

# The Little Flower Messenger

Year A CORPUS CHRISTI 14<sup>th</sup> June 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](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: John 6:51-58

*'My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.'*

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>1st Reading:</b>        | <i>Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16</i>   |
| <b>Psalm 147:</b>          | <i>O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!</i>  |
| <b>2nd Reading:</b>        | <i>1 Corinthians 10:16–17</i>   |
| <b>Gospel Acclamation:</b> | <i>Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!</i> |
| <b>Communion Antiphon:</b> | <i>Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.</i>   |

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## This Week's Good News

Dear Friends,

Today, we celebrate the solemn feast of Corpus Christi. This Solemnity is three feasts in one: the feast of the Eucharistic sacrifice, the feast of the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and the feast of the Real Presence of Jesus in this Sacrament. Although we celebrate the institution of the Holy Eucharist on Holy Thursday, the Church wants to emphasise its importance by a special feast, formerly called “Corpus Christi.” It was Pope Urban IV who first extended the feast to the universal Church. This is one of the few feasts left in which we observe a pre-Gospel procession and a sung “Sequence.”

In the reforms of Vatican II, Corpus Christi was joined with the feast of the Precious Blood (July 1) to become the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of the Lord. Today we celebrate Christ's gift to us of the Eucharist, the Source and Summit of our life together as the Church. The Council of Trent (1545 to 1563), declared that we must honour Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Faith of Catholics in the Most Holy Eucharist [that others] might be attracted to the Eucharistic Lord and believe in the Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, present in this great Sacrament. “The Catholic Church teaches that in the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of the God-man are really, truly, substantially, and abidingly present together with His Soul and Divinity by reason of the Transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. This takes place in the unbloody sacrifice of the Mass.”

Why do we celebrate the Eucharist some 2,000 years later? We do this because Jesus told us to do so: “Do this in memory of me.” St. Augustine in the 5th century AD said it best when he said: “It is your Mystery, the Mystery of your life that has been placed on the altar.” This Holy Memorial is known by various names: 1) “The Eucharist” because Jesus offered himself to God the Father as an act of thanksgiving; 2) “The Lord's Supper” - or “The Breaking of the Bread”- because we celebrate it as a meal; 3) “Holy Communion” because, we become one with Christ by receiving him; and 4) “Holy Mass” (holy sending), because it gives us a mission: “Go in peace glorifying God by your life.”

Today we should also remember our children preparing to make their First Holy Communion, with the wonderful account of the remarkable experience of Blessed Imelda Lambertini. She lived in Bologna, Italy, in the 1300s. She had wanted to be a nun from the time she was a little girl, and she joined that Dominican convent at the age of nine, to better prepare herself for the day when she would take the habit. Her greatest desire was to receive Holy Communion, but in those days, you had to be at least twelve years old to do so. Imelda begged for an exception to the rule, but the chaplain refused. She kept praying for special permission. Her prayers were miraculously answered on the Feast of the Ascension in 1333. After Mass, she stayed in her place in the chapel, where one of the nuns was putting away the sacred vessels. Suddenly, the nun heard a noise and turned towards Imelda. Hovering in mid-air in front of Imelda as she knelt in prayer was a sacred host, the Blessed Eucharist, shining with a bright and forceful light. The frightened nun ran to find the chaplain. By the time the chaplain arrived, the rest of the nuns and other onlookers had crowded, awe-struck, into the chapel. When the priest saw the shining, hovering host, he put on his vestments, went over to the girl, took the miraculous host in his hands, and gave her Holy Communion. Some minutes later, after the crowd had dispersed, the mother superior came over to Imelda to call her for breakfast. She found the girl still kneeling, with a smile on her face. But Imelda was dead. She had died of love, in ecstasy after receiving Christ in the Eucharist. He had longed to be with her even more than she had longed to be with him. Blessed Imelda's body is incorrupt, and you can still see it today in the Church where she is interred, in Bologna. She is the patron saint of First Holy Communicants.

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.

**Children's Liturgy:** We have this week added to the website information around resilience, including a game and a 'Resilience Ladder' for you to complete with your child/children. You will also find a link providing prayers for children and families during schools closure/re-opening and a useful tool on how to handle emotions.

