

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year C THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019

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

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## Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

*The Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost*

**Mass book page 157**

**1st Reading:**

*Wisdom : 11:22-12:2*

**Psalm 144:**

*I will bless your name for ever, O God my King*

**2nd Reading:**

*2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

*Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!  
Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:**  
**(p. 160)**

*You will show me the path of life, the fulness of joy in your presence, O Lord.*

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## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends

The Gospel tells us something unusual about Zacchaeus. He was very short and very rich. More importantly, he was a senior tax collector, and as such was considered a career criminal in the eyes of his fellow Jews. As a result, he was ostracised and treated with disdain. As far as they were concerned, he was a traitor who was outside of the circle of the faith community. Yet Jesus saw him with different eyes. Whereas people saw him with a history and a propensity for evil, Jesus saw in him a dignity and a potential for goodness, open to the approach of mercy.

Zacchaeus' openness and receptivity were evident during the meal with Jesus at his house. Undeterred by prejudice, he sought to rise above his own sinful past. Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to Jesus, "Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody, I will pay him back four times the amount". The mercy of God manifested in Christ had evoked a heartfelt response and a total transformation. A sinner was transformed into a saint in the making. It is truly a story of redemption which is made possible by God's offer of unconditional love and our response in faith.

The story of Zacchaeus challenges us to look beyond societal or personal prejudices and to recognise everyone's God-given dignity and potential, including those living on the outmost fringes of society. We are called to believe that no one is ever beyond hope, past the point where God's grace and love apply to them. In Jesus, God does not give up on people; he is more interested in their future than in their past. The book of Wisdom affirms God as the lover of life, and no one is abhorrent to him. We can learn from Zacchaeus who turned his life around as a result of meeting Jesus. The struggles and even the worst moments of life are not dead ends but can be part of our personal story of redemption, thanks to our faith-filled response to God's love. No matter how unpalatable the thought that mercy is open to everyone may be, we need to reach out to those whom we would rather not, the modern-day Zacchaeus'

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**

**Sacrament of Baptism:** The next Baptism Preparation Course will take place in Church on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**. Do please let Deacon Des or Fr Lee know if you would like to attend this course. This course will run monthly, the date for the December course is **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December again at 7.30pm**

**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.

### **Social Media**

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

### **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 Volunteer Sought**

One of our volunteers has had to leave because of ill health so we are looking for a replacement for her. We have a rota for taking the calls from Citizen's Advice and Spangles children's Centre and it involves manning the phone & delivering the food to Spangles. As there are 8 of us it means being on duty once every 2 months. If you would like more details or think you can help please contact Helen 814865 or Eileen 812109. Thankyou.

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

### **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.

### **PPC Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting of September 10<sup>th</sup> 2019 are on the website and Parish noticeboard.

## **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 session will be in St. Theresa's Parish Centre 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>

## **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.

## **Mass Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

Mass this Tuesday will be offered at **11.00am**, rather than the usual 9.30am and will be a concelebrated Mass with the clergy of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham working in the Diocese of Brentwood. Everyone is welcome at this Mass.

## **Holy Souls**

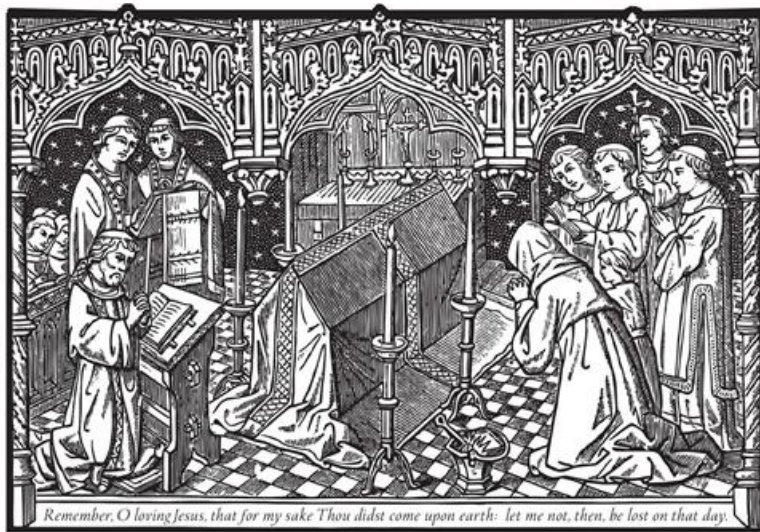
The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. By the practice of Indulgences, the Church places at the charitable disposal of the faithful the treasure accumulated from age to age, by the superabundant satisfactions of the saints, added to those of the martyrs, and united to those of our Blessed Lady and the infinite residue of our Lord's sufferings. These remissions of punishment she grants to the living by her own direct power; but she nearly always approves of and permits their application to the dead by way of suffrage, that is to say, in the manner in which, as we have seen, each of the faithful may offer to God who accepts it, for another, the suffrage or succour of his own satisfactions. (The Liturgical Year, Abbot Gueranger O.S.B.)

A partial indulgence can be obtained by devoutly visiting a cemetery and praying for the departed, even if the prayer is only mental. One can gain a plenary indulgence visiting a cemetery each day between November 1 and November 8. These indulgences are applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory.

A plenary indulgence, again applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, is also granted when the faithful piously visit a church or a public oratory on November 2. In visiting the church or oratory, it is required, that one Our Father and the Creed be recited.

A partial indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, can be obtained when the Eternal Rest (Requiem aeternam) is prayed. This is a good prayer to recite especially during the month of November:

**Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**



## Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Confessions: 5.15 – 5.45pm Mass: 6pm	Special Intention (T Kemp)
<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</b>		
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Confessions: 9.15 - 9.45am Mass: 10am	People of the Parish
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November <i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Mass: 11.00am ** Note Time**	Departed Priests and People of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Confessions: 12pm Mass: 12.30am Rosary Group: 1.30pm Wednesday Club: 2pm	Andy, Chris, and Mike Bambridge (J Bambridge)
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November <i>St Willibrord</i>	Confessions: 7pm Mass: 7.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction 8.00pm	Holy Souls
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Confessions: 9am Mass: 9.30am	Rose Clarke RIP (K Clarke)
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Confessions: 5.15 – 5.45pm Mass: 6pm	James M <sup>c</sup> Creanor RIP (S. Ward)
<b>32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C</b>		
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> November <b>(REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: 2 Maccabees 7:1-2,9-14 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5 Gospel: Luke 20:27-38	Confessions: 9.15 - 9.45am Mass: 10am Act of Remembrance 11.00am	Those who have died in Battle