

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year A THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020

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

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8LQ  
Tel. 01279 814349 • [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) • <https://www.sttheresasstansted.org/>  
• Twitter: @StStansted • Instagram: sttheresasstansted

**Priest-in-Charge:** Fr. Lee Bennett [frlee@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frlee@dioceseofbrentwood.org) ☎ 814349

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

**Parish Administrator:** Clair Rava [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) ☎ 816889  
(Office Hours: Tuesday–Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

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## Gospel: Matthew 4:12 – 23

*“He went and settled in Capernaum: in this way the prophecy was to be fulfilled”*

Mass book (P. 127)

**1st Reading:** *Isaiah 8:23 – 9.3*  
**Psalm 26:** *The Lord is my light and my help*  
**2nd Reading:** *1 Corinthians 1:10 – 13, 17*

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom, and cured all kinds of sickness among the people. Alleluia!*

**Communion Antiphon:** *Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let our faces not be abashed.*  
(P. 130)

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## This Week’s Good News

Dear Friends,

While the Evangelists Luke and John allowed time for the disciples to find out more about Jesus before they were called, Matthew did no such thing. He immediately shows Jesus calling two set of fishermen brothers — Simon (later renamed Peter) & Andrew, and James & John. Except for telling them “*Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men,*” He gives no indication about what following him will entail — where they are going and what they will do. Matthew is not concerned with those details. His concern is that Jesus, about to begin his public ministry chooses to need help so that he can become the ‘*great light,*’ and shine on the people. Jesus invites these four to become his disciples, and they respond immediately, leaving their nets, their boats, and their father to follow Jesus. Usually rabbinical students sought out their teachers and attached themselves to the rabbi they had chosen. However, Jesus, as rabbi, takes the initiative and calls what are apparently less-than-ideal candidates to be his students. The disciples are simple working people with no great background. What Jesus needed then were ordinary people who would give him themselves.

What Christ needs today is not our ability, but our availability. What Jesus taught his first disciples was not a course of study, but a way of life to follow. Hence, he offered these men the opportunity to observe him close at hand on a daily basis. How did the first four disciples respond to Jesus’ call? In St. Matthew’s words, “*At once they left their nets and followed him.*” Even though they had no previous knowledge of Jesus, they put their total trust in him, leaving behind everything, their fishing nets, their parents and family, not knowing where it would all lead.

Every one of us is called by God, both individually and as Church members. The mission of preaching, teaching and healing which Jesus began in Galilee is now the responsibility of the Church. Our own unique vocation and relationship with the risen Lord is never separated from the Body of the universal Church. Be we monk, priest, married or single lay person, male or female, we are all called, and in this call, we become

what God wants us to be. Our response to the call begins with our Baptism and the other Sacraments of Initiation. That response is strengthened through the years by the Eucharist and Reconciliation and is made manifest in Matrimony or Holy Orders. We are healed and consoled in the Anointing which also prepares us for death. In addition, God is relentless in calling us back to Himself when we stray from Him.

The Church reminds us that the call from Jesus is “personal” for each one of us. It is then our responsibility to be a personal witness within the common mission of spreading the good news (CCC#878).

Deacon Des

## Prayer & Liturgy

**Fr. John Garrett:** This week Fr. John was admitted to Harlow hospital and is receiving urgent treatment and being closely monitored. His sister, Jean, is with him. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. Mass will be offered for Fr John today.

**The Latin Mass:** Takes place each Tuesday at **8:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome to attend this Mass, there are booklets provided.

**Holy Hour:** Each Thursday evening at **7:30 p.m.** The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar for an hour of Adoration. The Holy Hour will conclude with Benediction.

**Rosary Group:** Meets each Wednesday at **1:30 p.m.** in St. Theresa’s room. All welcome.

## Sacramental Preparation

**Sacrament of Baptism:** The next Baptism Preparation Course will take place in Church on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30 p.m.** The preparation meeting for March will be held on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March.** Do please let Deacon Des or Fr. Lee know if you would like to attend this course.