**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/>

## Private Prayer

Following last week's announcement, we are pleased to confirm the following opening times for private prayer:

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | <b>11:00 hrs – 12:00hrs – Over 70's &amp; people with underlying medical conditions only</b> |
| Tuesday   | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs   |
| Wednesday | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs   |
| Thursday  | <b>11:00 hrs – 12:00hrs – Over 70's &amp; people with underlying medical conditions only</b> |
| Friday    | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs   |
| Saturday  | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs   |
| Sunday    | 13:00 hrs – 15:00hrs   |

Entry to the church will be via the front doors, with a one-way system operating inside the church. Exit can be made via the fire exit doors in St. Theresa's room. You will be asked to sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the church. We also ask that you listen to and respect the Stewards at all times. Please be aware that the church toilets will **not** be open to members of the public. Various posters and signs will be on display to assist with the new guidelines.

Please note that these may be subject to change so please check our website, Facebook page and Newsletter for updates.

Thank you to all of the volunteers for their support, without which, we wouldn't have been able to reopen the church for private prayer.

## 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.**

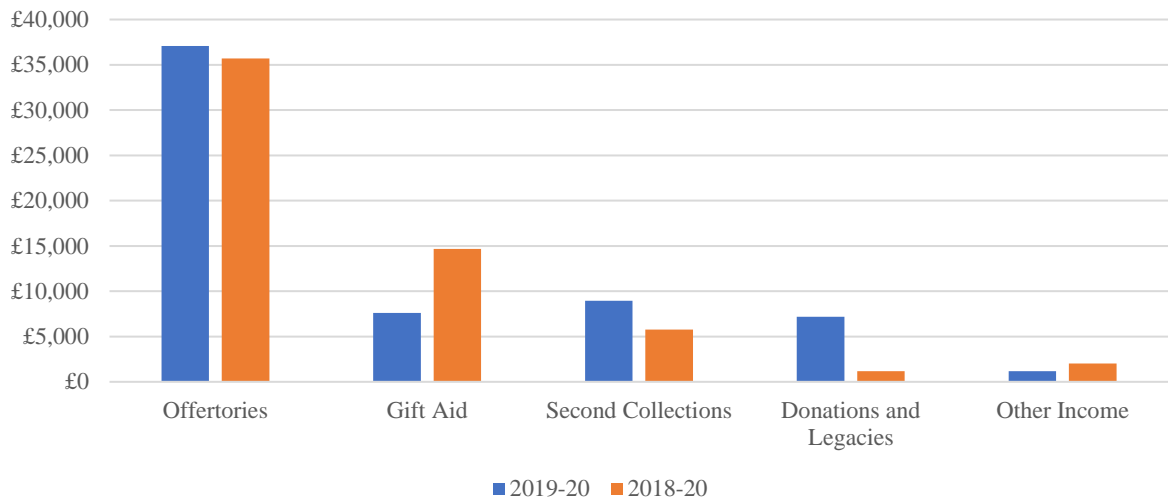


**Parish of St Theresa of Lisieux Stansted**  
**Financial Statements for year ending 5th April 2020**

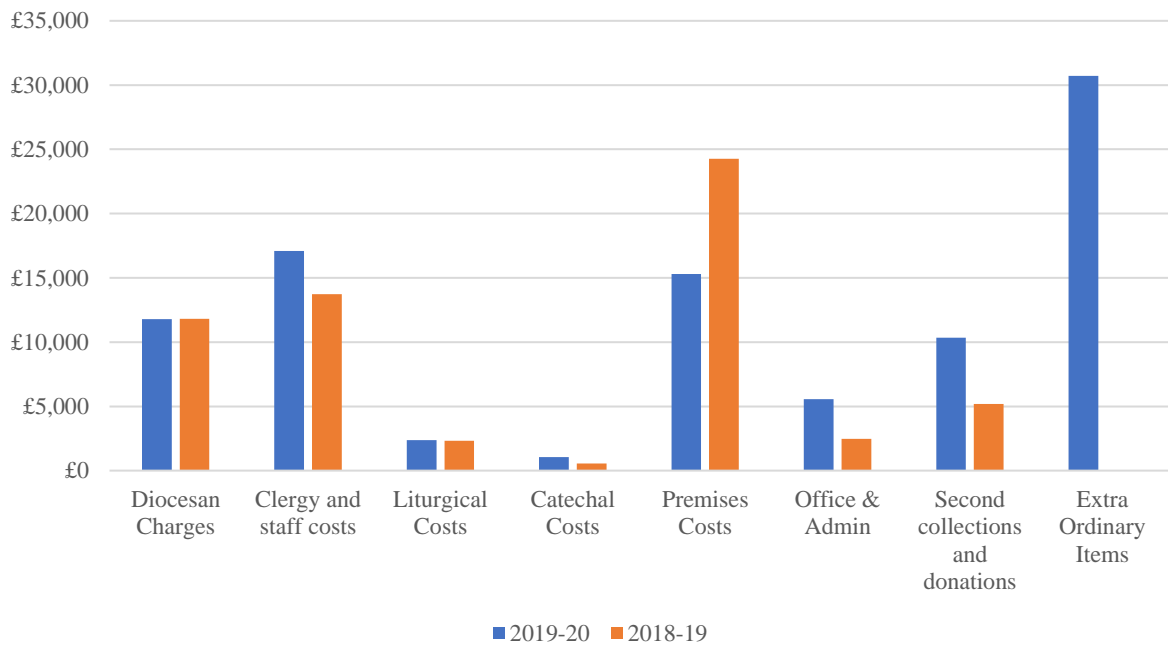
Please note below the Financial Statements for our Parish:

