their Companions, Martyrs; St Paul of the Cross, Priest</i>	Confessions: 5.15 – 5.45pm Mass: 6pm	Laurence McCreanor RIP (S Wood)
<b>29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</b>		
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Confessions: 9.15 - 9.45am Mass: 10am	People of the Parish
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October <i>St John Paul II, Pope</i>	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October <i>St John of Capestrano, Priest</i>	Confessions: 12pm Mass: 12.30am Rosary Group: 1.30pm Wednesday Club: 2pm	Families Fry & Bambridge (J Bambridge)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October <i>St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop</i>	Confessions: 7pm Mass: 7.30pm Exposition & Benediction: 8pm	John Michael Lloyd RIP (A Watkins)
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Saint John XXIII, Pope</i>	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	Holy Souls (J&C Welsh)
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Ss Chad and Cedd, Bishops</i>	Confessions: 5.15 – 5.45pm Mass: 6pm	People of the Parish
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</b>		
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19</i> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</i> Gospel: <i>Luke 18:9-14</i>	Confessions: 9.15 - 9.45am Mass: 10am	Bernie Hayes RIP (Eilish)

\* Are these Mass times working for you? Contact Fr Lee if you have any suggestions.