**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.

## Parish News

### Offertory Summary Oct 2019 – Dec 2019

Month	Gift Aided	Loose Collection	Standing Orders	Month total
October	£1,436.47	£942.75	£1,197.00	£3,576.22
November	£1,159.50	£840.91	£1,107.00	£3,107.41
December	£1,470.50	£1,142.25	£1,027.00	£3,639.75
<b>Annual Totals to date</b>	<b>£11,060.14</b>	<b>£8,000.00</b>	<b>£9,921.00</b>	<b>£28,981.14</b>

**Diocesan Second Collections:** As you are aware some years ago the parish made the collective decision to take one monthly collection rather than the individual collections mandated by the Bishop’s conference – we do however make a donation to all the various beneficiaries usually rounding up the amount from Parish funds.

Below is the outcome so far this year – you will notice that there have been some months when a second collection has not been taken and also that the amount donated by the Parish has been topped up with funds from the Bonus Ball competition.

Diocesan Second collections	Date	Monthly Collections	amount available	Pro Rata collection	Top up from Bonus Ball	Total donated
Holy Land	19/04/19	April	£132.81	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Promotion of vocations	12/05/19	May	£197.40	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
World communications	02/06/19			£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Day for Life	16/06/19			£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Sick Clergy	23/06/19	June	£0.00	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Peter's pence	23/06/19	July	£370.83	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Apostleship of the sea	14/07/19	August	£0.00	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Catholic Education Service	08/09/19	September	£25.00	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Home Mission Sunday	15/09/19	September		£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
Harvest Fast Day	04/10/19	October	£747.35			£767.35
Prisoner's Sunday	13/10/19		£268.73	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
World Mission Sunday	30/10/19	November	£0.00	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
National Youth Sunday	24/11/19	December	£264.23	£104.92	£95.08	£200.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>£2,006.35</b>	<b>£1,259.04</b>	<b>£1,140.96</b>	<b>£3,167.35</b>

**Bonus Ball:** This is a weekly competition based round the number drawn as the Bonus Ball on Saturday evening's Lotto draw. The person holding the winning number receives £30. Currently there are six numbers available, weekly cost £1 – if you would like one ring John Richardson on 07984402677 or email on [john63059@gmail.com](mailto:john63059@gmail.com).

**Next weekend a second collection will be taken to contribute towards the mandated Diocesan Second Collections – please be generous.**

**Guild Enrolment:** Many congratulations to the following servers, Ethan, Francesca, Grace, Jeremy and Isabelle who were enrolled into the Guild of Stephen last Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please remember all our servers in your prayers.

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

**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 Fr. Lee / Deacon Des.

**Newsletter:** Should you wish to submit an item for the weekly newsletter could you please forward the details to Clair via email on [stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org) no later than 10:00 a.m. on the Wednesday. Should you require assistance please contact Clair via the office number above.

## Social News and Events

**Jubilee Group:** The next meeting of the Jubilee Group will be held in the Parish Centre on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 after the 10:00 a.m. mass. All are welcome.

## Mass Times and Intentions

<b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A</b>		
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m.	People of the Parish
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Confessions: 9:15 – 9:45 a.m. Mass: 10:00 a.m.	Fr. John Garrett
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m.	Private Intention
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January <i>St Peter Nolasco</i>	Confessions: 7:00 p.m. Mass (Latin): 8:00 p.m.	
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Confessions: 12:00 p.m. Mass: 12:30 p.m. Rosary Group: 1:30 p.m. Wednesday Club: 2:00 p.m.	John Paul Loughlin (RIP) John Paul Loughlin
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m.  Holy Hour: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction: 7:30 p.m.	Marie Keane (RIP)
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January <i>St John Bosco</i>	Confessions: 9:00 a.m. Mass: 9:30 a.m.	Educators
<b>PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMASS) Year A</b>		
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Confessions: 5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Mass: 6:00 p.m.	Roy Oakes (RIP) Sheila Wood
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February <i>1st Reading: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12 – 13</i> <i>Psalm: 145</i> <i>2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26 – 31</i> <i>Gospel: Matthew 5:1 – 12</i>	Confessions: 9:15 – 9:45 a.m. Mass: 10:00 a.m.	People of the Parish

