

St Theresa's Presbytery High Lane Stansted Mountfitchet CM24 8LQ

Monday of the 5th Week of Lent 2020

Dear Friends

I hope this letter find you all well and safe. As many of you will know we have changed the format of our Live streaming of the Mass, we had developed the right settings on Facebook before the change, but it will take a bit of tinkering to get the right settings on YouTube so please bear with us.

I am very conscious that the use of technology to keep in touch is far from ideal, as many parishioners are not tech savvy and are on a steep learning curve regarding Facebook, YouTube, Parish Websites, WhatsApp and Smart phones, you are not alone, I too am not as tech savvy as I like to think I am!

I am also extremely concerned that some people will fall through the net and get missed. When all this blows over, and dear friends it will blow over, I don't want it said that I neglected one of our parish family, that anyone felt unloved and uncared for during this pandemic. Deacon Des, Clair our Parish Administrator, and I are busy trying to piece together a contact list of parishioners. Due to the frankly ridiculous GDPR legislation we are not allowed to store personal data without prior permission, therefore any personal details, names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses, if they were ever recorded, would have had to be destroyed. We were due to do a parish census this Easter with form giving the legal jargon regarding the storage of your data, but this will of course now not happen. I am aware just by looking at email lists and WhatsApp telephone numbers that we have a fraction of the Church family's details, and this worries me greatly.

Many of you will be in telephone contact regularly with other members of St Theresa's family, could I ask you please to ring around and get everyone to pass on your details to me at the presbytery by ringing the presbytery telephone number or via my parish email address frleebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org (or even snail mail if it helps), to Deacon Des, or Clair via the stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org email address?

If anyone is in need of shopping, things picking up from the pharmacy etc. please do be in touch with Deacon Des or me, we will be happy to do this if we can be of any service.

You are all in my thoughts and prayers, I take you all with me to the altar of God every day, and poor priest that I am, I will strive to continue to serve you as God has called me to do.

With my love and blessing

Fr Lee