

# *The Little Flower Messenger*

Year A THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH 29<sup>th</sup> December 2019

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

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet CM24 8LQ

Tel. 01279 814349 • stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org • <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/>

• Twitter: @StStansted • Instagram: sttheresastansted

**Priest-in-Charge:** Fr. Lee Bennett [frleebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frleebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

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

---

## **Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23**

*Take the child and his mother and escape into Egypt.*

**Mass book (P. 106)**

**1st Reading:**

*Ecclesiasticus 3: 2-6, 12-14*

**Psalms 127:**

*O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!*

**2nd Reading:**

*Colossians 3:12-21*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

*Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home in you.*

*Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:**

*Our God has appeared on earth, and lived among us.*

**(P. 108)**

---

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

Dear Friends

On this the last Sunday of the Secular Year, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. This feast reminds us that, as the basic unit of the universal Church, each family is called to holiness.

By celebrating this feast on the Sunday following Christmas, the Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that He might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God. Jesus brought holiness to the family of Joseph and Mary as Jesus brings us holiness by embracing us in His family.

Today's Gospel describes how Joseph and Mary protected the Child Jesus from the sword of King Herod by escaping with Him to Egypt.

Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth, is presented as a man of unwavering obedience, eager to consult God in fervent prayer and to learn His will through "dreams". Joseph obeys without complaint, and his prompt obedience is crucial to God's plan. He knows nothing except the next step of the journey, but he takes that step. So also, is our obedience crucial to God's plan. We cannot see the fullness of God's plan for our lives or our families any better than Joseph could see it for his life, but we can be assured that our faithfulness will also lead, one step at a time, to great things.

Deacon Des

## Sacramental Preparation

**Sacrament of Baptism:** The next Baptism Preparation Course will take place in Church on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 at 7:30 p.m.** Do please let Deacon Des or Fr. Lee know if you would like to attend this course.

### Social News and Events

**Thank you:**

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made our Christmas Masses so wonderful this year. Special thanks go to those who cleaned the Church; those who arranged the flowers; our wonderful serving team, those who provided our music and singing; and all of those who came along to the Masses and Carol Service. On behalf of myself and Helen, and Deacon Des and Jane, we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their wonderful cards and gifts. Thank you all for making my first Christmas in Stansted such a delight. Can I also take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

**Change of Mass Times:**

The week commencing Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020, there will be a change to our weekday Mass Schedule.

The New Mass schedule will be: Monday: 9:00 a.m. Confessions, 9:30 a.m. Mass. Tuesday: 7:15 p.m. Confession, 8:00 p.m. Mass (Latin). Wednesday: 12:00 noon Confession, 12:30 p.m. Mass. Thursday 9:00 a.m. Confession, 9:30 a.m. Mass, 7:30 p.m. Holy Hour - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction. Friday 9:00 a.m. Confession, 9:30 a.m. Mass.

**Of your Charity:**

Please pray for the repose of the Soul of our dear sister Marie Keane, who has recently died. Her funeral rites will be celebrated here at St Theresa's on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 12:30 p.m. Her body will be received into Church on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 5:00 p.m. **Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.**

**Masses this Week:**

Fr. Lee will be taking his Post Christmas Break this week so there will be no Weekday Masses this week. As indicated above the new schedule of Masses will start the following week.

### Mass Times and Intentions

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH Year A		
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> December	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Jim Birchall</b> (M Keef)
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> December	Confessions: <b>9:15 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Year A		
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	Confessions: <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Mass: <b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Angela Smith RIP</b> (T & M Rhead)
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b> <i>Isaiah 60:1-6</i> <b>Psalm:</b> 71 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b> <i>Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6</i> <b>Gospel:</b> <i>Matthew 2:1-12</i>	Confessions: <b>9:15 a.m.</b> Mass: <b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>