

The Little Flower Messenger

Year A SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 17th May 2020

Welcome to our Parish Community of St. Theresa of Lisieux

The Presbytery, High Lane, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8LQ
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Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Lee Bennett frlee@dioceseofbrentwood.org ☎ 814349

Parish Deacon: Rev. Des Connors desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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

Gospel: John 14:15 - 21

'I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate'

1st Reading:	<i>Acts 8:5-8, 14-17</i>
Psalm 65:	<i>Cry out with joy to God all the earth.</i>
2nd Reading:	<i>1 Peter 3:15-18</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'</i> <i>Alleluia!</i>
Communion Antiphon:	<i>If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.</i>

This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today's Gospel comes from the Last Supper Discourse, immediately after Jesus had washed the feet of his disciples. This example of loving service is re-enacted every year at the Liturgy of the Lord's Supper.

Jesus was aware that in only a few short hours, he would be betrayed, condemned and crucified. He would be abandoned by all except for a few. Yet, his concern was for his disciples. His purpose in speaking these words is to prepare his disciples for the great commission he will entrust to them. To preach the Good News of salvation throughout the world, and to baptise all nations in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Jesus' time on earth was drawing to a close, but he would not abandon those who had been entrusted to him. Jesus promised his followers that if they walked with him, they would never be alone and that he would accompany them. The way in which Jesus would accompany his disciples would take two forms.

Firstly, He would be with each of them in a personal and intimate way. Secondly, he would be with them as a group, always in their midst. To assist and to counsel them (and us) God would send, the Advocate, the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth.

To be a disciple of Jesus means to never give up hope, to live in faith and confidence remembering the words of Jesus, "Whoever loves Me, will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and reveal myself to him."

Each of us is called to continue the mission of Christ. To actively work for the salvation of not just ourselves but for everyone. Being Baptised is not an automatic entitlement to Salvation, rather it is a commitment to live in loving service to Christ every day. The friendship we are given by God in Baptism, is to be extended to others so that they too may participate in Christ's mission.

In this current health crisis, we need to listen to this Spirit of Truth more closely, to be fortified and encouraged by the promise that Jesus has made to us all, that he will always be with us and never abandon us.

Deacon Des

Prayer & Liturgy

We are keen to share Mass with you as often as we can, and we livestream Masses via our YouTube page. This can be accessed via our website under the 'Live Mass Times' tab.

<https://www.sttheresastansted.org/live-mass/>

The Mass times are:

Monday	10:00 hrs
Tuesday	10:00 hrs (Latin Mass – will not be livestreamed)
Wednesday	10:00 hrs
Thursday	10:00 hrs
Friday	10:00 hrs
Saturday	10:00 hrs
Sunday	10:00 hrs

Please continue to check the website, Facebook page and Newsletter for updates and information.

Mass Intentions: Fr. Lee is still happy to receive intentions for Mass. If you would like a Mass offered at St. Theresa's for a deceased friend or relative or you would like a Mass said for yourself, please submit the details via the form on our website. <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/live-mass/mass-intentions/>

Children's Liturgy: We have added some activities for children and their families to complete during the Ascension and Pentecost. They can be located on our website: <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/live-mass/childrens-liturgy/>

Sacramental Preparation

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.



Making an Act of Spiritual Communion

When we cannot fulfil our obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation, whether because of illness or bad weather, or some other reason outside of our control, we can, and indeed should make an Act of Spiritual Communion. It is also good to make an Act of Spiritual Communion when we can attend Mass, but when something prevents us from receiving sacramental Communion that day—say, a mortal sin that we know we have not had the opportunity to confess yet.

We can make an act multiple times a day—even on days when we have been able to receive the Eucharist; because each Act of Spiritual Communion that we make increases our desire to receive sacramental Communion, and also helps us to avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Communion worthily.

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Virtual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham was due to take place on Saturday 23rd May but has had to be cancelled due to the closure of places of worship. However, with thanks to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham's 24 hour livestream service a virtual pilgrimage can be held. Simply join the services via the Shrine's website: www.walsingham.org.uk on Saturday 23rd May from 11:00 a.m.

Planned Giving Envelopes & Continued Support

As we are unable to attend church in person, should you wish to continue making donations you can consider the following options:

Weekly Donation: Should you wish to make your usual weekly donation to St Theresa's you can do so via <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=stansted>. Please ensure that Stansted Mountfitchet – St Theresa of Lisieux is selected. Any funds donated will come in full to the Parish.

Current Gift Aid Envelope Donor or New Gift Aid Donor: If you would like to start making donations via standing order please email stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org for details on how to set this up.

Current Gift Aid Donor – change of circumstances: If your circumstances have changed and you no longer wish to contribute via the Gift Aid Donor scheme please advise by email to stansted-giftaid@dioceseofbrentwood.org

During these difficult times, we recognise that the financial impact on some parishioners can be significant. Your continued support for our Parish is appreciated.

CAFOD & White Flower Appeal – Thank you

CAFOD: Our parish Lent donations totalled £735. That is a great amount, thank you for your continued support.

White Flower Appeal: Our Parish donation during this year's appeal raised £321.80. Thank you again for your support.



Keep in touch

If you wish Father Lee or Deacon Des to call for a chat on a weekly basis to see how you are and offer guidance then please complete the form on the website <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/keep-in-touch/>, alternatively you can post your details to the Presbytery.

If you are in touch with people of the parish that may not have access to social media, or our website, then please ask them to also post their details to the Presbytery.

WhatsApp Group: Deacon Des has started a parish WhatsApp group, if you would like to join please email Des at desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org with your mobile number and he will send you an invitation to join the group.



Mass Times and Intentions (no public attendance)

Saturday 16 th May	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	People of the Parish
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Year A		
Sunday 17 th May	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	Stella Marie Saunders (RIP) (G Saunders)
Monday 18 th May	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	
Tuesday 19 th May	Mass (Latin): 10:00 a.m.	
Wednesday 20 th May	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	
Thursday 21 st May <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	Gordon Barrett 99th Birthday (T Aldridge)
Friday 22 nd May <i>St Rita of Cascais</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	Rita Morson & those in Care Homes (D Morson)
Saturday 23 rd May	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	Eileen Barrett (RIP) (G Barrett)
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Year A		
Sunday 24 th May <i>World Communications Day</i> <i>1st Reading: Acts 1:12-14</i> <i>Psalm: 26:1</i> <i>2nd Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16</i> <i>Gospel: John 17:1-11</i>	Mass: 10:00 a.m. <i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>	People of the Parish