| <b>Income</b>                    | <b>2019-20</b>  | <b>2018-19</b> | <b>Notes</b>  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---|
| Offertories                      | £37,084         | £35,714        | As a result of coronavirus lockdown Offertory collections of circa £1500 were not received. 2018-19 figures enhanced by HMRC changes in Gift aid system effectively giving two years gift aid income in that year |
| Gift Aid                         | £7,622          | £14,680        |   |
| Second Collections               | £8,943          | £5,780         |   |
| Donations and Legacies           | £7,182          | £1,192         |   |
| Other income                     | £1,190          | £2,020         |   |
|                                  | <b>£62,021</b>  | <b>£59,387</b> |   |
| <br><b>Expenditure</b>           |                 |                |   |
|                                  | <b>2019-20</b>  | <b>2018-19</b> |   |
| Diocesan Charges                 | £11,794         | £11,812        | During Fr John's illness the parish incurred significant costs relating to supply priests.  |
| Clergy and staff costs           | £17,089         | £13,729        |   |
| Liturgical Costs                 | £2,368          | £2,320         |   |
| Catechal Costs                   | £1,045          | £557           |   |
| Premises Costs                   | £15,308         | £24,256        |   |
| Office & Admin                   | £5,563          | £2,478         |   |
| Second collections and donations | £10,353         | £5,178         |   |
| <b>Sub Total</b>                 | <b>£63,520</b>  | <b>£60,329</b> |   |
| Extra Ordinary Items             | £30,725         | £0             | During this financial year we have had significant expenditures on items such as the refurbishment of the presbytery, replacement and purchase of altar furniture, Deacon Des' ordination.                        |
|                                  | <b>£94,245</b>  | <b>£60,329</b> |   |
| <b>Surplus/Deficit</b>           | <b>-£32,225</b> | <b>-£943</b>   |   |

### Income years ending 5th April 2019 & 2020



### Expenditure for years ending 5th April 2019 & 2020



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



### 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](mailto: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 13 <sup>th</sup> June<br><i>St Anthony of Padua</i>  | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>   | People of the Parish  |
| <b>CORPUS CHRISTI Year A</b>  |  |   |
| Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> June<br><i>Corpus Christi</i>   | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i>   |   |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June  | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i><br>Private Prayer: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.<br><b>Over 70's &amp; people with underlying medical conditions only</b> | Deacon D. Connors<br>(Anniv.)<br>Ordination to Deacon           |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June   | Mass (Latin): 10:00 a.m.<br>Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   |   |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June   | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i><br>Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   | Howard Watson (RIP)<br>B. Horton                                |
| Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June  | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i><br>Private Prayer: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm<br><b>Over 70's &amp; people with underlying medical conditions only</b>   |   |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June<br><i>The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>   | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i><br>Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   | Kathleen Schaberg (RIP)<br>B. Horton                            |
| Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> June<br><i>The Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>   | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i><br>Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   | People of the Parish  |
| <b>TWELFH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A</b>  |  |   |
| Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June<br><i>1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13</i><br><i>Psalm:68.8</i><br><i>2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-15</i><br><i>Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33</i> | Mass: 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Livestreamed on our YouTube channel</i><br>Private Prayer: 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m.   | Claire O'Neill (RIP)<br>Pat (Patricia) Dewar (RIP)<br>D O'Neill |

